

SCAC Meeting – April 11, 2022 (SCAC’s first meeting)

Minutes taken by Carol Greshko

Meeting began 3:03pm via Zoom

Welcome message from Cathy Wilson, Deputy Mayor, Seniors Committee Liaison

Legal notice read. Pledge of Allegiance.

Appointees sworn in: Linda Bertuglia, Carol Greshko, Noel Robinson, Barbara Seberi, Janet Bobbin, Sam Pagano, Albie Rosenhaus, Arthur Mierisch (current President of the Morris Senior Club), and Cathy Wilson (Township Committee liaison)

Introductions (see last page)

Cathy Wilson – highlighted ordinance recognizing need for a senior citizen advisory committee. The purpose – recommendations to the Township Committee on the needs of senior citizens and assist in fulfilling the need for recreation, transportation issues, housing, medical, meals on wheels, and related issues. It is required that there be four public meetings per year, one liaison Cathy Wilson, with honorary liaison Peter Mancuso, seven regular members and Senior Club president or member from Senior Club designated by president. Secretary will be Carol Greshko. All will serve for one-year term. The minutes will be shared with the Township Committee and a report will be prepared at the end of the year.

Committee members will share telephone numbers and email addresses.

OPMA (Open Public Meetings Act): no meeting will be held off-line with more than four persons (quorum) unless there is a notice to the public. OPRA (Open Public Records Act): all correspondence about SCAC matters are open to the public and subject to Sunshine laws. The Committee will not use “reply all” in emails.

SCAC and the Morris Township Senior Club will be kept separate.

Committee goals:

- 1) Medical and health programs available for seniors. More health classes for seniors with possible help from New Vitality through Atlantic Health. Gather health reports from the Morris Township Health Department for our meetings. Phone calls to senior shut-ins. Volunteers for seniors for household chores, shopping etc. (in the future). During COVID, seniors were called by Recreation. The fall schedule will include strength/balance and yoga programs. Use county resources from the Department of Aging including Morris County Council of Older Persons Organization (MCCOOPO).

- 2) Transportation issues – MAPS is available for medical appointments, but limited to doctor appointment two weeks in advance. Investigate other towns that provide transportation and the cost to seniors.
- 3) Municipal Messenger – the need for Township seniors to sign up. Provide more information for seniors on medical and social activities. A need for website/page for senior topics.
- 4) Make seniors aware of the Senior Club and trips and activities provided. Wellness programs are in the Messenger and in the monthly Senior Club newsletter. Collect newsletters from other towns for reference and ideas.
- 5) Senior Survey – AARP has many resources that could be used, possible grants. Contact Age-Friendly Coalition, rotary, other groups. Possible team up with High School Seniors.

Public Questions: Margaret Vicashio – Committee should review Chatham Township newsletter and contact them regarding their transportation program. They converted an old school to a senior center.

Next meeting – prioritize goals.

Meeting ended 4:34pm.

Next meeting will be May 23, 2022

INTRODUCTIONS

Cathy Wilson – Thirty-year educator. Assisted both parents with needs of medical insurance, transportation, independent and senior living facilities.

Linda Bertuglia – Resident of Morris Mews. Member of Morristown Municipal Alliance, Hillside Hose Women’s Auxilliary, and board member of Morris Township Senior Club. *Motivation and keep seniors informed.

Janet Bobbin – Retired nurse, member Senior Club. *Help more seniors get involved, especially men and more senior knowledge.

Carol Greshko – 1st VP Morris Township Senior Club and Meals on Wheels. *Housing for seniors and transportation issues.

Sam Pagano – Retired AT&T after forty-five years. Member of Madison YMCA, volunteer on Parks and Recreation Committee and Friendly Visitor. *Did not know of the Morris Township Senior Club.

Noel Robinson – Resident since 1945. Forty-one year professor at Morris County College, coordinator of programs. Volunteer for assistance of refugees from Ukraine and Afghanistan, Morris Township chair. *Affordable housing, transportation, and need for senior survey.

Albie Rosenhaus – Family have been Morris Township residents since 1930's at Vallevue. Retired pharmacy industry, board member Rabbinical College, knowledge of area and business experience. *Would like to know more about seniors' issues/needs and help to address them.

Arthur Mierisch - *Extension of service for the Senior Club

Barbara Sebiri – Resident ten years, retired nurse, volunteer for Board of Trustees Woodcrest and Jewish Family Metrowest – senior care services, government program Aging in Place – housing in Parsippany and Caldwell. *Learning what is available for seniors and spread the word.

Peter Mancuso – Township Committee – resident forty-eight years.

Tim Quinn – Township Administrator. Resident since 1965. Forty-four years employed with Morris Township and twelve years as Administrator.

Alexis Voli – Recreation supervisor. Liaison for Senior Club and responsible for senior room.