

**Glendale Heights Center for Senior Citizens
Senior Citizens Advisory Committee Meeting**

**June 23, 2021
Minutes**

PRESENT

Jennifer Alagna
Leona Breede
Lavonna Hawkins
Joan Kernan
Pat Maritato - Trustee
Patti Pauling
Joanne Soo

Absent:

Mary Schroeder - Trustee
Joe Toma

The meeting was called to order at 12:33.

The minutes of the May 26, 2021 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

Vaccine Update

Jennifer reported that 93% of the seniors in DuPage County have been vaccinated for the COVID19 virus. This allows for opening of more and more at the Center. The vaccine clinics continue at the HUB.

Rentals of Community Room

We continue to get new reservations for rental of the community room. There were 9 parties in June. The capacity was raised to 75 now.

Feedback – Taste of Italy

38 attended in two shifts. Jennifer reported that there was only one complaint she received which was regarding the food per the restrictions at the time. Most of the people were glad to be able to be out and back in the Senior Center as a group and appreciated that the new Mayor came to meet members. The group commented that the Italian themed tomato plants were a nice touch as center pieces and raffled prizes at the end of the lunch.

Dining in DuPage – Rocco Vino

14 attended with 3 riding the bus. Starting July 1st we will have full capacity for the bus with use of masks.

Forever Fit Update and other Activities

The Forever Fit instructor has given her notice that she will be leaving at the end of July. Jennifer has two possible replacements.

There will now be no limit on the exercise room as well as the walking class, pool and other activities. There will not be a pot luck or bake sale scheduled as yet due to food issues not opened up yet.

There is discussion regarding adding chair exercises and vintage exercises.

FUND RAISER – June 30, 2021 – 12:00N

As of today 53 have registered for the fund raiser at Texas Roadhouse on Wednesday, June 30 with the final day to register being Monday, June 28.

Texas Roadhouse has inquired whether we would want a bartender for a cash bar. The group discussed it and decided that Jennifer should request a bartender for those who attend that may want to purchase a drink with their lunch.

Jennifer discussed the misunderstanding that the fund raiser was only for the members which was never the case and communicated incorrectly which may have kept the total number of registrations down.

Pat took some flyers to distribute for possible additional interest and registrations.

Bar-B-Que

The group discussed the upcoming summer barbeque and decided to hold it on July 22, 2021 from 11:30-2:00 with hamburgers, hot dogs and brats being served with assorted salads and chips. Patti reported that she will work with Gordon Food Service for food and some other necessities. They will deliver to the golf course with no charge. We will arrange for pick up from there.

Jennifer reported that to date there are 15 signed up for it already with the hopes that we will get a very big turnout (at least 75) for this first event in the center after there are no restrictions due to COVID19. The charge is \$8.00 per person. Jennifer distributed flyers to the group to get the advertizing out to as many as possible. The patio will be set up for those who wish to eat outside (weather permitting) and we will bring out the bags game and have music.

Patti requested volunteer help from the group. Pat and Joe will do cooking and Joan, Joanne, Lavonna and Leona volunteered for set up, etc. Patti would like to do pies for dessert for a change and the group suggested Costco who has very large and economical pies. We will order apple pie to go with the theme of all American summer picnics.

Bingo

Jennifer was happy to announce that Bingo will be back soon. It is one of the last events to return to the center after re-opening. She will need volunteers in the center once it does open and also need to get a new Bingo caller. It was decided that there will not be any sweets and coffee provided to the Bingo

group any longer. Panera does not deliver bread or sweets weekly. No date to begin Bingo has been decided.

Volunteers Hours and Tracking

Jennifer distributed sheets to each member to use to track their volunteer hours and hand in on a monthly basis. This record is necessary to report to the State that the center does use volunteers often. The committee decided that one daily volunteer sheet should be displayed in the front of the center so that each volunteer can record volunteer activity as they do it to provide a more accurate accounting. Jennifer will have the sheet displayed on the podium in the front.

Committee Members

Jennifer researched the Village and the Senior Center by-laws regarding committee members and reported that there were 9 voting members listed in the by-laws with the committee being charged with suggesting events and activities for the senior center to coordinate. Currently there are 5 voting members with 2 trustees and 2 employees, non-voters. The Mayor appoints the new members based on recommendations from the Senior Center Manager.

Jennifer suggested that we postpone the selection of new members until January 2022 to allow for time to fully restart activities and events after COVID19, coordinate the fall and Winter Activity Guides and programs, and allow Jennifer to settle in to the Manager position. She would like to meet other Village department staff and create coordination between them and the Senior Center. The Committee decided that this was good idea and will address new members in 2022. Some members have completed applications and given them to Jennifer who will keep them for use in selecting new members in 2022.

Surveys – September Senior Center Month

The group discussed the surveys and how past data was used. Jennifer will research if they are required by local or state agencies, if needed annually, and what information needs to be included in the survey questions. The group will discuss survey content and use at the next meeting with the possibility of discontinuing their use or revamping the content and collection systems.

There will be no change for surveys at parties and events sponsored by the Center. They have been useful.

New Activities

- September Ice Cream Social: September 23
Jennifer will research a sponsor to donate the ice cream. It has always been a free event for Senior Center Month. Lexington Health Care has sponsored it in the past.

- Halloween party – October 21

Patti reported that she will use Morettis for the catering. We have had them in the past and their food is very good. It is a bit more expensive but with a good turnout we should be fine. It was agreed to charge \$10.00, the usual charge for the Halloween Party.

August – no plans

The 10th anniversary party which was cancelled in 2020 may be an option for August. This will need to be researched. There will be the Village National Night Out as usual.

Library Sponsorship

The Glenside Library has sponsored events at the Senior Center in the past. Jennifer would like to coordinate with them to do some more events here for seniors. She is going to check with the Event Planners at the library to see if we can do programs in connection with them including a program focusing on the 30's, 40's and 50's. Ryan at the library has worked with Debbie in the past and their events were well attended and well received by the members.

Tae Chi may be an exercise program we can collaborate on. Several of the Senior Center members attended the library's free seminar this week and it was well received. Jennifer is committed to health and exercise activities for the seniors and will look into the information from the Tae Chi instructor used by the library. She will also check with Eric, the Senior Center's trainer as he is certified in tae chi.

Senior Center Advertizing

Pat suggested that the center put their event information on the sign on Bloomingdale Road. There is some issue with how fast the individual ads move for a stop light area. Pat will check to see if they can be slowed down for easier reading. Jennifer will also ask David to put our ads on the Villages's social media for more coverage.

Use of Community Room for Rental Parties

A question came up regarding refunds to party deposits (\$150) and the use of the kitchen by the public for cooking.

Patti reported that if there is no damage or no issue confirmed by Village staff or Police the deposit is returned. In the event of any damage or misuse of the written rules the deposit is never returned.

There was a discussion regarding the use of the kitchen stove. It was decided that the entire stove can be used for cooking and warming. Jennifer commented that most of the renters use catered food and cooking is rarely done.

Membership Renewal Question and other changes

Due to COVID 10 members who have renewed will be given an extra 5 months (the amount of time the center was closed) of membership before being charged for the next year.

There will no longer be a sign in the lobby regarding masks needed and no temperatures will be taken. Members still need to swipe in their cards every time they enter the center. This is needed to report to the state regarding use of the center and has always been a requirement.

Changes at the Center

The group discussed changes in general and decided that some of the regular things that were done in the past can be changed or eliminated as a fresh start after the COVID19 restrictions and closure. Review of procedures and some discussion of changes will be done at the next meeting.

Follow up items:

Volunteer sheet in lobby for daily volunteer reporting
Survey questions and survey data use in the past
Meet with library event planner re programs and Tae Chi
Contact trainer re Tae Chi
Pat: check sign speed on the Bloomingdale sign.

The next meeting will be August 25, 2021 at 12:30pm. There will be no July meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Joanne Soo