

Minutes of May 18, 2023

St. Peters Senior Advisory Committee

Meeting called to Order- The meeting was called to order by Debbie Coval at 12:32 PM at The St Peters Mayor Tom Brown Senior Center.

Pledge of allegiance was said by all.

Prayer was said in unison by everyone.

Roll call- Those attending were: Chris Brush, Debbie Coval, Mary Evans, Robin Frye, Maribeth Huddleston, Catherine Rahlmann, Roger Young, Emily Flick, Alderman Dave Kuppler, Sgt. Melissa Doss, Janay Covington, and guests Norm Sevelant and Caroline Cattinari. Martha Bante and Ken Richardson were excused.

Approval of Minutes- A motion to approve the April 6, 2023 minutes was made by Robin Frye and seconded by Catherine Rahlmann. The motion carried and the minutes were passed.

Public Comments – Janay Covington of Aging Ahead introduced herself to the Committee. She is the Community Options Specialist at the Mayor Tom Brown Senior Center. She spoke about the Aging Ahead program, highlighting their information line, where they manage Senior Centers like ours, and the transportation, home care, and Meals on Wheels programs. She also described how they advertise their services through presentations at libraries, on billboards, and through word of mouth primarily. She invited any suggestions or help sharing the opportunities available through Aging Ahead.

Items of Discussion- Sgt. Melissa Doss of St. Peters Police Department presented to the Committee red flags, awareness techniques and tips for staying safe from the most common and current scams. She described why senior citizens are often targeted by scammers and shared who to report scams to if you fear you have been targeted. She can arrange to give the presentation in more detail at any time if organizations would like to contact her at mdoss@stpetersmo.net.

A brief review of the April 25th Senior Networking Event was had. Most Committee member were present for the event. Emily provided the attendee count, which was significantly lower than expected at only 10-15 attendees. Most attendees picked up an array of fliers advertising bus tours and activities held at the Senior Center, but few signed up to be contacted regarding group activities other than Dinner Club. Catherine reported the Dinner Club group has been highly successful with most who showed interest at the Networking Event attending the two gatherings held so far, with more joining the group with each outing. Chris suggested that we shift the time slightly earlier if the event is held again so we do not conflict with what many consider the dinner hour. Catherine suggested we incorporate the information and maybe offer the sign-up sheets at the Senior Fair next year when it is our turn to host in lieu of having the Networking Event in 2024 as well. The Committee was in agreement that the events would blend well. Mary reported they have seen an increase in Senior Center attendance recently.

Catherine, Chris, and Emily gave a report of their participation with the O'Fallon Senior Fair held on May 3rd. Robin also attended the fair representing the Committee. All felt that the turnout was very good and Chris collected a list of vendor names and contact information that she will send to Emily for when the Committee begins planning the 2024 Senior Fair. Maribeth discussed past issues with raffle giveaways and questions were asked about the set up the O'Fallon fair and if we could improve upon that when we host our own. Hosting the fair in October again was suggested by several members, as well as seeing if Scooters would provide coffee and snacks as they did at the O'Fallon fair. Offering flu shots was also suggested by committee members due to the time of year proposed.

Alderman Kuppler introduced himself to the Committee and shared how excited he was to begin working together. He provided his contact information to all members in case they would like to reach out.

A reminder was given to all members whose term expires 6/30/23 to reach out to Julie Smith in the Mayor's office if they would like to be reappointed for another term.

Adjournment- A motion to adjourn was made by Mary Evans at 1:37 pm and seconded by Catherine Rhalmann.

Next meeting will be July 20, 2023 at 12:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Emily Flick". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "E" and a long, sweeping underline.

Emily Flick