

Aging Advisory Council Meeting
Jersey Shore Senior Community Center
June 26, 2014

Members present: Janice Fye, Barbara Barger, Carolyn Bullock, David Heiney, Ray Humphrey and Joe Sohmer.

Members not present: Commissioner Joel Long, Commissioner Tony Mussare and Marge Scott

Guests: Sharon Cashwell, Nancy Watson, Lois Stryker.

Meeting was called to order by Ray Humphrey.

Ray Humphrey asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the April 30, 2014 meeting. Dave Heiney made a motion to approve. Carol Bullock seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Barb Barger presented the nominating committee report. The committee nominated Ray Humphrey for chairperson, Carolyn Bullock as vice-chairperson and Janice Fye as Secretary. There were no other nominations from the committee. Joe Sohmer made a motion to accept the nominations. Barb seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ray Humphrey talked about his participation in the Independent Living Endowment Fund meeting. The endowment fund is managed by the First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania (FCCP) and earns 4% interest. The endowment fund was established with a gift from the Park Home. The meeting was led by FCCP staff and the focus of the meeting was to discuss ways of growing the fund through donations. There was a lot of discussion regarding on-line donations in the meeting attended by Ray Humphrey. The council suggested that solicitations to grow the fund include donations by check. Mr. Humphrey asked for advisory council members to consider joining the endowment committee.

Mr. Shrimp updated the council on the progress on The RiverWalk Center. The bids for renovation came in much higher than expected. Mr. Humphrey and Mrs. Bullock attended the bid openings. The groundbreaking scheduled for July 11 has been postponed. We do not anticipate ground breaking ceremonies will take place until at least September. STEP will review available options on proceeding with the project. STEP will work to get the best finished project at the lowest cost.

Mr. Shrimp gave a report on the personal emergency response systems (PERS). We began providing PERS as a service in January. We currently have 35 consumers receiving the service. Mr. Shrimp told of a few stories from consumers that had used the PERS to summon help in an emergency. STEP contracted with Connect America to provide the service at \$20 per month. STEP put the contract out for bid this spring. Connect America was the low bidder at \$17 per month for a land line unit.

Mr. Shrimp noted that in addition to PERS helping seniors in emergency situations, our meals on wheels volunteers continue to find seniors in emergency situations and summon help for them. One woman this week was found after a fall and bleeding profusely from her elbow.

Mr. Shrimp reported that the Department of Aging was allowing up to a 1% increase in contracts. STEP is offering our personal care and home support contractors a 10 cent per hour increase for fiscal year 2014-2015. The meals contract with Frey's Commissary was increased by 7 cents per meal.

Mr. Shrimp reported that the increased funding from last year is still retained in the current state budget negotiations. The increased funding was in the budget bill passed by the state House.

Mr. Shrimp reported the Aging Advisory Council by-laws are still under review by the STEP Board of Directors. The decision was made to make a change from Robert's Rules of Order.

Mr. Humphrey thanked the guest for attending. They had been approached by Mr. Humphrey and Mr. Shrimp to be members of the council. If the guest decided they wanted to be nominated to the council, they should contact Mr. Shrimp to present the nomination to the Aging Advisory Council.

The next regularly scheduled meeting will be August 13, 2014.

David Heiney made a motion to adjourn. Janice Fye seconded the motion.

Submitted by:

Reviewed by:

Frederick Shrimp
Aging Director

Janice Fye
Secretary