

Hopkinton Senior Recreation Council

Minutes of Meeting February 27, 2012

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Members Present: Joanne Woodward, Chair, Gloria Symonds, Vice Chair, Jack Ward, Secretary, Judith Sanborn, Elaine Lambert, June Garvin, and Sara Darby, Recreation Administrative Assistant.

Members Absent: Jessica Bailey and Marilyn Ceriello-Bresaw

Visitors Present: Lillian Landry, Allita Paine, Merle Dustin, and Doris Cayer

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by Joanne Woodward.

II. Review and Approval of Minutes of Meeting of January 23, 2012.

The members reviewed the minutes of this meeting, and no corrections were made. A motion was made and seconded that the minutes be approved as is, and were approved by a unanimous vote of all members present.

III. Old Business:

- 1) Repairs to the front porch wind screen are still in progress.
- 2) Jessica is still waiting for a reply from a supplier for the volunteer name tags.
- 3) Flagpole replacement will be completed in the spring.
- 4) The guidelines for kitchen and server help during our Wednesday senior lunches and any other major kitchen use for safety and efficiency have been posted in the kitchen.
- 5) Lillian Landry provided sample Slusser Senior Center jackets at a previous meeting. Jessica is still working on this project.
- 6) The "Winter Festival" hosted by the Recreation Department (including a snowball slingshot contest, snow sculpting, snowshoe scavenger hunt, bonfire and hot chocolate) was rescheduled for March 10th. This event has been cancelled due to lack of snow. The Recreation Department will try to schedule it again in the winter of 2013.

IV. New Business:

- 1) There was a discussion about programs for children being held at the Slusser Senior Center. Concerns were expressed about having the children's art program and Girl Scout activities at the Senior Center, and a question was raised about how much adult supervision is provided for children's programs. It was mentioned that the Senior Center is not "child-proof". It was suggested that if children are using the Senior Center for

programs, a town employee should be present to oversee these activities. If there is inadequate supervision and something happens, what is the town's liability? A concern was expressed about children being in the dining room and the kitchen, with access to the gas stove. A question was raised about so many people having keys to the Senior Center. It was suggested that if a new program to be held at the Senior Center is being planned, it should be presented to the Senior Recreation Council, so that members of the Council can have some input before the program is implemented.

All of the Senior Recreation Council members (except for one member) were in agreement that children's programs should not be held at the Slusser Senior Center. It was suggested that Jessica Bailey should have access to other town buildings (such as the schools) for children's programs.

2) The Council members were informed that at the Volunteer Meeting held on February 21, 2012, Jessica Bailey said she will invite the Hopkinton Selectmen to a special meeting at the Slusser Senior Center, so that the seniors can directly express their concerns about the use of the Center for programs for various groups. This meeting will be scheduled sometime after March 7th, when Jessica returns from her vacation.

3) Yard Sale: Lillian Landry is having a meeting at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, March 5th, for any Senior who wants to work on planning and organizing the Yard Sale. The tentative date for the Yard Sale is October 6, 2012. It was agreed that the Seniors should decide on how the proceeds from the Yard Sale should be spent. Many Seniors do not want proceeds from the Yard Sale to be spent on replacing any floors at the Senior Center.

V. Program Discussion:

At the Senior Recreation Council meeting on January 23, 2012, Jessica presented a new fitness testing program: Tom Walton, who has a physical education degree, and has been very active in the health field, would like to set up senior fitness tests at the Slusser Senior Center. There would be a series of 7 simple but timed tests. These would be compared for each individual (male/female) by age group to the national norm. They could become the basis for the design of new exercise programs. Participants would get tested periodically to review progress.

The first Senior Fitness Test will be held at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, March 13th, in the Fitness Room at the Senior Center. (Gloria Symonds' Strength Exercise group will not meet on March 13th.)

VI. Citizen's Forum:

1) Merle Dustin asked if the door under the porte cochere on the lower level of the Senior Center is always locked. She asked if a buzzer and intercom could be installed, so if that door is locked, the volunteer at the front desk can be asked to open the door. Lillian Landry suggested that this be discussed further with Jessica Bailey.

There being no further business, it was moved and seconded that the meeting be adjourned. It was adjourned at 2:09 p.m. by unanimous vote of all the members present.

The next meeting of the Senior Recreation Council is scheduled for Monday, March 19, 2012 at 1:30 p.m. at the Slusser Senior Center.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jack Ward
Secretary

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These minutes are not official until approved by the Senior Recreation Council at their next meeting.