

Minutes Hastings Senior Citizen Advisory Committee
February 26, 2024

Attendance: Polly Bijur, Patricia Bloom, Miriam Budin, Iris Dudman, Beth Fonfrias, Sharon Freedberg, Pam Knell, Marilyn Meese, Merridith Miller, Anne Russak, Paula Scheiber, Kate Washton

Minutes from January were approved.

Iris was appointed to the Westchester Council for Seniors, which advises the County legislators on senior issues. She will attend the NY State Master Plan on Aging Town Hall on March 7. If you are interested in attending, you can register [here](#).

The final report on our senior survey is on the Hastingsgov.org website here: <https://www.hastingsgov.org/senior-citizen-advisory-committee>
Click on Senior Survey Report on the left sidebar.

Tarry Hum submitted a \$2500 grant application to a private foundation to fund a resource center at the library for people with cognitive issues and 6 memory cafés. Miriam said if the grant doesn't come through, we should ask Friends of the Library to fund it. Debby Quinn, the Library Director, is considering training her staff on how to interact with people with cognitive decline.

Lori Walsh, Chair of the Hastings Youth Council, has spoken to Anne, Polly and Pat about an intergenerational project with seniors. Possibilities include a joint craft project or facilitating one-on-one connection between a young person and a senior. Polly asked the committee to send her ideas and Pat and Anne will follow up.

The Lunch and Learn on Memory Loss was a big success with lots of participants to hear Heidi Weiss of the Westchester Jewish Community Services. About ninety people attended Anne's Valentine's Day party. For Pat's upcoming Lunch and Learn on Mindfulness on March 26, Anne will need the committee's help with set up, serving, handling the beverage table, and cleanup.

Iris is applying to the AARP for a grant for four notice boards (i.e. bulletin boards) to be placed around town. There was some discussion if the information should be just for seniors or for the whole community with a section for seniors. Polly and Iris discussed the proposal with the Village Manager who is supportive. The application is due March 6.

Polly asked if the committee wanted to send a letter of support for the Medical Aid in Dying Act that was discussed at our January meeting. Polly will send around a draft and would only send the letter if all the voting members of the committee agreed.

The members of the committee voted unanimously to change the name of our committee to the Senior Council. Polly will follow up with the Village.

Paula suggested sponsoring a forum or series of meetings for people about to retire. A longer discussion was postponed until next meeting.

The next meeting is March 25 at 3:15 at the Community Center. Also note the April meeting date is changed to April 29 and the May date is changed to May 20th.