**Senior Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

**August 4, 2022 9:30 AM**

**Normal Township Activity and Recreation Center**

**600 E. Willow, Normal, IL 61761**

**Members Present:** Chair Deb Shaw, Jana Edge, Rich Farr, Steven Kossman,

Carol Plotkin, Leonard Ross, Barbara Singer

**Members Absent:** Uday Deoskar, Faye Sanders

**Township Officials:** Supervisor Jess Ray

**ARC Staff:** Director of Operations Jess Ray, Director of Programming Molly Camper, Member Services Manager Elicssha Sanders

**ARC Staff Absent**: Communications & Fundraising Samantha Scott who is at the McLean County Fair staffing a booth for the ARC.

**Public Present:** Sue Warren & Marge Park, Janet Hood, Pamela Sweetwood, Faith in Action

Meeting called to order by Chair Deb Shaw at 9:30 AM.

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes of the July 7, 2022 meeting made by Steven Kossman and seconded by Jana Edge. Motion passed.

**Report from Chair**

Chair Deb Shaw welcomed all in attendance. No report at this time.

**Member Updates and Committee Reports**

**Jana Edge, Health & Wellness** – No report.

**Rich Farr, Fundraising** – The previously discussed idea of the outside Brick by Brick display has been shelved. We are working with Bill Ohlendorf on a permanent wall display. Broken bricks will be replaced and engraved. A timeline is to be determined.

**Steven Kossman, Movie Committee** – No report

**Carol Plotkin, Blood Drive Update** – Next Blood Drive scheduled for November 30, 2022

**Leonard Ross, Outreach** – No report

**Barbara Singer, Veterans’ Committee** – Looking for assistance with the committee. Veterans’ Day in November is fast approaching.

**Report from Township Supervisor & Operations Overview Jess Ray**

Jess indicated an Advisory Board member may be resigning but wishes to continue working with the Committee. Steve asked about procedures for a member who is more the half way through their term. Deb said the open position would be posted. Jess suggested waiting until the resignation has been received.

Jess has retaken the Open Meetings Act test. As an advocacy group the Committee falls under this requirement. Committee members are asked to see if their certificate is current. ARC Staff will assist in the computer lab if assistance is needed. Freedom of Information training is not needed.

On Tuesday the open position for ARC Director of Operations was posted on INDEED. So far eight applicants have responded. The search will be open during August with hopes of filling the position in September.

Reminders: Samantha Scott is at the McLean County Fair today for Senior Day

Illinois State Fair Veterans’ Day is August 14 and Senior Day is August 15.

Illinois Dept. of Mental Health has activated “988” Suicide Prevention Hotline.

State Grocery tax reduction to 1% is in effect until June 30, 2023.

School Supplies sales tax reduction to 1.25% is August 5-14.

Gas Tax increase has been delayed until January 1, 2023.

Barb asked if staff could reach out to the new YMCA for collaboration/partnership as ARC membership numbers have declined since they opened. The availability of a pool and golf simulator has drawn some members away. The YMCA also accepts Silver Sneakers.

Green Space update: Some pavers still need leveling and waiting on the punch list from the contractor. Steve asked about who would be doing the gardening. There is a $2,500 grant available. Tables will be purchased after the paver leveling has been completed.

Paint has been received to paint the parking lot stripes. It should be completed soon.

Membership Agreement & Policies: Need to reach out to our attorney and research similar organizations’ policies. Steve apologized to Sue Warren & Marge Park for not having an answer to their request regarding a caregiver attending with a member. Additional policy review has been requested regarding when a member has a spouse under the age of 55 and their ability to become a member.

**ARC Staff Reports**

**Molly Camper, Program Highlights** – Report attached to meeting packet. Adding an outdoor concert on Friday, Sept. 9 from 5-7:00 PM. We’re in negotiations with The Aristocrats and looking into the availability of a food truck. Visiting artist, Richard Stephens, will be presenting a watercolor workshop Aug. 22-25, 9-4:00. The Mennonite College of Nursing hopes to start a visiting nurse in September. Food distributions from the Food Bank may begin again, volunteers for pick-up and distribution will be needed.

**Elicssha Sanders, Member Services** – Report attached to meeting packet. A van driver has been hired bring the number to 3: George, Tyrone and Patrick. This will help with overlapping pick-ups as riders have increased. A Member Services Representative (MSR) has been hired. Michelle will be working on Tuesday evenings and Friday. Volunteers to conduct tours are needed in the evening. Peak Membership before COVID was 4,400, at end of July 2,590.

**Samantha Scott, Communications & Fundraising** – Report attached to meeting packet.

Rich reported there will be a fundraiser beginning in September.

**New Business**

ARC Membership and Agreement Policies:

Molly noted the ARC is a member of a statewide organization of township services centers. They may have information. More research is needed and brought back to the table.

**Suggested Topics for Next Meeting**

Continue discussion of Membership Agreement and Policies.

September Fundraiser.

**Public Comment**

Sue Warren distributed copies of her email regarding a caregiver attending with a member needing assistance. The topic will be discussed at the September 1 meeting.

**Next Normal Township Board Meeting: August 18, 2022 at 8:15 AM**

**Next Senior Advisory Committee Meeting: September 1, 2022 at 9:30 AM.**

**Motion to Adjourn:** Steve Kossman. Seconded by Rich Farr. Motion passed, meeting adjourned at 10:20 AM.