**Senior Advisory Committee Meeting**

**Minutes, July 7, 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, Faye Sanders, Vice Chair Barbara Singer

**Members Absent:** Uday Deoskar

**Township Officials:** Supervisor Sarah Grammer; Trustees Art Rodriguez, Arlene Hosea,

Sally Pyne, Floyd Aper

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

**Public Present:** Pamela Sweetwood, Faith in Action; Mary Wuhrmann

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

**Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes of the June 2, 2022 meeting made by Steven Kossman and seconded by Barbara Singer. Motion passed.

**Report from Chair**

Chair Deb Shaw welcomed all in attendance. Thank you to Sarah Grammer for her support of the ARC during her time with the Township.

**Member Updates and Committee Reports**

**Jana Edge, Health & Wellness** – Meetings continue.

**Rich Farr, Fundraising** – No report

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

**Carol Plotkin, Blood Drive Update** – Numbers from previous Blood Drives:

May: 24 June: 30

The August drive has been cancelled.

Next Blood Drive scheduled for November 30, 2022

**Leonard Ross, Outreach** – No report

**Faye Sanders, Diversity & Inclusion** – No report

**Barbara Singer, Veterans’ Committee** – No report. Looking for assistance with the committee.

**Report from Township Supervisor Sarah Grammer**

The Greenspace Project is ongoing. Some leveling of pavers needs to be addressed as they could be trip hazards. The special fabrication metal rail is progressing. We will be following up on the $2,500 grant from the Illinois Prairie Community Foundation for the plantings.

The Township has authorized the second van and it should arrive on Monday.

Today is the last day she will be available for questions as she is resigning her position and moving to Wisconsin where she has accepted a position at UW-Milwaukee.

Sarah thanks everyone for their support through all the remodels and upgrades over the years.

**ARC Staff Reports**

Each staff member extended their thanks and congratulations to Sarah Grammer for her support of the ARC services and programming.

**Jess Ray, Operations Overview** – CHELP, an elder advocacy organization, is in talks with the Township and the ARC about leasing space in the ARC as they enter the community to provide services. They are also hiring.

Regarding the Living Memorial Fund brick display, Sammi has been in contact with the Foundation Board regarding a new display for the bricks. One suggestion was to move the bricks under the protective outside awning at the south side entrance. It is clear the wall is not working.

Sammi also secured $1,500 from the Harmon Arts Grant to fund an Introduction to the Arts program series.

We have a second facility rental. The Rec Room has been rented for a celebration of life.

**Molly Camper, Program Highlights** – Report attached to meeting packet. Oasis Connection begins computer classes this month. There is a limit of 5 in the Computer Room. The U of I Extension Office is beginning the 2-part “Meals for Healthy Heart” today. The first of the local interest speaker series is July 15th. The Enthusiastic Gardeners Club is going to Two Sisters Lavender farm in LeRoy on July 21st. Those attending should come to the ARC for carpooling or meet at the farm. The club is talking of “free membership” offering potential local nursery benefits. The club has a nice logo!

June dates in current report should be deleted.

**Elicssha Sanders, Member Services** – Report attached to meeting packet. There are no changes to the numbers in the report. Summer weather has an effect on attendance numbers but attendance has risen with the increased operating hours in June. Completed paperwork has been received and a new van driver should be onboard soon.

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

All Bingo sponsor dates have filled through 2023. The September 2022 coffee sponsor has been filled.

**New Business**

Living Memorial Fund Bricks: Covered in Jess’ reports

ARC Membership and Agreement Policies: An email has been received asking for review of ARC policy regarding Caregivers attending with Members. Discussion included:

* Currently policy states caregiver must be 55+ and member.
* “Can you operate independently?” on membership form.
* Seek advisement on liability to ARC; review ADA Law.
* Better define “Caregiver”.
* Research similar organizations and their policies, eg: University companions.
* Provide doctor’s note stating member needs such accommodation.
* Home healthcare provider may change daily and may not be 55+. Can a paid pass be provided to the member needing assistance from a caregiver?
* How to track caregivers? Separate “Caregiver” policy?
* Concerns if caregiver is a member exercising and not monitoring their client/parent.
* What is ARC’s liability with regard to those exhibiting symptoms of dementia or Alzheimer’s?
* This should be about Member’s need for help.
* There is referral information on the ARC’s website. Concerns all seniors are not tech savvy and prefer a printed summary page with phone numbers & services.

Sarah noted the ARC is a member of a statewide organization of township senior centers. They may have information. More research is needed and then will be brought back to the table.

**Suggested Topics for Next Meeting**

Continue discussion of Caregiver policy

**Public Comment**

None

**Next Normal Township Board Meeting: July 7, 2022 at 11:00 AM in the ARC Auditorium.**

**Next Senior Advisory Committee Meeting: August 4, 2022 at 9:30 AM.**

**Motion to Adjourn:** Rich Farr. Seconded by Vice Chair Barbara Singer. Motion passed, meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM.

From June:

Note to discuss possible Advisory Committee Meeting dates after the Normal Township Board sets their meeting dates at their Sept. or October meeting.