

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, March 21, 2012 and called to order at 7:40 p.m.

Present Oak Park Committee: Sarah Arnett; Patricia Koko; Clarmarie Keenan, Trustee Liaison

Absent Oak Park Committee: Donald Kane; Dr. Kenneth Blair; Sharon Stolz; Mary Marling

Present River Forest Committee: Linda Ryan; James Flanagan; Mary Therese Small; Carol Cox

Absent River Forest: Dr. Katherine Walsh; Peggi Mizen; Veronica Krawczyk, River Forest Township Supervisor

Also Present: F. David Boulanger, Supervisor for Oak Park Township; 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.

Supervisor Boulanger made a brief presentation to the group regarding the progress on the renovation of the new Senior Services facility. He presented a draft plan outlining technology and finishing decisions, publicity, moving plans and opening events.

INTRODUCTIONS

Brief introductions were made to the group.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the November 16, 2011 meeting. Linda Ryan moved to approve the minutes. Patricia Koko seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

RFT LIAISON'S REPORT

Supervisor Krawczyk was unable to attend the meeting.

- No report.

March 21, 2012

Trustee Keenan reported the following:

- Progress on the new facility for Senior Services continues.
- Volunteers are needed for A Day In Our Village booth attendance.
- There will be referenda on the annual township meeting agenda regarding:
 - SuperPAC's
 - Hydraulic fracking

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

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

- Trustee Keenan noted the large number of interns currently placed at Senior Services and recommended getting some publicity on the topic. Currently Senior Services has the following intern placements:
 - 2 – Chicago State Pharmacy Students
 - 9 – DePaul Hospitality/Nursing Students
 - 1 – University of California Social Work Student
 - 2 – Concordia University Human Service Administration Students
- Due to changes in the Health Care Act, there will be an opportunity to apply for a coordinated effort between community agencies, local hospitals & mental health agencies to help residents avoid re-hospitalizations. Vanguard has listed Oak Park Township Senior Services as the community agency in their letter of intent.

SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES

Celebrating Seniors Sub-Committee

Chairperson Flanagan reminded the Senior Committee that the Celebrating Seniors Sub-Committee is open to new volunteers and involvement. He then reported the following:

- The 60 over 60 selections have been made. Pictures of the honorees are being taken. There is a good representation of honorees from all three communities.
- Ribbon fest will be held on May 10th at the 19th Century Charitable Association.
- Friday, May 11 there will be a kickoff event with a big band at Howard Mohr Community Center.
- A walk, run, roll event is planned for May 20th.
- There will be a pancake breakfast and bake sale on Sunday, May 20th.
- Roz Varon, traffic reporter from ABC 7 Chicago News will be speaking on Wednesday, May 23rd.
- Senator Don Harmon is the tentative speaker for the closing event.
- Cardinal George or a representative is tentatively scheduled to speak at Dominican University.
- An antiques roadshow event is being planned.

- There will be 30-40 additional events scheduled as Celebrating Seniors week approaches.

March 21, 2012

- Matt Baron from Inside Edge will have coverage of the events
- News releases will begin going out next week.
- Channel 6 will have some coverage of Celebrating Seniors events and of the Oak Park representatives of the 60 over 60 group.
- A page has been created on Facebook for Celebrating Seniors.
- Development of a virtual volunteer site is underway with plans for a possible launch of the site at Dominican University.
- Five seniors have been assisted this year with Celebrating Seniors funding.

OTHER BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The committee discussed various projects to be considered in the coming year including:

- 501C3 development to deal with the shifting landscape and disappearing funding streams once available to social service agencies.
- There are open positions on the Oak Park senior committee. Volunteers from the committee are needed to participate in the interview process.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Senior Committee will held on Wednesday, June 20, 2012 at 7:00 pm in the senior services conference room on the 6th floor of the Oak Park Arms.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Flanagan adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.