



Senior Citizens Commission Meeting

October 17, 2018

The meeting was called to order at 4:07 pm.

In attendance: MaryElen Wielock, Art Murelli, Jim Millerick, Laura Chandler, Donna Mullen and Tricia Twomey.

The minutes from the September meeting were read and approved.

Jim introduced Diane Royko. Diane has expressed an interest in joining the Commission and would be a nice addition.

Public Comment: None

Senior Housing Discussion: Donna found out that a septic system can be installed on the property which is excellent news. The plans are to keep the new units similar in design to the existing ones but use better construction materials. There will be some upgraded features such as nicer kitchen appliances and washers and dryers. Ideally there will be two buildings with 5 or 6 units each.

Art suggested that current residents have a voice during the planning stages and have the option of moving into the newer units before prospective residents.

There are 24 units now and they are always rented.

Financial Report: The budget is at 25%. Senior programs may go a little over budget.

Programs: Saturday, October 27 will be Drug Take Back Day at the police station. Unfortunately it was not possible to get it in the newsletter in time but the D-A-R drivers will post a sign in the vehicles.

Art suggested the police put some sort of safe box up so that people could dispose any unwanted medications anytime throughout the year. Art will follow up with the Burlington Police.

Flu Clinic is November 1st from 9-11 am here at town hall.
The Senior Newsletter will go out tomorrow 10/18/18.

Community Fund Update: Jim met with the Community Fund committee and a representative from Main Street Foundation on Oct. 11 for the final round of questions. MaryElen, Laura and Tricia also attended. The members will make their decision by mid- November. He estimated that there may be twelve other organizations or committees vying for funds.

Jim encouraged all of us to show up when possible for meetings. Numbers speak volumes.

Tax Abatement: Tricia is resubmitting our request for tax breaks for seniors to the Board of Finance and the Board of Selectmen. The commission is looking forward to an answer from the BOF and BOS after they review the options. Jim discussed the possibility of meeting with a few of the BOF members to see what can be done to help Seniors paying their taxes.

With budget cuts at the state level it is understood that this may be a difficult time.

Art reiterated the point that people who have reached a certain age and have lived in Burlington a certain number of years should get an abatement but that we are not trying to govern the specific age or years of residency.

New Business: Tricia announced that Donna will be stepping down as Senior Coordinator at the end of the year. She will post the job opening.

Due to the Thanksgiving holiday our next meeting will be Nov. 14.

Meeting adjourned at 5:07.

Respectfully submitted by Laura Chandler