

Westport Center for Senior Activities Policy & Planning Board Minutes March 8, 2011

Present: Shelly Lipsett, Susan Pfister, Phyllis Groner, Roger Curtis, Joan Bassett, Howard Maynard.

Excused: Joe Lamartine, Dana Johnson, Estelle Kesselman, Sue Lebrija, Robert McGrath, Kirk Massie, Jack Klinge.

The minutes of February 8, 2011 were approved (Lipsett/Bassett).

Update on the Friends of the Westport Center for Senior Activities:

The most recent calendar of upcoming events planned by the Friends was distributed. The next Indoor Music Series will be held on Sunday March 13, 2011. Mimi Levitt will be making an appearance and the Friends will be thanking her for her continued sponsorship of this series. Psychologist Dale Atkins is scheduled to do a lecture at the Center on Sunday May 15, 2011. Betty Lou Cummings is busy preparing for the Classical Tea scheduled for Sunday June 5, 2011. Professor Mark Schenker from Yale will start another literature series on Friday June 3, 2011 for 4 consecutive weeks.

Update on ITNCoastal CT:

S. Pfister reported that rides are increasing at a steady pace and that the “soft-launch” continues to progress positively. Rides are up and drivers are being recruited to meet the demand. The board continues to fundraise and is in the process of evaluating the finances in an effort to see when and if they can hire a full-time director. There is also continued discussion as to how the other towns being served can become for active and involved in the operation; folks from all 6 communities are utilizing the service. The board thought it would be helpful if there was a transportation sheet that consolidated all of the transportation options with details for folks now that there are many options. S. Pfister agreed to draft something up.

Update on LINKS:

A Weston resident, graduate of Harvard’s School of Business, has agreed to meet with the board to review purpose, mission, business plan, etc. The board is planning to meet again on Thursday, March 24th to see where it’s going. The director’s position remains vacant.

Update on Baron’s Proposed Senior Housing Project:

The Planning and Zoning Commission is scheduled to continue the Text Amendment hearing on Thursday, March 10th. All interested parties are encouraged to show up. A letter of support is being circulated for those who can not attend or who may not want to speak. The letters will be submitted to P&Z for the record. Second Selectwoman, Shelly Kassen has appointed a committee co-chaired by Marty Hauhuth and Steve Daniels. The

committee is working on putting the Request for Proposal (RFP) together in anticipation of a positive vote on the Text Amendment.

Update on FY 2011-12 Budget:

The budget continues to sail smoothly so far and awaits approval from the Board of Finance. The next scheduled meeting with the Board of Finance is scheduled for March 22, 2011. S. Pfister does not foresee any issues and expects the Department of Human Service's budget to be approved without question.

Calendar of Events, April – June 2011:

The latest calendar was distributed for discussion. The PPB applauded the staff for compiling a diverse program with so many choices. Registration is scheduled for March 14th. Joan Bassett volunteered to help. Registration will begin promptly at 8:30 a.m. Registration for out-of-town residents is scheduled for March 21st.

Plan for Friendship through Fitness Golf Tournament:

S. Pfister is working with the coaches from both the boys and girls golf teams from Staples High School in an effort to pick the most convenient date so that both teams can participate in this fun, intergenerational event. S. Pfister will work with Longshore and Stuart from P&R, too. D. Johnson will work with students to solicit prizes and awards. The event will most likely take place in mid to late April on a Monday. The suggested donation per player will be \$50.00. All proceeds will benefit the fitness center at the WCSA.

WCSA Building Rental Policy:

During this year's Board of Finance's work session, a member asked about renting the Center. S. Pfister explained that a committee was initially established to visit this issue shortly after the facility opened and for numerous reasons it was decided, at that time, that the Center not be available for outside rentals. However, in light of time passing and the economy, S. Pfister agrees that this issue should be re-visited. H. Maynard, R. Curtis and S. Pfister will sit down to review the current policy and make a recommendation to the board in a couple of months.

The meeting was adjourned (Curtis/Lipsett). The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 12, 2011.