

# SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of the April 4, 2022

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

SAB members present: Marty Adler-Jasny, Pat Gengozian, Gene Dunaway, Karen Larrabee, Greg Hamilton, Brandy Sales, Steven Barker, Lisa Plante and Sally Ward.

SAB members absent: Elaine Buncik (Excused) and Jackie Nichols (Excused).

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

VISITORS: City Council Person Ellen Smith.

**MINUTES APPROVAL:** Minutes of the March 7, 2022 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 for the Civic Center Egg Hunt on April 9<sup>th</sup> and for the Easter Holiday on April 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. The Senior Center will also be closed on May 3<sup>rd</sup> to be a voting location for our local precinct.
- 2.) There are several new programs starting this month. A chess group will be meeting on Tuesday afternoons from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. Ballroom Dancing Lessons will begin on April 7<sup>th</sup> and continue on Thursdays from 5 p.m. to 6 p.m. for 6-8 weeks. Currently the class is full with a waiting list of around 12 couples. Computer Classes with Dan will begin on April 19<sup>th</sup> with a 2-part series on Computer Security. Dan will also be teaching other classes for us in the next few months.
- 3.) There are 4 educational programs scheduled for the month of April. In Home Care Options with Cornerstone Caring will be April 5<sup>th</sup>. Shopping Safely Online with Leah Daily with Avalon Hospice is on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Protect Yourself from the Dark Web by the Anderson County Family Justice Center will be on April 19<sup>th</sup> and Personal Safety with Anderson County Sherriff's Department on April 26<sup>th</sup>.
- 4.) Volunteer Income Tax Assistance will continue to help seniors and low-income tax payers file their returns through the deadline date of April 18<sup>th</sup>. Hours of operation for the program are Tuesday – Friday 1:30 p.m. – 6 p.m. and Saturday from 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. The virtual conference rooms for the Senior Center have been approved to use CDBG COVID funding. The process of procurement will begin soon with the IT department.
- 5.) We currently have 1227 participants in our system along with 865 unique email addresses.

### RECENT ACTIONS OF CITY COUNCIL

None

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Board Chair person Pat Gengozian discussed the Goals for the Board for this year. The goals were listed as follows:

1. Acquiring and operating televisions and audio/video equipment in order to better serve our seniors who frequent the center as well as our “shut ins” that do not come to the center.
2. To establish a “Senior Directory Locator” to be used by the police and fire departments for the safety of our seniors.
3. Technology classes to help seniors with phones, computers, etc.
4. To continue to make the public aware of our senior center via publications, videos, events, etc.
5. To peruse the idea of a social, communal meal at least once a week.

These goals were discussed as things that the board is currently pursuing for the most part and that will continue work on through out this year.

Marty Adler-Jasny motioned that the absences of Elaine Bunick and Jackie Nichols should be excused since the both had doctor’s appointments. Karen Larabee seconded the motion and it passed by unanimous vote of members present.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Board Chairperson Pat Gengozian and City Staff Liaison Linda McGhee discussed the progress of the funding for the virtual conference rooms at the Senior Center (also discussed under Manager Report). Pat also asked for volunteers to work with the diversity group that came and spoke at the previous meeting on transportation issues. Marty Adler-Jasny, Lisa Plate and Karen Larabee volunteered to do this task.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Programming Committee Report**

Program committee chairperson Marty Adler-Jasny reported that the committee has two new members, board members Sally Ward and Greg Hamilton. The committee did not meet last month but will have a meeting in April. She also reported on the success of the book group and several other new programs.

### **Transportation Report**

No report

### **Public Relations Report**

Public Relations committee chairperson Brandy Sales discussed the open rate of emails for the senior center being at an unheard of 67%. He said that since this avenue was reaching

so many seniors we should try to put more energy into it. He had the idea of a weekly highlight of activities and possibly a story of the month about our seniors.

### **Special Events Report**

No Report

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Submitted by

\_\_\_\_\_  
Linda McGhee, Recreation Manager

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pat Gengozian, Board Chairperson