

**Minnetonka Senior Citizen
Advisory Board Minutes
December 11, 2007**

Present: Ruby Berg, Jerilynn Bergeson, Donna Bloom, Dave Carroll, Kaye Fredensborg, Wanda Griep, Lois King, Richard Koenig, Bill Lurth, Karen Mast, Judi Mullin, Bev Montgomery. Staff: Steve Pieh.

Absent: Ann Dreier

President Lois King called the meeting to order, the Pledge of Allegiance was said and the roll call showed a quorum was present.

The MINUTES from November 13, 2007 were approved.

TREASURER'S REPORT – Jerilynn Bergeson explained the financial report from the city and two coding changes. The General Ledger Activity shows a balance of \$971.31, corrections for coding of \$702.57, and expenses for November of \$268.74. Balance forward is \$19,691.30.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT – Lois will be meeting with Steve about annual report.

STAFF REPORT – Steve reported that:

- Second recycling class was well attended, good interest.
- Pen Pals project still needs some volunteers.
- Minnetonka Public Works is looking for a parts runner, paid, part-time.
- January 4 Recycling Intergenerational class needs more seniors to help with the class, meet with the youngsters.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Advisory Board Openings – still need two more people.
- Volunteer Recognition Event – will be held on Monday, April 14 at noon. The committee is planning the event.
- Tours to Senior Centers/Senior Housing: There is interest in both. List of the possible sites: Boulevard Gardens, Ridge Pointe, Glen Lake Landing, Beacon Hill Terrace (Presbyterian Homes) and senior centers at Edina, Bloomington, St. Louis Park, St. Cloud, and Monticello. Trips could be planned for February or March. Karen, Donna and Lois will read the bulletins from other centers to help determine visits. A tentative plan is to visit Ridge Pointe, and Glen Lake Landing in April.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mission Statement Retreat: Thursday, January 24, 10:00 to 12:00 at the Dunn Brothers in Eden Prairie (1/2 mile south of Highway 5 on the east side of Eden Prairie Road (Mitchell Road)).
- Year end report to the City Council. Steve has prepared the report and asked that we review it and comment.

- Theater Performance: Judi has checked the website and Dave has contacted St. Cloud regarding senior theater efforts. Will pursue.
- Age Wave Report: Richard and Lois attended the Freedom Pointe session. Two bits of information: 92% of elderly have children who take care of their needs. 90% of seniors are involved with computers.
- Used Book, Jewelry, Pie Fundraiser in fall 2008. Karen will put information in the Script so that people will save their books and jewelry for the sale. The date will be determined later, a Friday/Saturday or Saturday only.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Program: Karen reported that events for Girls Night Out will be Cook Book Lady in February and a Tea Lady in March. December's event was cancelled for lack of interest, but January will be Knit and Share.
- Sunshine: Ruby reported that one card was sent in the past month.
- Volunteers: Ruby reported that events were all covered for December.

Senior Community Outreach: Penny Dobbins, Social Worker, and Kimberlee Bluhm, Health Insurance Counselor, attended this meeting to provide information about their programs.

Penny is one of eight social workers to meet with seniors 55+ in the area. Availability is in each Script, the second and fourth Mondays of the month, for case management meetings with seniors and their families, to assist in finding low-cost or no-cost respite care, visiting nurse care, or housing. Referrals come from the PD, families, or from self-reporting. Eldercare can include caregiver services or referrals for more comprehensive physical/mental needs. There are 3 – 10 calls every two weeks, with issues of safety and quality of life regarding frailer or isolated senior citizens. The need is becoming more complex because children are not living nearby to assist with transportation, nutrition, and housing needs. Meals on Wheels is costly for some who are homebound, just home from the hospital, or disabled. We asked that Penny give us names of individuals who might need transportation to Senior Center programs.

Kimberlee's services involve Health Insurance Counseling/Medicare Part D, through Community Centers. She coordinates 40 volunteers in Hennepin County who go through paperwork or answer questions via phone and she is part of teams that make presentations at Senior Centers about Medicare Part D, long-term insurance and claims. Some of the work is 1:1 with seniors and confidentiality is essential. There is a great need for volunteers to transport clients to appointments. Background checks on volunteers are necessary and are sometimes resented.

At the end of their presentations, it was decided to add to our Year End Report to the City Council for the following:

- A need for better transportation for seniors in the community
- More affordable housing for seniors.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- Late Breakfast Buffet – Thursday, December 13. There are 26 signed up and had enough volunteers.
- Holiday Party – Tuesday, December 18, noon. Volunteers all set.
- Kids and Company/Recycling – Friday, January 4. Need volunteers.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, January 8, 2008 at 10:00.

Beverly Montgomery, Secretary