

## Schaumburg Township Senior Citizens Services Committee Meeting Minutes Tuesday, February 16, 2021

- I. Call to Order called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Chairperson Croke.
- II. Roll Call (those in attendance): Mark Chereso Nancy Croke Denis DeCamp Linda Kasinger Donna Kaywood Marilyn Pande Kathleen Ray Sheva Wohlhart Trustee Char Kegarise Director Becky Cordes
- III. Approval of January 18, 2021 Minutes
  Correction requested for Trustee Kegarise's first name to be corrected in the meeting minutes.
  Motion made by Kathleen Ray to approve minutes from 1/18/21 with correction made to Trustee
  Kegarise's first name. Second by Marilyn Pande. Motion carried.
- IV. Public Comments (limited to 3 minutes) None
- V. Reports
  - a. Chairperson's Report

Chairperson Croke reported excitement about the SCSC partnering with the Mental Health Committee on hosting a program speaker focused on mental health for seniors.

b. Trustee Liaison's Report

Tentative budget was approved at the January Board Meeting. Final budget approval will come at March's meeting.

c. Director's Report

Phone calls for AARP dramatically increased, as did calls regarding COVID-19 vaccines. AARP phone calls were so great that the whole Township's voicemail system needed to be rebooted. January 27 and 28, Senior Services partnered with the Schaumburg Township District Library and Arden Courts for our Warm Up with the Township event. 140 seniors and adults with disabilities were provided with gift bags that contained soup bowls, soup, socks/hats, candy, hot cocoa, and throw blankets. A second event will be held March 2 and 3 because the event had such a large waiting list. March 17, Senior Services will host a Saint Patrick's Day Lunch and Bingo for 100 residents. Residents will pick up their lunch of corned beef, cabbage, potatoes, and dessert, as well as 2 bingo cards from 11 a.m. -12 p.m. In-person programming is slowly restarting and options for hybrid programming is being looked at.

## VI. Old Business

- a. Funded Agency Reports
- b. AARP Foundation Tax Aide

Phone calls for AARP Tax Aide began on January 28. The Township anticipates being able to help approximately 500 individuals with Tax Aide, which is significantly less than in past years. Due to COVID-19 protocols, clients will need to visit the Township three times to complete their taxes. This process is more cumbersome than past years, but limits the amount of time they need to spend in-person with Tax Aide volunteers.

Denis DeCamp spoke about how the IRS has implemented a safety measure for individuals filing taxes. The IRS has implemented a voluntary Identity Protection PIN (IP PIN) program. If someone is a confirmed victim of identity theft and the IRS has resolved their tax account issues, the IRS has been mailing them a notice with their IP PIN each year. In 2021, the IRS has expanded this protection to everyone as a way to help protect them from tax-related identity theft. Individuals can apply for the IP PIN by visiting <u>www.irs.gov</u> and searing for IP PIN. A rigorous identify verification process must be passed in order to receive the six-digit pin. The IP PIN is only good for one year and must be entered on electronic and paper tax returns if you have one in order to avoid rejections or delays.

- VII. New Business
  - a. Committee Member Updates/Questions

Denis DeCamp inquired about Senior Services' ability to assist individuals in signing up for medical insurance through the new open enrollment period for the Affordable Health Care Act. Helping individuals with this is outside the scope of training staff have received as Senior Health Insurance Program Counselors. Director Cordes will look for other local resources to point individuals to in case the Township receives requests for assistance.

Linda Kasinger inquired if the Township had any news regarding COVID-19 vaccines. Director Cordes stated the Township has no confirmed plans to offer or assist with the vaccination process, but is actively working on it every day. In the meantime, individuals are highly encouraged to visit the Cook County website, Walgreens, or Jewel Osco's websites early in the morning as that seems to be when most appointments are released. Cook County and Walgreens also have phone numbers people can call if they need help scheduling an appointment. The Village of Hoffman Estates is working on opening a vaccination clinic and will be sending a letter to all of their residents over the age of 65.

Kathleen Ray provided an update on Barn activities. Every Monday seniors can pick up a 5 pack of frozen meals. Individuals can get a hot meal from a local restaurant every Wednesdays, and Social Saturdays happen twice a month where the Rotary Club provides meals. The Chicago Food Depository is providing food to nearly 400 households through the Barn this month.

## VIII. Adjournment

Motion by Kathleen Ray. Second by Sheva Wolhart. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 p.m.