

**TOWN OF LONDONDERRY
ELDER AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

MINUTES

November 17, 2015

The Elder Affairs meeting is held the third Tuesday of the month from 6:00 –7:00 PM
Police Department Conference Room, Londonderry, NH 03053.

I. CALL TO ORDER 7:00

II. ROLL CALL/ESTABLISH A QUORUM/ ATTENDENCE

Present: Bonnie Roberts, Dolores Stoklosa, Sherry Farrell, Linda Bates, Richard Flores, Doug Thomas, Catherine Blash, Det. Chris Olson, Chief Darren O'Brien,

Absent: Susan Haussler, Dan Lekas, Bonnie Ritvo, Flo Silva, Tammy Siekmann, Joe Green

Guests: Kevin Smith, John Goglia, Anita Snow, Arlene Gramatikas, Mark Nelson, Art Rugg, Maureen Gage

Mission: The Londonderry Elder Affairs Committee (Committee) shall exist to review and make recommendations regarding existing services, programs and issues available to Londonderry's elder residents. The Committee will identify the need for and advocate additional service and programs which would support and promote financial and social independence.

III. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- Motion made/passed to accept minutes from October 20, 2015.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

- Committee name change will be presented to Town Council on Dec. 7th
- Volunteer Network Update: Group training date still to be determined. Sherry will meet with Cindee Tanuma of Community Caregivers to work out date. Letter will go out to churches and organizations to recruit volunteers.
- Absence Policy: More research needed before policy is set. Kirby Wade and Sherry Farrell will report in December.

V. STANDING REPORTS

- Transportation
 - Guest Speaker Mark Nelson, CART, Maureen Gage of Easter Seals, Mark gave brief history of efforts in the past year to educate the public. We have had CART services in town for the past 10 years. Rides are booked through Maureen's call center. It's not a taxi service but a shared ride system which means that people need to be flexible with their time frames. 90% of requests are met. Specific stats were provided to the committee, similar to data provided last year. Curb-to-curb service provided to general public for a small fee. Efforts will be made to increase service hours. Mark has been unaware of complaints from Londonderry residents. We average 200 refusals per year, mostly because of last minute calls. Currently trying to hire new drivers, but the job market has made it difficult. There is a possibility to get a new van.

There is a website with information on CART services as well brochures at the Senior Center. At least 100 surveys were passed out at a recent senior event. 10,000 more will be sent out with property tax bills. We still need to address how to reach renters. People can access the surveys at town hall or Senior Center.

- Housing: tabled for now because Susan is not here to report. Lack of affordable housing is a nationwide problem.
- Education:
 - Police/Fire Safety presentation will be held at the Senior Center on Friday at 9:30 after breakfast. We will not have an evening presentation given the low attendance history.
 - Social Media – January/February timeframe.
- Resource Lists: Activities/Local Senior Discounts: suggestion for The Times to ask local retailers to let us know if they offer discounts, etc. for seniors in town.
- Senior Center: Craft fair was profitable, firefighters came and prepared
- Londonderry Police Liaison: Seniors should be aware of an increase of burglaries in town. There is also an increase of scams – Medicare cards and gift cards are prevalent.
- Londonderry Fire Liaison: All residents should be careful with holiday decorations and heating sources, both of which could cause safety hazards.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

Karen Boone Resignation/Open Alternate Seat: We need to post the opening and see whose terms will be up soon. Interviews will take place 17th of Dec. for anyone interested.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: Motion made/passed to adjourn at 6:50.

Next meeting: December 15, 2015