

WILLIAMSBURG COA Advisory Board

Meeting Minutes -- January 31, 2018

Board members present: Jacqueline Dufresne, Daria D'Arienzo, Margaret Ricci, and **Associate member,** Larry West -- **Quorum: Yes.**

Staff: Marie Westburg, Sherry Loomis

Meeting commenced at 12:18 pm.

Approval of December Minutes: Daria moved, Margaret seconded, Minutes unanimously approved

Marie spoke about the Strategic Planning Doodle Poll. Margaret & Daria will be among those participating with Hope facilitating. Marie encouraged Jacqueline to join. Discussion on Strategic Planning. Marie also brought up the conflict of interest exam that needs to be done every 3 years and can be done on-line. She also discussed the town budget in which there are no new funding sources, all will be level funded. She can't ask for any more, is working on restructuring the current budget to be used more creatively and searching for outside funding sources, examples: Highland Valley meals could be handled on the volunteer level, leaving the town funds for other uses. She's heard nothing from Cooley Dickenson Hosp. about their pilot meal program.

HVES: Margaret attended the board meeting and reported the meeting was all about budget concerns and not of interest to us.

Outreach: Marie passed around the new postcard aimed at those needing companionship and discussed the new carpool program (funded by the Title 3 grant) taking 2 or more people on trips to local malls, movies, farmers' markets, etc. She's hoping to get a few more participants, both drivers and riders. She said that the cost of movies would be paid by donations. Daria suggested spreading the word on All Things Williamsburg (Facebook page) to get drivers for specific trips, and to negotiate with the theater for cheaper rates for movies-could be done with a letter. She also suggested shopping on Senior days (Big Y), fund raising, community service projects with the HRHS and Sr. Center. Marie said a friends group may be part of the strategic plan, for fundraising, ideas, and help with implementation.

Men's Group: Larry reported that the group is going on a trip to the Springfield museums in February and may plan other trips. 8-10 men usually attend each meeting.

Director's Report: Marie will be submitting the level funding plan and suggests reallocating moneys later with the approval of the Select Board. She expressed her appreciation of board members attending the Select Board meeting. Margaret's feedback: Keep marching. More discussion on town finances and the fact that town money for seniors is based on the 2010 census (606 seniors), where as the current count is 856 seniors. The next census is not until 2020.

Other Business: Daria announced the next Cross Generation project, #5, Around the Town, to be filmed Mothers' Day weekend Saturday at the town Plant Sale. Topic: What we do around town on Saturdays. They are looking for support money, asked Larry to check if Lions Club might support.

Larry reported on the Intergenerational Workshops held at the Dunphy School. He taught chess, the other class was ukulele. Though small, they went over well. Marie cited the Pen Pal Project, which had fewer senior participants than last year. Question on how to market these programs. Entertainment programs could more readily be cross-generational if the Senior Center was in HEJ School building, as the kids would be close by and cross participation would be much easier. Sherry mentioned that only 5 seniors stayed for the last performer, who was excellent. We need to come up with new ways to get more participation.

Daria gave feedback on the annual report format, suggesting a feature "story" with bullets, statistics and thanks, making it short and readable. Margaret suggested that if there is a weather cancellation of meeting to let members know by 8:00 am, and to postpone it for one week.

Next Meeting: 2/21 at 12/15 pm

Meeting adjourned at 1:37 pm. (Margaret moved, Daria seconded)

Respectfully Submitted,
Marie Westburg, Director,
Sherry Loomis (minutes)