

# APPROVED

## SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of the August 3, 2015 Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. in the meeting room of the Oak Ridge Senior Center by Chairperson Elizabeth Batchelor.

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

ECAB members absent: Delores Moyer, Hal Schmitt, and William Pryor.

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

VISITORS: Mary Stephens, Meg Tonne, Pat Gengozian and Charles LaLoggia.

**MINUTES APPROVAL:** Minutes of the June 1, 2015 meeting were approved.

### **APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS**

None

### **REPORTS**

#### SENIOR CENTER RECREATION MANAGER REPORT

Linda McGhee reported the following:

- 1.) The August Calendar of activities was distributed.
- 2.) The AARP Safe Driving Class will be held on August 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> from 9:30 – 1:30 p.m. each day. Cost is \$15 for AARP Members and \$20 for non-members. There will also be an all-day class held on Saturday October 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8:30 – 4:30.
- 3.) Atomic City Martial Arts will be doing a demonstration of their new program specifically for those 50 and older. It will be held on August 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 in Room 58. Attendance at the demo will get you an extra discount on the class.
- 4.) This month's Lunch and Learn will be about "What to expect from a Skilled Nursing Facility Stay" and will be presented by Board Member Susan Asbury of NHC Healthcare.
- 5.) The Walking Group will meet at the Senior Center to walk the Emory Valley Greenway at 9:00 a.m. on August 18<sup>th</sup>. Check with desk the day before for weather related postponements.
- 6.) Walgreens will be at the Senior Center on August 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 – noon to give flu shots. Please make sure to bring your insurance cards and take advantage of this opportunity to stay healthy.

#### RECENT ACTIONS OF CITY COUNCIL

None

## OAK RIDGE SENIOR FOUNDATION REPORT

None

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

None

### **NEW BUSINESS**

The topic for today's discussion was "How to reach Seniors who need it most." Those invited are people who work with seniors in area churches. Elizabeth Batchelor opened the discussion with Meg Tonne of First Presbyterian Church. Meg began by speaking about the seniors of her church who can no longer attend services. These seniors receive a home visit from Meg where she can help make safety assessments and see where there may be problems for the person being visited such as non-working fire alarms. These visits are set up in pairs of two and the volunteers receive training from the church. Meg also mentioned that transportation is one of the biggest needs for many of those seniors served by her congregation.

Marty Adler-Jasny spoke for the Unitarian Church about this issue as well. The church sponsors many weekly and monthly activities to encourage their senior members to come out and socialize. They have what she called the "Caring Committee" which is made of members who help with food, transportation, etc. There is also a new program called Lay Pastoral care which members are trained to be good listeners and meet with other members about every week or two. Some of the main issues facing seniors served by her congregation are spouses with dementia and disabled children.

Al Skyberg represented Saint Stephens Church. Al said that Saint Stephens uses trained and licensed ministers to reach out to their senior congregation. They also provide a Sunday bulletin to all members.

Mary Stephens spoke for Oak Valley Baptist Church and said that her seniors have many of the same issues of transportation and socialization as were mentioned by other church representatives. The church provides activities such as movies, games, and exercise for seniors every Tuesday. She also mentioned that most seniors do not have access to email so that can be a challenge as well.

Citizen attendee Pat Gengozian mentioned that Neighborhood Watch could be a good way to get out information to seniors. She also said that some council members do not see the need for a new senior center because the area church programs.

Board member Susan Asbury stated that not everyone goes to church and that there must be other avenues to reach seniors.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

Submitted by

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Linda McGhee, Recreation Manager

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Elizabeth Batchelor, Board Chairperson