

APPROVED

SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of the April 6, 2015 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 in the meeting room of the Oak Ridge Senior Center by Chairperson Elizabeth Batchelor.

ECAB members present: Marty Adler-Jasny, Susan Asbury, Elizabeth Batchelor, Gene Dunaway, LeRoy Gilliam, Delores Moyer, William Pryor, Hal Schmitt, Alfred Skyberg, Robert Smallridge, and Wendy Williams.

ECAB members absent: None.

Also present: Linda McGhee, Recreation Manager, Oak Ridge Senior Center.

VISITORS: Pat Gergorian, Cherie Phillips Anderson County Office on Aging, Anne Garcia Garland, Charlie Hensley of Oak Ridge City Council, Janice Johnson of ETHRA, Lynne Burchell, and Billy Bates

MINUTES APPROVAL: Minutes of the March 2, 2015 meeting were approved.

APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS

None

REPORTS

SENIOR CENTER RECREATION MANAGER REPORT

Linda McGhee reported the following:

- 1.) April Calendar of activities was distributed and the Senior Center will be closed on April 3rd and 4th for the Easter Holiday.
- 2.) Drivers Safety Training will be held on Saturday, April 11th from 8:30 a.m. -4:30 p.m. Cost is \$15 for AARP members and \$20 for non-members. Call the main office to reserve a spot.
- 3.) A Lunch and Learn on the topic of Medication Interactions will be held on April 8th at noon. There is no cost but you must call to reserve a spot for the lunch count.
- 4.) Our tax assistance program is completely full. However, people can still get walk in tax help at the VITA site at the old Trinity Church Building at 320 Robertsville Road. Hours are Monday – Friday 3:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. and 10:00 to 12:30 on Saturday.
- 5.) We will be holding a Yard Sale at the Senior Center on Saturday, April 18th from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. Cost booth cost is \$3 and includes one 8 ft. table and 2 chairs. The event will be held rain or shine.
- 6.) A shopping trip to West Town Mall is scheduled for April 20th from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Cost is \$2.
- 7.) An outdoor walk will be held at the Oak Ridge Marina on April 21st at 9:00 a.m. Meet at the parking lot near the new restrooms. Check with desk about weather postponements or cancellations.

- 8.) We will be holding the 1st Annual Bill Attkisson Memorial 8-Ball Tournament on April 24th. Cost is \$12.

RECENT ACTIONS OF CITY COUNCIL

None

OAK RIDGE SENIOR FOUNDATION REPORT

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Elizabeth Batchelor discussed the Bylaw Committee and the change to how board members are selected. She also discussed the meeting of the sub-committee appointed to look at a focused program of work for the Senior Advisory Board. This was broken down into three main areas. First were issues involving the location of the Senior Center. The second was issues related to seniors in general such as transportation, scams, etc. The final was special initiatives such as fire safety, ADA, etc.

Marty Adler-Jasny asked for speakers to be scheduled to come talk to the board about elder issues to get members up-to-date.

NEW BUSINESS

City Manager Mark Watson spoke with the board about the lease with Anderson County Government for space at the Daniel Arthur Rehabilitation Center building. Mr. Watson said that the lease is for 5 years but that negotiations were being held with county representatives to change the lease term to 2 years with an extra one year extension possibility. He said that would allow sometime to explore the options available to locate the center.

Mr. Watson spoke about the option of moving the senior center to the civic center after freeing some space by moving offices out of the recreation building and placing those offices at the former recording for the blind building on Badger Avenue. He also mentioned other options that had previously been looked at over the past 15 years. He said the 2-3 year time period could be used to make some decisions.

Oak Ridge resident and former senior advisory board member Lynne Burchell asked when a decision would be made because this issue has been going on for the last 20 years. Also Anderson County Office on Aging Director Cherie Phillips brought up the problems that they have ran into in Clinton when trying to schedule senior programs in a civic center filled when youth. She said that they had no use of facilities after 2 p.m. during the week.

Board member William Pryor talked about how hard it was to get his wife into the civic center for a meeting.

Several other board members voiced support for finding a solution to the location of the Senior Center and mentioned other centers in our area that have gotten grants such as Johnson City.

Gene Dunaway made a motion that the Senior Advisory Board supports the 2 year lease opportunity during which time real action toward a solution of the senior center location issue will be addressed. Board members voted unanimously to accept this motion.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Submitted by

Linda McGhee, Recreation Manager

Elizabeth Batchelor, Board Chairperson