

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

Present: Betty Campbell, Linda Baccei, Pril Hall, Jody Biddle, Susan Rump, and Susan Gault

Visitors: Liz Sauchelli, Valley Calendar Editor from the Valley News. She is Interested in senior issues. Alan Guttmacher, member of the Latham Library Board and a Coffee Klatch volunteer.

Jody called the meeting to order at 10:16

Alan reported on the library's request that TEN help with their project to offer books to people in the community who cannot get to the library. These could be either printed books or books on CD. TEN would advertise this service at the luncheons where people could either sign up to receive the books or to be volunteers. TEN volunteers could also deliver the books and read them to seniors who have difficulty reading. Jody will be the TEN link to the library on this project.

The February minutes were accepted as written.

Treasurer's report: Jody reported that we are still solvent.

Luncheon Report: The luncheon was well-attended. People enjoyed the meal (chicken thighs, brown rice, butternut squash and apple crisp with ice cream) and the lively entertainment provided by Eli Mansur and his fiddle.

Volunteer: We had no requests this month.

Walking: Susan Rump reported that we had over 10 people per week walking in February with an average walk of about 2 miles. Actual walks varied from individual to individual. We are starting the 10th year of walking.

Town Nurse: Pril reported.

SAH: No report

OCT: Linda reported.

Coffee Klatch: Pril reported that we now have from 15 to 25 people attending.

Thetford Elder Housing Meeting: About 32 people attended the meeting at the town hall. In addition, Twin Pines Housing and the Two Rivers Ottoquechee Planning Commission had representatives there. Projects must have a large enough scale to be economical but can achieve this size over multiple sites, for example, sites in three towns. This is good news for rural towns that have difficulty achieving the necessary scale on their own. The housing under discussion is a place for seniors to live with no care provided. They can contract privately for care. Questions remain including who the housing is going to serve: low-income seniors or all seniors. Betty said that Jody did an excellent job of reporting on the needs of Thetford's seniors. One VerMod house has been installed in West Fairlee for senior housing. Betty has been on the Senior and Affordable Housing committee for 11 years.

Old Business:

The select board and our contract for the TEN chef. Cathy will review it. Once revisions are made, we can submit it to the town.

Tai Chi: Susan Rump reported Tai Chi it is going very well and paying off in elder wellness. Frequently new members join. The group has expanded significantly. Ursula Austin is doing an excellent job of teaching them.

New Business:

Christina Goodwin from Home Share will be at next month's TEN Steering Committee Meeting.

Pril reported that town meeting attendees restored the community allocations that were cut from the budget before town meeting.

We discussed senior issues, such as transportation and isolation, with Liz Sauchelli. She will join one of our walks on a Friday in April.

The next meeting is on April 2nd at Latham Library at 10:00.

Jody adjourned the meeting at 11:55.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Gault, Secretary