

## Minutes of the 2/9/16 Staying Put Board Meeting

4:30 – 5:35 pm meeting of the Board of Staying Put in the Staying Put office.

Present: Barb Achenbaum, Betsy Afragola, Judy Bentley, George Brakeley, Tom Ferguson, Cathy Irwin, Phil Ives, Peggy Jay, Judy Johnson, Janet Lanaway, Kathy Pasternak, Joel Pelzner, Sue Scannell, Priscilla Thomas, and Cynn timer Yates.

**Operations:** Barb reported member requests in January were fairly typical, with 318 round-trip rides and 89 other requests, the majority of which were home maintenance (22) and consultations (18 total, six with family members).

**Community Outreach:** Barb submitted a grant to the New Canaan Community Foundation to underwrite a new Intergenerational Outreach Program to provide activities which will help build relationships between Staying Put members and three other populations in town: 1) teenagers, 2) “adult children” ages 40-60 and 3) the “I’m not ready yet” 60-75 year old crowd.

Amy Freyre (daughter of Pris Thomas) hosted a brainstorming event on February 4th for 22 “adult children” whose parents live in town. Ideas generated included: 1) hosting a town-wide book group, 2) creating a blog for families, and 3) recruiting new volunteers via the “New Canaan Moms” website.

**Membership:** We lost three members in January: Anne Murray, Ted Stanley and Ann Szelag. We welcomed four new members: Jan Conner, Sheila McMann, and Ann and Jack Webb. Thanks to the generosity of Barbara Johansen and help from office volunteers, Staying Put sent handwritten Valentine’s cards to all of our members last week.

**Publicity:** The winter newsletter, which featured a two-page photo insert, was mailed to 700 members, donors and volunteers.

**Technology:** Everyone applauded Patti (in absentia) for the amazing website launched in January. Patti and Kathy regularly update our facebook page. Everyone is encouraged to “like” it to help spread the word. We continue to make good progress integrating the Kindful database with our other systems.

**Events:** There were four member events in January with a total of 139 attendees. Highlights were the January Thaw Tea at Donna’s and our 9th Birthday Party, which had a record 111 attendees. There is enthusiasm for our new bi-weekly lunches at Grace Farms, with 18 members already signed up.

**Membership Guidelines:** There was a lengthy discussion about establishing some guidelines for member services. It was suggested that frailer members be evaluated to ensure that services can be provided safely, and that the staff communicate to members when they determine that they need to be accompanied by an aide. Two additional topics were raised: 1) the need to better understand insurance liability for both drivers and Staying Put, and 2) the possibility of raising the minimum age of membership from the current age 50.