

TOWNSHIP OF DOWNERS GROVE
SENIOR CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE/SALT COUNCIL
Minutes --- 10-2-17

Attendance: SAC Committee: Tom Anderson, Ralph Beardsley, Lisa Berg, Floyd Mizener, Robert Petranek, Richard Strang **SALT:** Troy Agema, Lynn Dralle Alice Krampetts, Westmont Park District **Also Present:** Cathy Rager, DGT; Joan Nichols, DGT; Karen Kelly, DGT Trustee (liaison to senior committees); Mark Thoman, Supervisor DGT

1. **Call to Order:** Chairman Thomas Anderson called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.
2. **Approval of minutes:** Minutes dated 8/7/117 were approved as typed- Lisa Berg motion to approve, Richard Strang- seconded; Minutes dated 9/18/17 were approved as typed- Lisa Berg- motion to approve, Robert Petranek- seconded
3. **Dial-A-Ride** – Joan- No report
4. **Vintage Times Cable TV Program for Seniors** – Cathy has made contact with Don Olson from the Village of Downers Grove and will work to continue the Vintage Times program hopefully starting in November.
5. **Banner News – No Report**
6. **Township Website Articles** Seniors’ Article – Car Care Clinic – will post an article on the website when pictures are acquired from Karen Kelly
7. **Car Care Clinic** – Wind-up discussion on the car care clinic (notes are attached)
8. **Sub Committees**
 - a) **I.T. sub-committee** – Lisa and Karsten
 - A technology FAQ sheet was added to the bag given to seniors at the Car Care Clinic
 - Discussion- how to share technology information with seniors, what information do they need (possible survey to an age range of all seniors?), pick a topic to promote? What’s successful?
 - Karsten- Start with the basics: Connecting to the Internet > Emailing > Phones and Tablets (evolution of skills)
 - Simple way to establish an email address (google), how to get internet; volunteers from DG High Schools to help seniors through this process- whether a class is held here or in partnership w/library program
 - Additionally: security and how to navigate a web browser (security is a concern after Equifax breach); there are filters for seniors to close their groups so as not to be vulnerable to scams; with ages 65-75 their may be basic assumptions about their knowledge of technology... but we don’t know for sure

- In some areas of the Township, seniors are low income and may not have access to computers at home- no computer no internet
- In the local area, it may be more of an instructional issue vs. economic issue
- Don't reinvent the wheel, we still need more knowledge and input from local library partners about what they already have in place- Robert said we as a group should be the "signs along the highway" pointing seniors in the right direction vs. holding the classes ourselves
- Check w/Amanda (IT Township) to see if "hits" can be measured for the senior website, if not how; is there a technology link or can one be created?
- Surveying seniors through the park district, libraries, senior centers etc. throughout the Township- understand their technology capabilities and what they are looking for
- Goal for Survey: Are you Connected? Do You Want to Get Connected? How To Get Connected...
- Need Postage to send some of the surveys out- Check w/Mark and FFDGTS
- Karsten- Check on these categories- WiFi, Smartphones, Computers and Chromedrives

b) **Housing sub-committee** – Rob Petranek, Kathy Abbate, Julie Larson, and Linda Bedard (DG resident)

- Robert- We are the "Road Sign" for information and resources
- Darien has discounted vendors- create link to "fix" homes for people w/disabilities
- Trash Compactors have discounts; TMobile has senior discounts
- Dupageco.org categories are too general, not separated out for seniors, what can we do?
- 2-3 years for subsidized senior housing, even up to 5 years of a wait for seniors- not enough, packed waiting lists

9. **AARP Safe Driving Class**- possible dates are February 24th or March 3rd 2018

- 55+ Get discount on car insurance for taking the class
- 8 hour class is mandatory for this discount (state law)
- \$20 charge for class (\$15 AARP members)
- Township provides lunch and snacks

10. **Future Meeting dates**- First Monday, 1:30pm Township's Boardroom -12/4

11. **Celebration** honoring Hanna Benioff will take place Wednesday, October 25, 2018 from 11:30-1pm at Papa Passero's in Westmont

12. **Meeting adjourned** at 3:00pm Ralph Beardsley