

SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of the August 2, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 9:32 a.m. in the D room of the Oak Ridge Senior Center by Chairperson Pat Gengozian.

SAB members present: Gene Dunaway, Pat Gengozian, Marty Adler-Jasny, Steven Barker, Lindsey McElvy, Jackie Nichols, Robert Smallridge and Lisa Plante.

SAB members absent: Elaine Bunick and Brandy Sales.

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

VISITORS: Councilperson Ellen Smith.

MINUTES APPROVAL: Minutes of the July 12, 2021 meeting were approved.

APPEARANCE OF CITIZENS

None.

REPORTS

SENIOR CENTER RECREATION MANAGER REPORT

Linda McGhee reported the following:

- 1.) The Senior Center is now open from 9 am. to 5 p.m. each day Monday – Friday. Mask are still recommended but no longer required and scheduling of activities is still encouraged since there are limits on most activities. The Recreation and Exercise Rooms are still limited but equipment in both rooms can be used as needed with cleaning between uses. Cards and games are continuing. Pinochle has two full tables on Mondays, Bridge on Tuesdays has had 3 tables and Mahjong on Thursdays has not had any players to return as of yet. Bingo is continuing on Thursday afternoons with between 35-45 participants each time. The newest number of total participants since reopening is now at 459. Energizing Exercise has 16 people signed up for the class with about 10-12 attending on a consistent basis. The SAIL Class has 15 people signed up for Mondays and a separate 15 for Wednesdays for a total of 30 participants with a waiting list.
- 2.) Education programs for this month are as follows: A talk by Humana on benefits available to subscribers that they make not know about on August 17th; Differences between wills and trusts by Legal Aid on August 24th; and a talk about diabetes by Jim Harless on August 31st. Each will be at noon. Lunches are not provided right now but bottled water will be available.
- 3.) The ETHRA Meals on Wheels program continues to work to figure out a new way to serve congregate lunches. Frozen meal picked up continues with around 50 boxes being picked up each week.

- 4.) Senior Day at the Outdoor Pool will be this Wednesday, August 4th from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. There will be games, music, and lots of fun. Woodmen Life is sponsoring a snow come truck so that each attendee gets one free snow cone to keep cool. A light lunch of a hot dog, chips, cookies and bottled water will be served as well as door prizes to be given out.
- 5.) Pickleball is scheduled to begin on August 16th in the Civic Center Gym. It will be on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Beginners will be specifically from noon to 2 p.m.
- 6.) Shelia Grooms will be teaching a new Brazilian Embroidery class beginning on August 27 from noon to 3 p.m. Space is limited to the first 12 to sign up.
- 7.) We currently have 459 participants in our system along with 281 unique email addresses.

RECENT ACTIONS OF CITY COUNCIL

None

NEW BUSINESS

None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Programming Committee

Board member Marty Adler-Jasny reported on the program committee meeting on July 23rd. She mentioned the committee having discussions about the rising number of COVID-19 cases and the possibility of needing to be able to reach people in other ways. She also mentioned the survey from the Library regarding having book group at the Senior Center and the possibility of having a CarFit Event in October.

Transportation

Board Chairperson Pat Gengozian mentioned trying to find a way to work with ETHRA on the phone system that seniors must navigate when calling to make a ride.

Public Relations

Board member Steven Barker mentioned that he had checked with the Senior Living publication about the date needed for submissions and it was the middle of the month prior. Board member Gene Dunaway said that someone he knows in France had seen our information picked up internationally.

Special Events

Board Member Jackie Nichols reported that the proposed Grandparents Day would be postponed since there had been an increase in COVID cases. However, there would be a somewhat scaled down version that would allow participants to share about their family and

possibly have coffee and donuts. She also said the special events committee would focus more on helping with events that are currently scheduled like the Veteran's Day Brunch.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gene Dunaway mentioned the spectacular job that the Oak Ridge Senior Center staff did at Senior Day at the Anderson County Fair this year.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Submitted by

Linda McGhee, Recreation Manager

Pat Gengozian, Board Chairperson