

**Senior Advocate Commission  
Meeting Minutes, May 15, 2012  
Pomfret Senior Center**

**Present:**

Rita Conrad, Susan Larose, Elizabeth (Liz) Cartier Alternates: Cathy Grant, Gail McElroy

**Absent:**

Dr. Botta(resigned); Ann Hinchman(excused); one reg member to be appointed later by BOS

**Citizen Attendance:** Maureen Nicholson, BOS as citizen assistance; Bonnie Ryan; Ford Fay; John Carter; Gene Gerum; Bob McElroy

**Regular Meeting:**

Open Meeting: Approx. 5:05pm

Citizen Participation: No comments, except for a thank you for the new commission members' offers to help the Senior Center by volunteering.

**New Business:**

- Election of Officers: Nominations were made (1) Cathy Grant (2) Liz Cartier  
All in favor of:
  - President: Susan Larose
  - VP President: Rita Conrad
  - Secretary: Ann Hinchman, absent (verbally stated interest in Secretary position at BOS May Meeting)
  - Treasurer: Liz Cartier

(Meeting Minutes in Ann's absence): Rita Conrad

- Regular Meeting Date:  
3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday, monthly, 7PM, Senior Center  
Members requested (to BOS) that this be added to calendars in Senior Ctr, Pomfret Times, Pomfret website, and in the Town Hall. Maureen agreed.
- By-Laws, Mission Statement, Facility Use Agreement:  
Commission members agreed to table these items for further review and discussion at later meetings.

**Current/Other Business**

- Issues Discussed with Citizen input:

The Senior Advocacy Commission is newly established. Anne Hinchman is away much of the time for the next several months. Dr. Botta resigned and must be replaced by the BOS. Maureen advises that will most likely occur by the next BOS meeting in June. The following topics were discussed with the citizens who were present with Maureen giving us information and advice when asked.

Keys & Opening/Closing: currently John Carter has been filling this role on a voluntary basis with assistance at varying times from Town employees or BOS. Gail McElroy will check with the Senior Group to find a regular volunteer to handle this. Concern was shown for regular coverage. Susan will inquire at the Fire Department about costs and process for a key pad entry system which would allow responsible Senior Center attendees and TEEG representative to come in and out without requiring another person to remain in the building for open hours. John will continue helping out until a better system can be devised.

Alternates Seated for this meeting in order to conduct business: (1) Rita (2) Liz Passed.

Gail McElroy and Cathy Grant seated.

Budget Review: TEEG expenditure noted, discussed. No changes at this time. Commission discussed cost and concerns with additional staff at a later date. No decisions/motions at this time.

Bldg Maintenance Inquiry: Dan cleans (mops, sweeps, etc) and submits bill for services (approx. \$25/wk) to Town Hall offices, currently. Going forward after the Commission has developed, his bills will be approved by the Commission.

Maintenance Inquiry: Town employees complete maintenance to the building and grounds

Soda Inquiry: Hosmer Mtn provides delivery with orders taken from current volunteers. Bill is paid from cash sales collections (signed off by two different seniors on site).

Water Fountain: When the machine runs out, seniors call Bonnie for service/delivery. Bills go directly to the town. No discussion of changes at this time.

Bottled Water: Free to seniors until donated stock depletes.

Food Pantry Inquiry: hours, etc explained to Commission members

Other Group usage of facility: Boy Scouts, Grange (has first priority with availability), etc discussed, no changes at this time.

Telephone: answering machine should be updated to identify the center

Calendar: SAC meeting times will be on two different calendars, added to website, etc. more discussion will be held on this later also.

Suggestion Box: tabled until next meeting

Agendas for Meetings: got to Bonnie at the Town Hall for publishing

- Special Meetings (for review of By-laws, Facility Agrmt, Mission, etc): 10am, 5/23 & 5/30, at the Senior Center

Meeting Adjourned: (1)Rita (2) Liz Passed 6:45pm