

Minutes
Senior Council Meeting
December 16, 2019

Present: Polly Bijur, Kate Washton, Pam Knell, Miriam Budin, Margie Mitchell, Anne Russak, Sandy Selikson

Computer Consultations: 4-6 computers are available downstairs in the Community Center, particularly in the mornings. Miriam Budin will offer help to seniors who would like to learn how to use a computer on Monday, January 13 from 10 -11. Anne Russak will distribute the a flyer and a sign up sheet and the flyer will be posted at the library and the post office.

Assisted Hearing Devices: Kate will consult with an Audiologist about speaking at our January meeting. Follow up is needed with the Village Manager concerning the availability of such devices at town meetings.

Home Assistance: The annual fee for the Umbrella organization which Sandy has been in contact with is \$200 a year and then \$20 per visit/hour? They do not provide personal care, only handyman kinds of help. It is unlikely that this could be done alone in Hastings as the numbers are too small and if we were interested, it would mean organizing the other Rivertowns and approaching this collectively.

Brochure: Miriam has compiled and updated list of businesses in town that give discounts to seniors. The idea of creating a logo to put in store windows that would announce this was suggested and ideas for distribution of the information whether in individual format or as a brochure was raised and suggestions were made including the library, village hall, the post office, offices, the Enterprise WHOH and the farmer's market,

Housing: The question of need for affordable housing for seniors was raised and the concept of shared housing discussed. Issues such as a needs assessment, how to match housemates (college students and seniors as an example, the New York Foundation for Senior Citizens is an organization that does this kind of vetting, as well as some religious groups.). Polly will bring in some examples of community surveys. The group felt that the backing of the Board of Trustees would be important if we were to try and create such an initiative around shared housing.

FISH: Nancy will be meeting with Sue Smith to rethink FISH and where it should belong in village organization.

Update from Anne: Fantastic Thanksgiving lunch was enjoyed by more than 70 seniors, with food graciously donated by restaurants in the village. A busload of seniors made a trip to the Lockwood-Matthews mansion in Norwalk, followed by an amazing lunch at an old-fashioned diner. Some Mercy College students have connected with seniors through holiday cards and are interested in helping in the future with parties.

On January 7, there will be a Safe Driving for Seniors talk at the Community Center. Lunch will be at 12:30 followed by a talk at 1 PM.