

Minutes - Meeting of the Helping Hands University Park Steering Committee

Feb. 19, 2019

PRESENT: Linda Verrill, Loretta Vitale Saks, Sabrina Myers, Bob Saks. Visitor: Theresa Diffendal (journalism graduate student at UMD). Excused: Ned Goldberg

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING: Approved

HELPING IN DIFFICULT SITUATIONS: Loretta addressed her concern about the need for a medical or social work professional to help with neighbors needing specialized and time-consuming attention. She suggested that we might consider using our budget for that purpose. We currently have 5 situations where such specialized help would be useful. Loretta will investigate the cost of hiring a PRN geriatric social worker.

ACTIVITIES CALENDAR: See accompanying handout. The lunch on 2/20 has been postponed for one week due to snow. There have been a few other date changes. Sabrina is working with the Police Chief and David Brosch to develop a program on scams targeting older adults, as suggested by the Chief.

BANNER: It's "lovely, " However, the board noted that unfortunately an earlier version of the banner was made, omitting the JCA logo and a photo showing HHUP driver and member was left off.

TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE GRANT: A draft policy for the grant was distributed. It needs to be reviewed by us, by Ms. Ferguson, by us again, and then submitted to the Council. We discussed Ned's concerns about the grant and spent time trying to find the best way to phrase the proportion of income that can be used for other purposes by the grantee before they would be disqualified for a grant. 40% or less was considered a reasonable figure. Currently we have \$540 donated this fiscal year, besides funds from past years. Fundraising: Support should be requested monthly in the newsletter. Linda will write a paragraph for this campaign. Sabrina suggested we put a jar out at events. A Franklin's fundraiser was also suggested. A solicitation letter to members will also be drafted.

CHE - Can residents of that neighborhood serve as volunteers? Linda will consult with Ms. Ferguson.

WASHINGTON CONSUMERS' CHECKBOOK - They are offering us a reduced cost subscription for our members (\$18) but it was decided that we need to discuss this with Ms. Ferguson so we're not accused of favoring one magazine over another.

VILLAGE RIDES DATA - Ned is not available to give this report.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE UPDATE - Loretta is working with a couple of committee members to get everyone's birth date, and then to send out regular birthday cards.

VOLUNTEER UPDATE - Loretta will report at our next meeting on the question of how many volunteers are active.

BUDGET - We've spent \$946 this fiscal year, through 6/30. We still have c. \$5000 available

FUTURE MEETINGS - We will be meeting on the third Tuesday of coming months

Minutes prepared by Bob Saks, secretary