

Mayor's Senior Advisory Committee
January 2, 2024 Minutes

Attendance:

Representatives – Helen Grant, Virginia Carlson, Bob O'Brien, Jr.
Barbara Mortensen, Barbara Gilsenan, Larry Clifton, Aubrey Cohn,
Edward Torres

Alternates – Barbara Kochie, Marilyn Lago

Brick Township – Mayor Lisa Crate
Councilwoman Heather deJong
Zulma Soto, Senior Services

Mayor Crate:

January 2nd – First Council meeting of the year is at 5pm. Mayor Crate and council members will be sworn in. The 7 Council members are: Vince Minichino-President; Derrick T. Ambrosino-Vice President; Perry Albanese, Heather deJong, Steve Feinman, Marianna Pontoriero and Melissa Travers.

Our first dialysis bus should be in service by the 16th of January. There will be an attendant on the bus to assist with the patients.

We are looking into getting a third senior bus. We currently have two, and we are hoping with the third we will be able to open up our services to offer a few more events. Zulma and I have been talking about ways to use the third bus to create fun activities for seniors. We will be speaking with the high schools and working out a way to get our seniors back into the theatre programs that the high schools offer.

Senior Prom will be held on May 3rd. More information will be available at a later date.

I would like us to work closer with our Recreation Department. They offer “Dinner and a Movie” for our seniors and they also organize the Senior Prom. I would like all our seniors to be more connected with our Recreation Department. They really have some great events that I am sure our seniors would enjoy.

February 1st Mayor Crate will be our full time Mayor. If you would like the mayor to visit your community, you can reach out to Debbie the mayor’s secretary, at 732-262-1240 or dmurphy@twp.brick.nj.us to setup an appointment.

Hobby Lobby – We have not heard back from Hobby Lobby. There is a Hobby Lobby on Route 9 in Howell so we will be reaching out to the Mayor of Howell to see if they may have better contact information.

Bed Bath & Beyond Location – Perfect site for a privately owned, indoor pickleball court. There is no guarantee, but we are looking into the possibility.

Green Briar 2 / Burnt Tavern Speed Limit – The County would have to do a study which Sgt. Rossi will request. We cannot do a study since it is a county road. Sgt. Rossi will look into some type of enforcement in the meantime.

Aldi’s sign – To have a sign installed on Route 70, we would have to coordinate with the State and Aldi’s would have to request it.

Zulma Soto:

Dialysis Program – We are preparing to initiate by January 16th. We have our driver and bus attendant and they are currently undergoing training. They are driving around the township with other drivers to get themselves familiar with the town. We conducted home visits to the patients who expressed interest. We want to keep it very small at first, then once we have a better understanding, because it is very new to us as well, we will open up to getting more patients. I visited two dialysis centers in Brick. I was really impacted by how frail the patients are. For that reason, I am really glad we do have an attendant

on the bus because she is going to be very crucial in making sure the patients get on and off the bus safely. It requires a lot of flexibility. I believe we will be very well prepared, in case anything happens, with the training of our staff as well as our first aid for “stop the bleed”.

Coffee with the Mayor was held on December 22nd and it was a great success. There were approximately 35-40 people who attended.

Eagle Scout Project – Zulma met with Sophia Gonzalez, whom she met with once before, regarding Sophia’s Eagle Scout project. It will be a music program with high school students and individuals who have Alzheimer’s. Sophia should be ready to begin by February. The event will be held twice a week at our senior center. It is a way for her to work with seniors through music to help with some of their memory issues.

All our programs at the senior center have begun. Our center is located at 500 Aurora Drive. For further information please call our office at 732-920-8686.

Tax Preparation – We have communicated with AARP for tax assistance. We are already scheduling so please call to make an appointment. 732-920-8686.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marilyn Kaczka,
Secretary

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, February 6, 2024 at 11am

(Meeting will be held in the A/B Room)