

***Town of Londonderry
Elder Affairs Committee
Minutes June 16, 2015***

I. CALL TO ORDER 6:00 PM

II. ROLL CALL: PRESENT

Chair: Bonnie Roberts Vice Chair: Susan Haussler Secretary: Dolores Stoklosa

Members: Sherry Farrell, Dan Lekas, Bonnie Ritvo, Flo Silva,

Alternates: Linda Bates, Dick Flores, Anita Snow, Doug Thomas

Senior Affairs Director: Catherine Blash

Town Council Liaison: Joe Green

Guests: John Goglia, Town Manager Kevin Smith, Londonderry Times,

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- May 19, 2015 minutes. All in favor, motion passed.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

- **Advance directives presentations reminder:** There will be an evening presentation on September 8 at Leach Library and a breakfast on October 23 at the Senior Center. Presentations are open to all.
- **Volunteer Network update:** The plan is to combine local volunteers with Community Caregivers of Greater Derry who will manage them. We will solicit volunteers through churches, community organizations, etc. and post our invitation to volunteer in town hall. Greatest needs are drivers for medical appointments. Training is scheduled at Leach Library, July 8, 2:00. Caregivers' new Londonderry location is on Commons Drive behind Whippersnappers.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

AFFORDABLE SENIOR HOUSING

Town Manager Kevin Smith said that bringing in affordable housing for seniors is a priority for him as it is with the committee. Section 8 housing no longer exists. Current practice involves tax credits sought out by developers who wish to build affordable housing. The tax credits allow developers to offer cheaper rents. To qualify is a lengthy application process, which takes about a year for approval, which is why many developers shy away from it. Seniors can also apply for vouchers to offset their portion of rent. Cathy Blash and Kevin have been in discussions with an interested developer who has done this in other communities. He would like to begin the process for possible building in 2017. The Sanborn Road site could be a possible place for a developer to build affordable housing. The Town Council can consider a lease or donation if there is an interested developer. Progress is being made. More information to come.

News Flash: Kevin received a copy of the affordable senior housing documentary created by Pam Patenaude who visited our committee last month. Committee member Flo Silva was featured and did a fine job. He will forward the email to Bonnie Roberts who will distribute it to the committee.

TRANSPORTATION

Kevin Smith and Joe Green brought up issues that have remained unresolved with CART. Kevin has spoken with the new director, and the director has spoken at the Senior Center. There was a lengthy discussion of the current problems and the findings of the Transportation Subcommittee. The subcommittee will revisit the topic to assess needs, look at options within the town, and to find a solution to persistent problems.

SENIOR CENTER UPDATE: Craft fair coming this weekend from 9-3 featuring many vendors and good food. The volunteer appreciation luncheon was a great success, with Kevin Smith entertaining. Joe Green would like the committee to discuss possible expansions of Senior Center and staff.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

- Bonnie Roberts has applied to be on the NH State Committee on Aging. This committee acts as a watch dog for issues at the state level.
- Because of the partnership with Community Caregivers of Greater Derry for the volunteer network, there is no need for a booth at Old Home Day.
- The town website is being revamped. It will be updated with our information once the new site is active.
- The Transportation Subcommittee will be conducting a needs survey as part of their work. Joe Green will be helping with accessing town resources. The subcommittee will meet at least once during summer; Joe will let us know his availability for meeting.
- Reminder: We do not meet in July or August. The next meeting will be held on September 15, 2015, same time and place.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:57.

Next meeting: September 15, 2015

Respectfully submitted:

Dolores Stoklosa

Secretary