

OAK PARK TOWNSHIP SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The quarterly meeting of the Senior Services Committee of Oak Park and River Forest Townships was held on Wednesday, June 15, 2011 and called to order at 7:08 p.m.

Present Oak Park Committee: Dr. Kenneth Blair; Patricia Koko; Mary Marling; Sharon Stolz

Absent Oak Park Committee: Donald Kane; Clarmarie Keenan, Trustee Liaison

Present River Forest Committee: Linda Ryan; James Flanagan; Peggi Mizen; Dr. Katherine Walsh; Mary Therese Small; Veronica Krawczyk, River Forest Township Supervisor

Absent River Forest:

Also Present: David Boulanger, Supervisor of Oak Park Township; Carol Cox, River Forest resident and guest committee member; Desiree Scully-Simpkins, Director for Senior Services of Oak Park & River Forest Townships; Pamela Mahn, Administrative Associate for Senior Services of Oak Park & River Forest Townships.

INTRODUCTIONS

Chairperson Flanagan welcomed the new Oak Park committee member and guest River Forest committee member. Brief introductions were made by the group.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Chairperson Flanagan asked that the committee have a moment of silence in honor of River Forest committee member, Georg Ann Zussman, who passed away in May.

SPECIAL REPORT

Oak Park Township Supervisor David Boulanger attended the meeting to report on the plans for the new Senior Services facility. He presented detailed plans to the committee and stated that the intention for the space is to accommodate existing programs with the potential to expand activities in a more accessible work space. Many plans were discussed including doorways, security, flooring, parking, and snow removal. The plan is to start construction in September 2011.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the March 23, 2011 meeting. Dr. Katherine Walsh moved to approve the minutes. Dr. Kenneth Blair seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

June 15, 2011

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

RFT LIAISON'S REPORT

Supervisor Krawczyk reported the following:

- The budget was approved by the Town Board at their meeting last night.

OPT LIAISON'S REPORT

Trustee Keenan was unable to attend the meeting.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

The Director's report and Program Area Reports were included in the committee packets mailed to members. The committee discussed the reports and Director Scully-Simpkins reported the following additional information:

- Luo's Peking House had applied for participation in the Dine Out Program. We're unable to move forward with the contract because their restrooms are not handicapped accessible and they are unable to incur the required construction costs at this time.
- Age Options is in the process of collecting bids through May 25th for caterers in an attempt to consolidate food service for all of the Suburban Cook nutrition sites.

SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES

Celebrating Seniors Sub-Committee

Chairperson Flanagan reported that Celebrating Seniors week is over, and was a success! There was much positive feedback regarding the increased level of awareness brought by the resource guide as well as the informational sessions that were held. Approximately \$19,500 was raised through a combination of advertising, sponsorship, donations, and charitable sharing. These funds will be used for seniors in need.

- There will be a sub-committee meeting on July 7th at 3:30 to come up with a plan to govern the funds and develop criteria for distribution.
- Residents from the community at large will play a role in making the decision regarding the assessment of perceived need and whether the needs fit the criteria for funds distribution.
- Committees will be forming to start the planning process for Celebrating Seniors Week 2012.
- There will be additional work to do with the media partner to ensure that there are more articles leading up to the event for 2012.
- One suggestion was made for the guide to be more senior friendly by having larger print.

Mary Marling thanked Chairperson Flanagan and all of those involved in the Celebrating Seniors event, on behalf of the entire Senior Committee.

OTHER BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Senior Committee will held on Wednesday, September 21, 2011 at 7:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Flanagan moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 p.m. Mary Therese Small seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.