**Senior Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Minutes, December 1, 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, Sylvia Richardson, Leonard Ross, Carol Smith, Linda Spencer

**Township Officials:** Jess Ray, Supervisor

**ARC Staff:** Director of Programming Molly Camper, Member Services Manager Elicssha Sanders; Communications Coordinator Samantha Scott

**Public Present:** Pamela Sweetwood, Faith in Action; Sally Pyne, Dick Steinberg

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

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2022 meeting made by Steven Kossman and seconded by Rich Farr. Motion passed.

**Report from Chair**

Deb Shaw welcomed new members Sylvia Richardson and Linda Spencer.

Deb said she would be out of town during January and February. She asked for a volunteer to lead those meetings. Steven Kossman volunteered. Deb also asked if the date of the March meeting could be changed from March 2 to March 9, 2023 when she would be back. Jess Ray said the calendar change would have to be brought to the Township Trustees for approval. Members agreed to request the change.

**Member Updates and Committee Reports**

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

**Rich Farr, Fundraising** – No report.

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

**Carol Plotkin, Blood Drive Update** – The Blood Drive was yesterday, Nov. 30th. We have no numbers yet. Due to staffing shortage they had only two drawers so walk-ins were not taken just those with appointments. Looking into dates in May, August and possibly February 2023.

**Leonard Ross, Outreach** – No report.

**Diversity & Inclusion –** Noreport. Sylvia Richardson volunteered to head this committee.

**Veterans’ Committee** – Jess reported the Veterans Day program on Nov. 15th was well attended and said partnering with the ISU students was a good experience for everyone.

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

Yesterday, Dec.1, the 3rd of 10 payments was made on the ARC building. The last payment is due 2029. Steve questioned how that would coincide with the pay off on the solar equipment.

Also yesterday, he found out there will be no more State Farm donations or matching donations. This change is affecting many organizations, not just the ARC.

Thank you to the SHIP counselors as the annual Medicare open enrollment comes to an end.

Connect Transit will be here at 10:00 Dec. 7 with information and sign-up for passes.

The Holiday Party is Thursday, Dec. 8 at 5:30.

Saturday, Dec. 10 at 10:30 the full New Day Ringers will perform.

**ARC Staff Reports**

**Molly Camper, Program Highlights** – Report attached to meeting packet.

Additions: The ISU nursing students have been coming on Mondays since October providing blood pressure screenings, mental health and other social service organizations information. Since November Susie Watkins, an instructor and geri-nurse, has been providing similar services on Wednesdays.

Omitted from last month’s minutes, Molly has been meeting with gardeners planning for Green Space plantings next spring including what, where and when to plant.

Lucky Dice Gift Exchange is Monday, Dec. 12 at 10:00. Bring a new $10.00 wrapped gift.

Carol Smith asked if piano lessons could be looked into for a new program.

**Elicssha Sanders, Member Services** – Report attached to meeting packet.

In November - 8 Bereavement and 2 Get Well correspondences occurred.

Van #1 is scheduled for maintenance due to a “door warning” alarm. The number of members using the van is staying the same, but the number of use times is increasing. Members are also using Connect Transit services for rides to and from the ARC.

**Samantha Scott, Communications Coordinator** – Report attached to packet.

Updates to the report: Since August 16th General Support receipts total $5,819; Green Space $6,000 ($2,900 short of goal for 2022); Fitness Programming $2,570. Steve asked what the monthly sponsorships cost: Bonnie’s Café Coffee is $500; Bingo is $100. Jess asked if the sponsorship amounts need adjustment due to increased cost. Molly said the actual cost changes monthly due to the way supplies are ordered and keeping cost down is important. Sammi said as many as 25 letters and contacts are made. We have a couple of regulars who may sponsor 1-3 months.

**Old Business**

Jana asked if members understood the true impact of “Silver Sneakers” and other active senior benefits to the ARC especially with the changes to the ISU insurance. Jess said 751 of “Silver Sneaker” memberships are equal to 1,000 regular memberships. “Silver Sneaker” members actually help to keep the ARC membership fee lower. Board members felt it was important to continue to communicate the importance of scanning their fob when entering the building. Molly and Sammi said this is included in the “New Member Orientation” which long-time members may have not experienced.

**New Business**

Dick Steinberg asked about the possibility of a bulletin board to advertise “Surplus Stuff or Need Something” near the Classroom by other bulletin boards. Another name suggested is “I’m Looking for \_\_\_\_”. ARC staff will meet to discuss developing a structure with concerns to include a safe place for item exchange (BPD), vetting quality of the item and liability, if any, to the ARC.

**Suggested Topics for Next Meeting**

None

**Public Comment**

None

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

**Next Senior Advisory Committee Meeting: January 5, 2023 at 9:30 AM.**

Deb Shaw adjourned the meeting at 10:25 AM.