

Westport Center for Senior Activities  
Policy & Planning Board Minutes  
Monday, October 7, 2013

Present: Susan Pfister, Martha Aasen, John Weiss, Joan Bassett, Stan Groner  
Richard Price, Paul Bieler, Leslie Wolfe, Sue Lebrija, Annette Kirban, Mildred Bunche

Excused: Stephen Colodny,

Guests: Tara Lansdale

The minutes of September 9, 2013 were approved (S. Groner/A. Kirban).

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

Leslie Wolf will attend as often as possible and update the PPB on the Friends programs and activities. The ATT cultural series has held two well-attended lectures to date on Friday 9/27 and 10/4. The remaining sessions will be held on 10/11, 10/18 and 12/6 from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. The Indoor Music Series is just about finalized with the first performance scheduled to kick off on Sunday, November 17<sup>th</sup>. The Friends have also agreed to purchase a portable stage for the Center. The Friends will be putting out an end of the year newsletter; perfect timing for those wishing to make an end of the year tax donation.

**Update on ITNCoastal CT:**

ITN's major fundraiser is planned for Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup> at a board member's home in Saugatuck. Rides continue to increase on a daily basis and there continues to be a need to recruit more volunteer drivers. This program has turned out to be a huge success. The executive director will be attending the organization's annual meeting up in Maine the week of October 21<sup>st</sup>. Candidates for a vacant part-time driver's position are being interviewed as we speak.

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

The Baron's South Committee has made its recommendation to the First Selectman and the Jonathan Rose Companies and David Freshwater are negotiating a lease agreement that would have to be approved by the Board of Finance. There isn't expected to be any further action until after the election. Everyone agreed that it was important to keep the positive spirit up and to keep talking about this project so that it stays alive and becomes reality. The need for housing continues to be tremendous, as verified by Sue Lebrija. S. Pfister will keep the board apprised of any future meetings or important correspondences.

**Update on Status of Current Semester:**

Tara reported that the current semester's registration was the busiest ever and took in the most registrations to date. The process ran smoothly and almost everyone got into their desired classes. Tara is trying to grow the Thursday evening program by offering an evening bereavement group, more evening cooking classes and computer classes. Sue Lebrija will also be taking Thursday evening appointments at the Center.

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

Sue reported that she has been extremely busy at the Center on Monday afternoons and all day Thursdays. She and Sue P. have made home visits together and have worked on cases together. Most recently, they're working hard on a case of a 72 year old gentleman who lost his home due to an eviction and is temporarily living with his daughter in Norwalk. A very sad case. Sue has also been very busy with open enrollment Medicare Part D and expressed tremendous frustration with the web site. Energy assistance has started and there have been numerous calls regarding the new Affordable Health Care Act.

**Suggestion Box:**

There was a suggestion to consider offering Italian language classes and a seminar on When is it Time to Turn in your Keys? Tara will follow up on both suggestions.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, November 4, 2013 at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned (P. Bieler/L.Wolfe).