

## HELPING HANDS UNIVERSITY PARK BOARD MEETING JUNE 23, 2020

PRESENT: Lynn Butler (guest), Leslie Jenkins, Loretta Vitale Saks, Bob Saks, Peggy Smith, Linda Verrill

MINUTES: The Minutes of the Virtual May 19 minutes were approved.

Lynn Butler, the acting senior services coordinator for the M-NCPPC, had updated us on activities currently being offered in the County:

- Mindful Mondays, Wellness Wednesdays, Fitness Fridays
- Wellness check phone calls
- Food distribution via "grab and go" and home delivery to 700-800 recipients weekly. Home Activity books are also made available as well as exercise stretch bands for those not able to participate online in exercise programs.
- Provision of novels and other reading material
- The annual celebration of centenarians in the County is coming soon - this year it will consist primarily of delivery of citations and flowers to the ~ 15 centenarians being honored.
- Walking clubs have turned into a Virtual Walk Across America
- Sr. "Green Teams" participating in various conservation projects.

Peggy Smith accepted our invitation to join the board. Linda will ask the Mayor to have her appointment officially approved.

HHUP UPDATES: Loretta reported the following:

- HHUP's membership has grown to ~62 members and 46 trained volunteers as well as 14 COVID volunteers.
- Comparing service requests between 4/24/2020 and 6/24/2020, we had 73 completed requests - 18 members and 13 volunteers (2 of whom are COVID volunteers)
- She also reported on the scope of our activities between 4/24 and 6/24.
  - Looking at the same time period a year ago, we had only 39 requests from 11 members and completed by 10 volunteers.
- We have continued to offer our monthly lunch club and virtual poetry reading, which has had more participants online than when it was done in person.

OUTSIDE SERVICE PROVIDERS: In response to Leslie's report at our last meeting regarding medical services being provided to area seniors, Linda consulted with the Town Attorney. We were advised that we can provide a list of resources to our members, but the list should not consist of just one provider in any category. Though we have the UP online Listserv that regularly offers recommendations of service providers, many of our seniors do not have internet access.

- The Attorney would like to review the wording we use if we are to provide names of service providers.

BUDGET: Linda provided a current budget report. No issues were raised.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- Loretta mentioned that HAP has employed the very part-time services of a Hyattsville resident, who is proving to be very helpful. Could we hire him for occasional projects, setting up a well-functioning phone tree, fundraising for the TAF, etc.? Linda had concerns about setting up payment for this type of contractual Town employee.
- Loretta was unsuccessful in setting up a Program Committee meeting, so we will continue with current programming for now. Suggestions were made to set up occasional Meetups where we'd announce a Zoom room is available for any HHUPers who would like to chat.
- Loretta and Peggy will meet in a socially distant way to discuss ways for Peggy to become involved as an executive committee member.

Our next meeting will be July 21 at 5:30. We adjourned at 9:00pm.