

SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of the December 2, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 9:34 a.m. in the F room of the Oak Ridge Senior Center by Chairperson Pat Gengozian.

SAB members present: Susan Asbury, Pat Gengozian, Marty Adler-Jasny, Gene Dunaway, Lisa Plante, Paul Smiddy, and David Vudragovich.

SAB members absent: Jackie Nichols, Al Skyberg, Robert Smallridge.

Also present: Linda McGhee, Recreation Manager, Oak Ridge Senior Center and Ken Mayes, MyRide Oak Ridge Assistant.

VISITORS: Ellen Smith, City Council Person.

MINUTES APPROVAL: Minutes of the November 4, 2019 meeting were approved.

APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS

None

REPORTS

SENIOR CENTER RECREATION MANAGER REPORT

Linda McGhee reported the following:

- 1.) The Senior Center will be closed on December 20th for Staff Training as well as December 24th and 25th for the Christmas Holidays. The center will also be closed on January 1st for New Year's Day.
- 2.) There will be a MyRide Oak Ridge Training class tomorrow, December 3rd, from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- 3.) The Groves of Oak Ridge will be presenting a lunch and learn on December 10th at noon on Balance and Gait Training. Please sign up at the front desk to be counted for lunch.
- 4.) There will be a day trip to the Smoky Mountain Flea Market on December 6th from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Cost is \$5 and space is still available. See office for more information.
- 5.) The Senior Center will be having its annual Holiday Reception on December 13th from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Civic Center Gym. Join us for live holiday music, a light lunch, goodie bags and door prizes.
- 6.) The Bingo Holiday Dinner will be held on December 17th at 5:30 p.m. Please arrive by 5:15 p.m. with a dish to share. Bingo will begin at 6:30 p.m.
- 7.) The Recreation Room Holiday Luncheon will be held on December 19th at 11:30 a.m. so please bring finger foods to share.

RECENT ACTIONS OF CITY COUNCIL

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Board member Gene Dunaway commended Ken Mayes for his hard work getting the MyRide Oak Ridge program up and running. Ken also gave his report with current numbers for the program. Currently there are 12 clients and 24 fully vetted volunteers. The program completed 26 trips to date as well. Ken also showed some new informational handouts for both riders and drivers. Board member Marty Adler-Jasny and Chairperson Pat Gengozian said that they would be willing to call riders that used the previous taxi coupon program to see if they were completely aware of the new service and answer any questions they may have in regard to how it works or how the scholarship process works as well.

Chairperson Pat Gengozian also mentioned the forming of committees to help the board better accomplish its goals. She asked that at the next meeting members bring ideas for possible committees they think are needed and that they may be willing on which to serve as well as goals for the Board for the coming year. Some examples she gave for committees were Public Relations and Communication, Fundraising, Programming, MyRide Oak Ridge Outreach, etc. There was also a discussion between board members and Councilperson, Ellen Smith about making sure to follow the Sunshine Laws for open meetings regarding decisions made.

Pat also spoke about Chief Kerley's donation of two rocking chairs for the back porch area at the new senior center. She also mentioned getting with him to include at least one more in his order for the board to dedicate in the memory of former board member Dick Hauser who passed away earlier this year.

NEW BUSINESS

Under new business Council Person Ellen Smith asked about long term plans for the senior center's golf cart. Senior Center Manager Linda McGhee reported that the cart was still in use both for senior citizens at both the Senior and Civic Centers as well as those who need help getting to the temporary home of the Utilities Business Office. Ms. Smith also discussed her recent trip to the National League of Cities Conference and information from the AARP about making your community friendlier to seniors.

Board Member David Vudragovich mentioned that the Medicare enrollees have through March to make changes to their advantage plans if needed. He also mentioned wanting to try to start a program for people to help seniors in need fill out their Medicaid forms. Currently that help is no longer being provided by the Department of Human Services.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Submitted by

Linda McGhee, Recreation Manager

Pat Gengozian, Board Chairperson