

West Ashley Senior Services Coordinating Committee (WASSCC)

16 November 2011

Attendees: Aubry Alexander, Elizabeth Bernat, Terry Brown, Colleen Condon, Christine Durant, Bill Greenhill, Jan Harman, Diane Hamilton, Dave Harris, Vic Rawl, Janet Schumacher, Brenda Smith, Melissa Wagner, Ronneca Watkins, Tom Witman.

Location: The meeting took place at Bees Landing Recreation Complex.

Site Selection

Colleen Condon announced that under the guidance of the City of Charleston's Procurement Office the WASSCC Review Committee met on 4 November at 3 p.m. to review two proposals and from that review the Committee recommended the proposal submitted by Roper Saint Francis Healthcare (RSFH). This now sets in motion a process whereby the City of Charleston, through its Procurement Office, will negotiate a contract with RSFHC based on the elements of the proposal. Once the terms of the contract are agreed upon the contract will be submitted to City Council for review and approval, and then to County Council for review and approval. Janet Schumacker and Christine Durant will work together to see if a more firm time-line for this process can be developed.

There followed a side discussion of the need for the consolidation of city, county and PSD services. In that Vic Rawl Chairs the Consolidation Committee looking at such issues, he led most of the discussion.

Special Event

A discussion ensued based on the following motion approved at the October meeting, "**that the WASSCC work with the Bees Landing Recreation Complex and/or West Ashley High School to coordinate our next community forum/special event with one or the other of their currently planned senior events**". Dave Harris reported that he had not talked with the Bees Landing Recreation Complex, but had talked with the Director of Adult Education at West Ashley High School. The HS does not have a firm plan for a senior event/dance but is considering one for April. All agree the WASSCC would support such an event if it were planned, but since it was so tentative that we should move forward with our own plans for some form of WA community forum.

Elizabeth Bernat stated that the Lowcountry Senior Center (LSC) would be holding a event May to celebrate the LSC's 10th anniversary that could also accommodate the WA community forum. But while the WASSCC might support the LSC celebration, keeping the community WA community forum separate seemed to be the consensus.

Jan Harman reported that Founders Hall is available if we can schedule a day for the WA community forum on or before 13 March. After considerable discussion it was agreed that the WA community forum would be held at Founders Hall on Wednesday, 29 February from 5-8 p.m. And as this was Leap Day of Leap Year, maybe the theme could have something to do with a "leap forward". Other ideas included a barbeque, music, dancing, selling tickets and a Taste of WA theme. However, the recommended details would be left up to the Special Event Committee that Dave Harris again (YEAH!!!) agreed to Chair.

The Special Event Committee will have a formation and initial planning meeting at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 29 November at Bees Landing Recreation Complex - all who are interested are invited.

Communication/Newsletter

Tom Witman reported that he needed to update the website to include a schedule of events/activities. That led into a discussion about the lack of internet access or interest by "most" seniors and the appropriateness of a newsletter to fill the need. Once again this generated a lot of general input/comments with the following highlights:

- * Establish a newsletter to be published on a regular schedule that provides a listing of senior events, organization meetings, activities, etc., that are scheduled in the West Ashley area and is distributed in the West Ashley area.
- * The content of newsletter should be coordinated with the content of the website.
- * Combine the publication of the 1st edition of the newsletter with the announcement/invitation for the "leap day" community forum.
- * Need to form a committee to plan/establish the newsletter and consider items like budget, content gathering, formatting, publishing, distribution, fund-raising and sponsors/advertisement.
- * Tom Witman and Dave Harris were indicated as the co-leads for this project/effort.

Next WASSCC Meeting: Wednesday, 14 December 2011, 0930-1100, at the Bees Landing Recreation Complex