

Charter Township of Orion
Senior Advisory Council
5/6/2015

Members Present: Bob Hazzard, Sharry Jones, Chuck Lorenze, David Mansfield, Karen Knox, Bill Schramm, Penny Shults, Mark Thurber, Don Whitaker, George Hanley, Glenn Smith, Robyn Wilson, Lisa Sokol, George Sinnott, Ian Locke

Members Absent: Dottie Kowalski, Delores Vovillia

Meeting called to order at 9:05 am.

NOTA millage narrowly passed in Addison Township. George noted that he would like to have the NOTA director provide and update at an upcoming meeting.

ONTV will be holding a Production Class where Seniors can attend for free. The classes will begin on May 21 and will take place on Thursdays from 1 - 3 pm until June 18th.

Karen Knox discussed the Library Gala taking place on May 16th. The library will be transformed into the 6 states of Mexico. There will be authentic Mexican food, music and drinks based on input from a local Mexican organization.

May 9 - Matt Latrobe will present a music program at 2 pm.

May 11 - Brew your own beer program at 7 pm.

May 27 - Diego Rivera exhibit at 7 pm.

May 28 - Quilting

June 1 - The Friends of the Library will be holding a week long book sale

Sharry Jones summarized "Friends of Orion Center Seniors" events:

Chuck Austin Luncheon - 38 people attended

Discussion regarding people attending an event just to hear the speaker and not to participate in a meal. It was determined that extra seating should be made available for people that just wanted to attend to hear the speaker, with meal tickets distributed to those attending the luncheon.

The "Friends" will be attending the Senior Expo and giving out pens.

Friends will be putting on a Columbus Day Diner; they are currently getting pricing.

Friends will have a table at the summer concert series to sell water, chips and pretzels

The Chamber of Commerce will be holding their Expo on May 7th from 4 - 7 PM at the High School

It was requested that Lisa develop a list of businesses that offer Senior Discounts in the newsletter as a potential incentive for members of the Center.

George Hanley again discussed the possibility of a photo contest with the themes being our parks with an emphasis on Agawam. Displays could be placed in a number of participating

locations to encourage cross organization traffic. Lisa indicated that she is working with the Art Center to develop a project.

George Sinnott discussed the exploratory meeting held with the James Jenkins, Arts Center Director, as well as personnel from Clarkston, George Hanley, Don Whitaker and himself. The purpose of the meeting was to explore the possibility of forming a regional arts council to promote the arts as well as to maximize obtaining grant funding for arts projects that would include Music, Art, Dance, and Theater and Video. Plans are to move forward on development. Penny and Ian both indicated an interest in joining the group.

Lisa discussed the fact that Chris Barnett has appointed a new Parks and Recreation Board primarily to advise on maximizing the use of Camp Agawam and Wildwood. There was also a discussion regarding cutting the number of concerts at Wildwood from 8 to 4 this year, especially in view of the fact that we had so many new homes coming into Orion Township. Several members indicated an interest in trying to obtain sponsorships for a potential series of August concerts. Work to be done before decisions could be made.

Penny Shults gave an update of both Camp Agawam (including installation of a zip line activity by an outside company) which would be a traffic builder and Wildwood.

Lisa gave an update of all the Parks and Recreation programs (Lisa, please attach your report to these minutes). Lisa is also working the Waste Management on Birding and Nature programs. George Hanley noted that volunteers of all kinds, including seniors and students, would be needed and have a great learning experience.

George Sinnott presented the programs done with ONTV relating to Seniors:

- Chuck Austin Senior Issues
- Jim Roback - Trip to South America
- Interview with FISH Board of Directors
- North Oakland Concert Band May 3 Concert

Ian Locke advised that Brad Jacobsen will be doing a periodic update of State issues on ONTV

George Hanley asked if Lisa could provide an overview of where advisory support from the Council would be most valuable. Because of time constraints, the topic was postponed til next meeting. Lisa asked for help delivering the newsletters to various organizations. Sinnott and Hanley volunteered to assist.

Bill Schramm advised that the work on a house for Autism has been completed, however, ongoing maintenance is always required.

Participation in A National Day of Prayer will take place at the Veterans Memorial on May 7th at 7 PM, there will also be a Memorial held on May 25th at 1 PM.

Our next meeting will be held at Camp Agawam on Wed. June 3 at 9 AM.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 AM