

Senior Citizen Advisory Committee Minutes – August 10, 2016

The meeting was called to order at 8:05 am by Chair Vail.

Roll Call

Members present were: Lucky D’Ascanio, Joel Glass, Catherine Hannon, Herb Hartley, Carol Kauffman, Ned Kitchel, Amy Lamontagne, Peggy McGehee, and Dolores Vail. Jen DeRice was absent.

The group welcomed Town Councilor Ned Kitchel as the new Council liaison.

Item 1 – Approve Minutes of June 8 meeting

Joel moved to approve the minutes; Peggy seconded. Motion carried 6-0.

Item 2 – Senior Room Construction Update – Representatives from Port City Architecture will present plans for the room

Two architects from Port City Architecture (Chelsea and Lita) presented interior sketch plans to the group. The preliminary drawings remove the existing wall and open up the room. The kitchen will go into the corner of the now walled off space. There was extensive discussion about keeping the current ceiling tiles and lights (new) but removing the carpet in favor of a better wearing and easier to clean floor. The group discussed furniture design and placement and asked questions about the door installation (to allow easy access to the open space outside the building). There was also discussion about a window addition in the kitchen area and adding a heat pump to provide air conditioning because the room currently has none.

The architects asked about the color palette and all group members agreed that it should be “warm and light” and needed to “stay away from an institutional feeling.” Everyone wanted a “home-like feeling” where visitors can socialize, watch TV, play games, etc. A picture rail was suggested, as well as chair rail for a more residential design.

The architects noted all comments and said they would update the existing designs with the new changes and present them at a special meeting on August 31 at 8:00 am. At that meeting, they will also provide more detailed floor, paint, and furniture samples and have pricing estimates.

The group discussed timing and when the construction will occur. Amy reported that the earliest occupancy date is December 1 and that could change based on construction. Amy and Lucky had scheduled a meeting with the construction project manager the following week. One group member expressed disappointment that the room would not be ready on October 1. However,

with the summer camps inside the building until August, there was never a plan to start construction before September. Amy reminded the committee that they needed to present the finalized plans and cost figures to the Town Council. The current budget has \$75,000 appropriated but the cost will probably exceed that number. The earliest the group could present to the Council would be September 26 but again, that date could change based on a variety of factors. At the meeting on August 31, more information will be available about the timeline and process.

Item 3 – Other Business

Herb inquired about the “Senior Citizen Days” proposal he introduced in May/June. Unfortunately, the item was dropped from the Council Retreat agenda because of work plan and time constraints. Amy will speak with the Town Manager about it.

Chair Vail reported about a discussion with the Town of Cumberland and the status of their Property Tax Relief for Seniors. The maximum payment is \$750.00.

Item 4 – Adjourn

Chair Vail adjourned the meeting at 9:35 am.