

**Westport Center for Senior Activities  
Policy & Planning Board Minutes  
Monday, June 3, 2013**

Present: Susan Pfister, Stan Groner, Howard Maynard, Annette Kirban, Paul Bieler, Sue Lebrija, Martha Aasen, John Weiss, Joan Bassett.

Excused: Richard Price, Stephen Colodny, Jack Klinge, Bob McGrath.

Guest: Jim Marpe.

The minutes of May 6, 2013 were approved (S. Groner/J. Weiss).

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

The ATT cultural series has been finalized for the following Friday's: 9/27, 10/4, 10/11, 10/18 and 12/6 from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. Presenters scheduled to appear include: Orin Grossman, Dr. Gerry Kuroghlian, Helen Klisser During, Matt Davies and David Bouchier. The Friends are also gearing up for the Friendship through Fitness golf tournament scheduled for June 6<sup>th</sup> at Longshore from 2:30 – 6:00 p.m. Dates have been set for the barbeques, Saturday social and clambake, all of which are co-sponsored by the Friends. In September, the Friends will be working with the Center to host a Mid Autumn Festival Celebration with a local Chinese organization.

**Update on ITNCoastal CT:**

The most recent executive dashboard was copied and distributed for board members to review. April saw the greatest number of rides ever (389). The organization is operating effectively and efficiently. The Town of Fairfield will be the next community to receive special outreach efforts by the board. A meeting at the Norwalk Senior Center has been arranged for August to help publicize this service to folks in the community of Norwalk.

**Update on Baron's Proposed Senior Housing Proposal:**

S. Pfister distributed two recent articles related to the housing project for the board to read regarding the announcement of the Jonathan Rose Companies being selected as the developer of choice. Number of units, monthly fees and income requirements were discussed. The next step is for the first selectman to present the committee's findings to the Board of Finance. S. Lebrija mentioned that the Town of Wilton's recent senior housing project is having trouble filling the middle-range price units and that all of the lowest ones have been occupied. S. Pfister will try to get income guidelines from committee for distribution at the next board meeting since many board members were curious.

**Long-Range Plan Meeting:**

The Long-Range Planning Committee met and began to outline and review what should be incorporated into the next long-range plan. H. Maynard stressed the importance of planning for the future taking into account the environmental factors of the community

that will impact the Center. A list of such factors was distributed for the board to review and respond to prior to next month's meeting. S. Pfister will update usage numbers, demographics and percent of room occupancy for programs. S. Groner agreed to contact the various Y's Men groups that are using the Center due to being displaced from the damage of Storm Sandy at the Y. The question is: Do the groups plan to continue to meet at the Center or do they envision themselves moving into the new Y once it's completed? S. Pfister will supply Stan with contact names for the various groups.

**Update on Annual Friendship through Fitness Golf Tournament:**

The original golf date scheduled for Thursday, April 4<sup>th</sup> has been changed to June 6<sup>th</sup> due to the course not being ready in time and the inclement weather. There are eight tee-times generously donated by the Parks & Recreation Department and John Cooper. The suggested donation per player is \$50.00. All board members were encouraged to help by getting donations for the prizes. Past board member Dana Johnson and Staples student Stephen Colodny are co-chairing this event. J. Marpe and J. Weiss have offered to help. WestportNow has been contacted for photos. All proceeds from this event will help maintain the Fitness Center. The good news is that the event is sold-out with a wait list!

**Update on Safety Study at Center:**

Director of Human Services, Barbara Butler is working with First Selectman, Gordon Joseloff and Police Chief, Dale Call to proceed forward with an appropriation for funds for implementation of the safety plan has composed by Detective John Rocke from the Westport Police Department. I believe the plan is to seek an appropriation for Town Hall, the library, Toquet Hall and the WCSA.

**Review Fee Structure:**

S. Pfister opened up a discussion regarding the current fees which have not been raised since 2004. The issues was raised at the Health & Human Services sub-committee of the RTM during a budget review meeting. S. Pfister has done a preliminary review of revenue versus expenses and would like to review her findings with a couple of volunteers from the PPB. Howard and John agreed and S. Pfister will set up a meeting. Any fee increases would not take effect until October, 2013.

**Update from Municipal Agent, Sue Lebrija:**

Sue has been working closely with Barbara and the IT department to choose the most appropriate soft ware program for their data base. They believe they have narrowed it down and are in the process of negotiating fees and costs. It looks to be approximately \$30,000 for initial costs and then \$10,000 thereafter. This item will go on the Board of Finance's agenda for a transfer of funds to help get the project off the ground. There was a brief discussion about the income requirements for the Baron's South Housing Project, as Sue noted that Wilton has been unable to fill some of their subsidized units. There was a brief discussion on the severity of hoarding and how it impacts members in our community and also what the fire department does in terms of logging such addresses. Sue will be participating in six webinars sponsored by SWCAA.

**Select Nominating Committee:**

A nominating committee consisting of the director, chairman of PPB, two current board members and two non-board members who are active in the Center should schedule a meeting to compose a proposed slate of candidates for the 2013-2014 term. J. Bassett and A. Kirban volunteered to sit on this committee.

**Other News:**

S. Pfister distributed an article from the NY Times on Shaking off Loneliness and encouraged all board members to read it.

**Suggestion Box:**

There were no suggestions this month.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, July 1, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned (A. Kirban/S. Lebrija).