

Westport Center for Senior Activities  
Policy & Planning Board Minutes  
Monday, January 6, 2014

Present: Susan Pfister, Stan Groner, Annette Kirban, Mildred Bunche, John Weiss, Paul Bieler, Joan Bassett, Sue Lebrija.

Excused: Stephen Colodny, Richard Price, Martha Aasen, Leslie Wolfe.

The minutes of December 6, 2013 were approved (A. Kirban/J. Weiss).

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

S. Pfister reported on behalf of the Friends: The last ATT cultural series lecture was held on 12/6 from 1:30 – 3:30 p.m. featuring David Bouchier. The lecture was extremely well attended and the Friends plan on submitting another grant to AT&T to continue this series on an annual basis. The Indoor Music Series had to postpone its holiday meal/concert due to the weather. It has been rescheduled for January 5<sup>th</sup>. The event is sold out (150 persons). The Friends have purchased a portable stage for the Center which looks terrific and has worked out well the two times so far that it has been utilized. The Friends have mailed their end of the year newsletter; perfect timing for those wishing to make an end of the year tax donation. Plans are in the making for the Super Bowl Sunday event (February 2), Try to Remember III (April 27) and Trivia Day (May 18), all of which were success stories last year.

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

First Selectman, Jim Marpe has appointed Second Selectman, Avi Kaner to oversee the Baron's project and to transition the project from the past administration to the newly elected administration. B. Butler is under the impression that there have been some meetings/negotiations set up and that the project is on the front burner in the Selectman's Office. S. Pfister stressed a sense of urgency for this project to get off the ground. S. Lebrija added that housing requests are her number one inquiries.

**Update on Plans to Host Meeting with Selectman, Jim Marpe:**

At the last Commission for Senior Services meeting, it was decided that a date be chosen that would best accommodate the Human Services Committee, the Policy & Planning Board and the Commission for Senior Services. This item will be placed on the Commission's agenda on Friday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. The PPB members seemed okay with it being held on a Friday morning.

**Preliminary Discussion on FY Budget 2014-15:**

S. Pfister reported to the board that she has submitted her preliminary numbers to Barbara for FY 2014-15. There were increases in the Fees & Service budget line as well as in the Extra Help & Overtime. The total additional funds requested were a tad under \$15,000. Some of this request is directly to the possibility of extending hours a bit come July, 2014. Sue is working on a five-year projected budget, per the request of the first selectman. There was mention that the carpets should get shampooed more frequently. Sue has passed this along to the Public Works Department who have carpet cleaning in their contract.

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

Sue reported that the department made a lot of emergency/welfare calls during the last storm and cold spell. Home Delivered meal recipients received extra meals to cover themselves over the Friday/weekend. NEON continues to be inefficient and difficult to work with. As a result, the Westport Warm Up fund has been tapped a lot sooner than in years past to accommodate immediate fuel deliveries. Although the Part D enrollment period has ended, Sue has been busy tweaking and helping those who ignored the deadline. Sue continues to be busy with client cases and is anxiously awaiting the arrival of the new data base software.

**Suggestion Box:**

There was a suggestion (and it was mentioned earlier) to have the carpets cleaned.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, February 3, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned (A. Kirban/M. Bunche).