

## Charter Township of Orion

### Meeting Minutes

Senior Advisory Council Feb. 12, 2014

Members present: Bill Schramm, David Mansfield, Eleanor Smith, Bob Hazzard, Delores VoVillia, Glendon Smith, Penny Shults, George Hanley, Evelyn Doyle, Ed Ratzenberger, George Sinnott, Lisa Sokol and Karen Knox

Not Present: Nancy Fischer, Mike Nebel, Mark Thurber, Ian Locke

Meeting opened at 9:05 AM

Special guest Jeff Stout was present to discuss the problems with the heating and cooling system. We have 41 days left with our present contractor and he is currently investigating other contractors. It appears that the system was never designed or installed properly. Many attempts have been made to correct the heating and cooling issues with the Center. It appears that some major redesign will be required to solve systemic problems. He will be working with the new contractor to put together a recommendation to the township.

Lisa Sokol reviewed progress with installation of Constant Contact. Significant progress has been made and the first mailing has been sent. A total of 3,732 recipients were e-mailed a copy of The Orion Center Newsletter using the system. The document included pictures, maps, applications, and links to other sites. We have already received new membership applications and interest in programs based on our first mailing. The next edition is already being drafted.

Annual renewal of memberships is no longer required since membership is free. There was concern about keeping the data base current when someone moves or dies. Penny suggested that we could work with voter registration to assist in removing people who no longer live in the community or are deceased. Only when a member decides to utilize the exercise room does the card need to be updated.

Lisa is currently looking at three potential providers for the health center: Beaumont, Crittenton and St. Josephs.

Library update - Delores reports that she has 100 new travelling books. Karen indicates a new "Library Link" has been sent to members and that a new person will be hired to focus on homebound. There will be a 100 year celebration on Saturday for the start of the Orion Township Library. The Friends of the Library will be holding its annual Gala "Road to Rome" on April 26th. Bill Schramm noted that the date is in conflict with the Habitat for Humanity fund raiser.

George Hanley Marketing update - George noted that there is a "Friends of the Orion Senior Center" luncheon today catered by Crank's to publicize the organization's goals/objectives with regard to enhancing senior activities and to recruit more members. He noted that members do not have to be seniors, just have ideas, energy and a willingness to volunteer. Contributions are tax deductible and individuals can sign up to participate in the Kroger Community Rewards program which allocates contributions to member 501(c) 3 organizations based on member spending as a percentage of total participant spending. Penny suggested that everyone on the Senior Advisory Board should become a member of the "Friends". Bill Schramm questioned the name "Friends of Orion Senior Center", given that the center is not exclusively used by seniors. George noted that the name carried over from the old site and that a request for approval of a name change to "Friends of Seniors at the Orion Center" had

been submitted to the government. The organization and funds are independent of the Township and Orion Center.

George also noted that an article recently appearing in an Oxford newspaper quoting Chris Barnett was creating an unfair operating comparison between the Lapeer Community Center with its much different configuration (including pool/gymnasium facilities) and the Orion Center.

The Orion Seniors now have a regular column that will appear in the Orion Review once each month. The first article appeared in the newspaper last week and we are looking forward to new ones in the future, thanks to Evelyn and Penny for a great job!

ONTV - A promotion video was produced for the Orion Township Library.

Orion Seniors assisted in the ONTV FISH food drive

George S. and Evelyn will be working on our next show "The Bickersons"

George S. and Evelyn will be working with Ed Ratzenberger to produce a show on Senior Safety

ONTV will be videoing four nurses with suggestions for "Stay Stronger Longer", the presentation would include sections on Prescription Drugs, Diet and Fall Protection.

Glenn reiterated his concern with the smell in the bathrooms, Lisa will work with Jeff Stout to resolve the issue.

George S. will meet with Lisa to finalize the request for free weight exercise equipment discussed at the January meeting.

Lisa discussed the possibility for "Intergenerational Programs", across the spectrum of Lake Orion schools, with a focus primarily on Orion Oaks elementary school.

Evelyn asked if we should invite guest speakers to our meetings. It was generally agreed that this would be a good idea if the subjects were of interest. Bill Schramm offered to do a program on "Intellectual Property".

The meeting adjourned at 10:43. Our next meeting is scheduled for March 5th at 9 AM.