BRANT SENIOR CITIZENS’ ORGANIZATION

Wednesday, October 5, 2022 Minutes

Call to Order: President DeLong called the meeting to order at 12:33pm.

Prayers were said for: Jeanette Mirusso, Jennifer Czyz, Tara Sager, People in Florida

Celebrating birthdays this month: Faith DeLong, Marie Lalka, Jeanette Mirusso, Eunice Phillips, Mary Ann Wargula

50/50 Winners: Dennis Rubeck, Joe Ostrowski, David Berns, Dennis Rubeck, Lunch: Diane Czyz

Roll Call: 30 Seniors are present

Secretary’s Report: Secretary Lynda Ostrowski read the Minutes. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Elmer McSkimming and seconded by Dennis Rubeck. Approved.

Treasurers: Diane Czyz reported that we have in our Travel Account: $7873.40 and in our Operating Account: $283.86 All outstanding bills have been paid.

New Members: We welcomed David & Marion Berns. We also welcomed Sheila Rauker back to our group.

Next month is our pot-luck lunch. Please bring a dish to share with everyone.

We will need 3 people for our nominating committee and 2 people for our Audit Committee for our next meeting.

December 11th will be the Christmas Lunch at the Colony House. Watch for further info.

Motion was made by Elmer McSkimming and seconded by Janice Ross to have our Christmas Lunch at the Colony House on December 11th. We will invite the Town Board and Mayor Jere Hoisington from the Farnham Board. All other Farnham Board members belong to the seniors.

President DeLong mentioned that our dues are to be paid by December.

Town Assessor Joe DeCarlo and Joanna McDougall spoke. The Assessor’s Office is open Mondays, Tuesdays & Fridays from 9-2. Appointments are not necessary. Listed below are the topics they talked about:

**Homeowner Tax Rebate Credit Registration:** If you received the form RP-5303 requesting to register for this credit. You will need the following information: Property Key at the top of your letter, names and Social Security Numbers for all owners of the property and spouses, primary residence of the owners and spouses, approximate date the owners purchased the property and the names of the sellers, address of any residential property owned in another state, legal name of the trust, if applicable, 2020 federal or state income tax returns for all owners. If you didn’t file a 2020 income tax return you will need this additional info: total wages, salaries and tips, taxable interest income and dividends, unemployment compensation, total pensions and annuities, Social Security benefits, other income.

If you pay school taxes, you will get over $600. This is due by March 1st.

You can get a copy of this notice at the Assessor’s office.

**Southtowns Affordable Home Repair Program:** Income guidelines to qualify are as follows:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Household Size** | **Very Low-Income** | **Low-Income** |
| 1 | $30,700 | $49,1000 |
| 2 | $35,100 | $56,200 |
| 3 | $39,500 | $63,200 |
| 4 | $43,900 | $70,200 |
| 5 | $47,400 | $75,800 |
| 6 | $50,900 | $81,400 |
| 7 | $54,400 | $87,700 |
| 8 | $57,900 | $92,500 |

You must live within the SRPC area, be owner occupied, county taxes paid up to date, must meet income guidelines. Also must meet the Asset Test – excluding the value of the home, assets may not exceed $15,000. For more information on this program, contact their office at 716-941-5787 or southtownsrpc@aol.com. The information you will need is: a copy of the deed to the property, copy of the federal tax form and W-2s for all adult household members (if applicable), copies of the four most recent pay stubs, onthly benefits statement from Social Security, VA, Disability, Unemployment, Investments etc for all adult household members, Copy of most recent paid county/town tax bill, Evidence of homeowner’s insurance, mortgage statement, copies of the three most recent bank statements for each adult household member.

Priority will be given to the following items: roof repairs/replacement, furnace repairs, replacement, plumbing repair, replacement, electrical repairs, replacement, accessibility modifications, window/door replacement, wall, ceiling and floor repairs, stairway repairs, porch and step repairs/replacement, insulation and weatherization, gutter and downspout repairs/replacement.

Other exemptions include Enhanced Star – income is less than $93,000, Agricultural exemption for those with 7 or more acres, Disabled exemption unless you’re a senior getting the Star exemption.

There are some other grants available for repairs on roofs, windows, gutters etc. Some of the grants require you to live in the house for 5 years so you don’t have to pay the grant back.

If you have any questions on any of these programs or anything else, contact the Assessor’s Office 716-549-4423 ext 5 or stop in and see them.

Supervisor Mark DeCarlo talked about the $100,000 Grant that was received to put in a basketball court at the Town Hall by the playground. He also said the playground is being updated and outdoor lighting will be added. New Street lights will be replaced with LED lights throughout the town. Some have already been replaced. The Police have 2 new vehicles that will replace our older ones. They are adding body cams for the police to wear.

Questions that were asked:

What happened to the Solar Farm. The Supervisor stated that the company representatives could not come to terms with the town so it has been cancelled.

What’s being done about the noise in this building? Sound panels are being ordered which should help reduce the issue. They are also going to place non-skid runners on the floor which should help to absorb the sound.

The Supervisor was asked about the police patrol and the problems of having no coverage after 10pm, which is when most of the problems occur. He spoke about the problems and right now, we do not have a Chief in place. Chief Hepkins is retiring and they are working to find a replacement.

What about unkept properties in the town. He said the Code Enforcement Officer does check out places that are in need of work. He is only part time and works for other towns so he is limited on how much time he can spend in Brant. He said if there is a problem, you can contact him with the information and he will give it to the CEO.

To make an appointment to speak with the Supervisor, call 716-549-0282 #3.

We thanked Supervisor DeCarlo, Assessor DeCarlo and Assistant Joanna McDougall for all the information that was provided today.

Trips:

**Tuesday, October 25**: Oktoberfest Celebration at Hofbrauhaus in Buffalo. The sit-down lunch will be a Sausage Platter, Grilled Chicken Breast or Kasepatzle. The Frankfurters will be playing. Enter to win the on-site pumpkin contest and take part in the Scarecrow ticket drop. Depart at 10am Return about 4pm.

**Monday, November 14**: Murder at Lost Memory Manor. This is a murder mystery dinner theatre at The Barrel Factory in the Old First Ward. We get to solve a murder mystery. There will be a lunch buffet at the Barrel Factory. We then go to Theodore Roosevelt Inaugural Site on Delaware Ave for a guided tour. We leave at 9:45am and return about 4pm.

Donna Borngraber mentioned that she contacted the school regarding the donation of clothes but has not received a call from them. It was decided that we will collect the items for Holy Cross to donate the items. They do not need any more hats, gloves. They do need kids clothes, sweatshirts and outer wear. We can also accept gift cards.

Adjournment: Janice Ross motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Nancy Henry. Carried.

Respectfully Submitted

Lynda Ostrowski

Secretary