

Charter Township of Orion

2525 Joslyn Road, Lake Orion, Michigan 48360

Senior Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2014

In attendance - Bob Hazzard, George Sinnott, Delores VoVillia, Glendon Smith, Mike Nebel, Karen Knox, Evelyn Doyle, Lisa Sokol, George Hanley, David Mansfield, Penny Shultz, Tracy Marsh. Jeff Stout, OT operations director, also attended part of the meeting at the Council's request.

Not Present- Bill Schramm, Nancy Fischer, Ed Ratzenberger, Mark Thurber

Meeting called to order at 9:23 AM

Evelyn Doyle noted that Lap Robes knitted by our knitting club have been removed from storage and used by people in the first floor to keep warm. The robes are private property and our knitters are upset. **Lisa will advise the staff that the robes are not to be touched.**

Karen Knox - Library report - The library is still in construction phase but scheduled to be completed by next Tuesday, November 18th.

- New electronic sign installed
- Seniors Helping Seniors program being conducted with emphasis on Healthcare
- Saturday Board Games is part of an International program
- The author of a story of a Golden Retriever saving him on Nov. 20th at 6:30 PM
- Boogie Woogie and Rag Time piano player on Nov. 22 and
- Friends organizing a silent auction raffle.

Tracy Marsh – ONTV (newly appointed to Council as Ian Locke's replacement)

- ONTV will be closed Thanksgiving. Working on Beaumont Series. ONTV has had many classes, however is still having difficulty recruiting volunteers to cover all program support requirements.
- New hire just starting and will provide additional coverage and experience

Orion Center Facility update

- Two treadmills are still broken and cost to repair is prohibitive. Lisa is looking into purchasing two new machines at \$4 - \$5K each. The Township has received a donation of \$5k and she will seek Township funds to purchase the new machines. George Sinnott inquired about obtaining a NuStep-type machine for the exercise room. It could attract additional members who need special equipment.
- HVAC continues to be a significant problem, this will be discussed later in this report with Jeff Stout.

- Electronic Sign installed, still working out some issues with the sign such as readability and programmability.

Election to Senior Advisory Board - Still looking for more applicants, currently have 10, looking for minimum of 12

Beaumont Health Center to conduct free health screening for seniors over 55 years old on Friday, November 21 starting at 12 noon

Lisa is working with a third-party company to print a newsletter possibly 6 times per year. This company would work with local business to sell advertising and defray the cost of printing. Copies would be available at the Orion Center, churches, businesses and also available at home with a subscription for a fee.

Township Budget meeting to be held on November 20th, attend if possible.

George Hanley noted the Friends of Orion Center Seniors dinner/dance was a success with a good crowd, good food as well as great music and dancing.

Piano needs tuning and Lisa will get it tuned. Some discussion regarding moving the piano for functions upstairs. George Sinnott offered to donate a piano to the Orion Center and the Township will coordinated moving it to the building.

ONTV Report - George Sinnott

- Active living has Jim Roback scheduled to talk about Iceland
- George Sinnott shot B-Roll for Lisa on the Paint Creek Trail and the Dog Park
- George Sinnott working with 5th Michigan Regiment Band to come into the studio

Evelyn Doyle brought up the issue of younger people wanting to join some of the senior activities such as knitting. Penny Shults suggested moving the senior age from 55 to 50. **Lisa has the action of bringing the change to the Township Board and changing the bylaws.** Action was unanimously approved by the Council. The age threshold for activities is designed to maintain a senior-oriented environment for participants wherever appropriate.

Lisa working on a program to partner with the Elementary/Middle Schools on a bird count program, more to follow. Others were welcomed to participate.

Budget discussion - Current recommendation is to cut the budget for Parks & Recreation and the Senior services by \$100k. Most trips would be eliminated and staff could possibly be reduced to implement the change. Seniors should attend the next Township Board meeting as well as the Budget meeting on Nov 20th to question the cuts.

Relationship with Cranks Catering not working out well, no events scheduled for November and December (Christmas season). When questioned as to why, the major reason appeared to be cost.

Jeff Stout joined to meeting to discuss the HVAC situation. A complete survey of the heating and cooling system has been conducted by OHM. Several components of the system are missing, for example, the system was supposed to have 30 reheat coils and only 10 were installed. Litigation has been initiated with the General Contractor as well as the subcontractor. There is no date as to when repairs are anticipated. Repair will be several hundred thousand dollars.

Space heaters can be used, however they must be plugged directly into a wall outlet with no extension cord.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:25 AM.

There is no meeting scheduled for December.

Submitted,

George Sinnott
Secretary