

Minutes of 3/9/15 Staying Put Board Meeting

4:35-5:11 PM at the Congregational Church of New Canaan.

Present: Judy Bentley, Janet Lanaway, Lois Sandberg, Judy Johnson, George Brakeley, Joel Pelzner, Phil Ives, Lila Coleman, Cynn timer Yates, Priscilla Thomas, Jim Cole, Nancy Helle and Barb Achenbaum.

Minutes: of February 9th meeting unanimously approved.

Fairfield County Giving Day: Staying Put was the #1 nonprofit in New Canaan in terms of dollars raised. Judy cited the incredible work of Patti Geanakos, Joel Pelzner and Sue Scannell, who made it happen.

Operations: Barb reported 208 ride requests and 270 round trips. 43 volunteers gave rides to 39 members. Two workshops for new drivers were held. Twelve recruits signed up. Staff completed 25 member visits, and volunteers and staff members did 23 errands, reflecting members' increasing awareness of this new service. There were 22 home maintenance requests, many storm-related.

Membership: We welcomed new member, Jayne Dutil. As of February 28, renewals from 38 Inn members and 52 households. A second dues notice will be sent in March.

Volunteers: Barb announced plans to create two new categories of volunteers. The first, an email database list, will respond to "random requests" (moving plants, changing lightbulbs, troubleshooting, etc.) The second is Care Connections, an initiative designed to match volunteers with members who could benefit from either a call or a visit.

Events: Due to uncooperative weather, only three events were held, with a total attendance of 55. They were: a Men's Coffee, Program on Dementia co-sponsored with Lapham, and the Valentine's Tea at Donna's. Upcoming events: St. Patty's Day Mystery Lunch (3/17), Potluck Dinner at the Presbyterian Church (4/9) and the Educational Program on Diabetes, "The Good News and the Bad News," at the New Canaan Library (4/15). Lila Coleman announced two additional events: 1) The Gridiron Dinner honoring Bill Walbert (4/15) and a New Canaan Community Foundation event.

Board/Committee Reports: Barb thanked the Board for attending the New Canaan Community Foundation Seminar on Best Board Practices. Six members attended: Jim Cole, Steve Orteig, Lyn Chivvis, Judy Johnson, Judy Bentley and Sue Scannell. Judy thanked the Board for agreeing to participate in the Strategic Planning Retreat, March 12th at 9:00 at St. Mark's Church.

Marketing/recruitment: events being considered for the summer include securing a Sidewalk Sale booth with the GetAbout and Community Emergency Response Team, and sharing a table with the Sewing Group at the Farmer's Market.

Publicity: Arthur Congdon agreed to do the Spring Newsletter, and an updated brochure, and will then be stepping down. A search is underway for a new Graphic Designer.