

TEN Steering Committee Meeting
February 5, 2018 at 10:00 AM
Latham Library

Present: Betty Campbell, Jody Biddle, Pril Hall, Inge Trebitz, Cathy Newbury, Linda Baccei, Susan Gault, and Dale Gephart via Skype

Jody called the meeting to order at 10:00.

The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: The amount of money held for us by the town has been inching up. The increase will be spent, plus more, when we pay the church our annual \$900 rent. We should talk with Mike Keiss about when the rent is due and who will bill us.

Senior Luncheon: Cathy reported that we had a big group for the luncheon. We had 53 diners and 11 takeouts for a total of 64. The increase in takeouts that day was probably due to icy conditions at people's homes. Mike Keiss was very helpful in getting sand spread on the paths and parking lots at the church. Everyone loved the meal.

We discussed the rules for executive session. When we have personnel matters to discuss, we will go into executive session.

Pril moved that we go into executive session to discuss a personnel issues. The motion was approved unanimously. We went into executive session at 10:21. No decisions needing a vote were made. We exited executive session at 10:43.

Volunteers: Inge reported. Inge drove two people this month: one for a medical appointment and one for grocery shopping.

Walking: Sue Rump's written report said that we averaged 8 walkers per week who walked just under 2 miles per week. Challenging weather conditions persisted.

Community Nurse: Pril reported.

Senior and Affordable Housing. Dale reported. TEN should have a representative attending the Senior and Affordable Housing meeting on February 15th. Jody will attend. Dale will find out where the meeting will be. Jody will need to give a short talk about the needs of Thetford's seniors . We discussed important issues that she could share.

Dale also discussed Shared Housing. The term is loosely used. Now, it generally means an apartment house or long-term housing where seniors share responsibilities. Ruggles House, a 15-bed unit in Burlington, is one example and Country Villa in Maine is another. Ruggles House is part of the Cathedral Square project in Northern Vermont. Country Villa is an 18 bed senior living facility with lots of volunteers coming in to help them.

Cathedral Square says that Thetford doesn't have the needed density for them to serve us. Economy of scale is a big issue for rural housing efforts.

In Vermont there are senior housing facilities in the following categories.

Independent - 12 facilities
Assisted - 12 facilities
Nursing Homes - 37 facilities
Residential Care - 117 facilities.

Some residential care facilities use contractors for assisted living. Families contract with contractors rather than the

care facility.

At Ruggles House, residents must be completely independent.

Right now, most money is available for affordable housing, which can include seniors. There is no money earmarked just for senior housing.

The Home Share person will attend our March 5th meeting. Jody will try to reschedule this for April because several Steering Committee members cannot attend in March.

OCT has not met.

Coffee Klatch. Pril reported that things are going well. They are a little short on volunteers. Attendance has been down a little because of weather.

Contract for the luncheon chef: Sue G has drafted a contract that is being reviewed by TEN members.

Useful Tools for Aging with Dignity by United Valley Interfaith Project. Jody went over the contents of their binder. There is a curriculum that goes that the binder supports.

New business:

We got the TEN description into the town report.

Jody will get more brochures printed. Prill will consolidate flyer with both coffee klatch dates and luncheon dates and give it to Jody. Jody will get these printed for town meeting.

Jody adjourned the meeting at 11:55.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Gault
Secretary