

Minutes of the 5/11/15 Staying Put Board Meeting

4:30-5:35 PM in the parlor of the Congregational Church of New Canaan.

Present: Barb Achenbaum, Judy Bentley, George Brakeley, Lyn Chivvis, Jim Cole, Lila Coleman, Tom Ferguson, Patti Geanokos, Tom Gnuse, Nancy Helle, Chris Hussey, Phil Ives, Peggy Jay, Judy Johnson, Lois Sandberg, Joel Pelzner, Sue Scannell, Priscilla Thomas, Donna Simone, Tom Turrentine

Minutes: April minutes were approved.

Operations: Barb reported 427 requests for services in April. There were 296 requests for rides and members received a total of 356 rides (including round-trips). Fifty-five drivers gave rides to 43 members, translating into 122 donated hours and 1901 miles. We had a record 82 requests for rides in the final week of April. Tuesdays continue to be high ride days. The Staying Put Angels program is working well. We have 25 volunteers who receive email blasts when a request is more immediate than usual. Barb Achenbaum developed a new report to help address a key directive from the Strategic Planning session: the need to better quantify the impact of Staying Put on the community, in both economic and social terms. The Metrics form details monthly membership and donation trends, as well as services provided by staff vs. volunteers. Some interesting findings are that on average, during the first four months of this year, the staff provided only 13% of rides and volunteers completed more than 35% of service requests.

Membership: The Membership Committee recruited six volunteers and gave out brochures to potential members at the Halo community event in April.

Two New Canaan High School seniors, Kate Blasco and Eric Burns, plan to interview 10-12 members to create a "Living History" to show how valuable our seniors are to the town.

Events: There were six member events in April with a total of 79 attendees. 69 people attended the lecture by Dr. Robin Goland on Diabetes; 22 were members. Other popular events were lunch at Ching's (11) and the Pot Luck Dinner (25). The Members' Art Show was a big success with 35 attending the morning coffee and 60 attending the evening event. The art show will move to the Inn for several weeks. There will be an artist's tea reception at the Inn on May 21st from 3-5 pm. An intergenerational program of Staying Put members and the Congregational youth group was discussed. Suggested projects included: caroling and garden help. Staying Put will co-sponsor more events with the library, Lapham, Halo, Waveny and New Canaan High School. Members are invited to march with Staying Put in the Memorial Day parade on May 25th.

The **Annual Meeting** will be held on Sunday, May 17th at 2 pm. The agenda and sign-ups for shifts and refreshments will be shared at the Board meeting. The **June fundraiser** will be held at the Erdmann's on June 14th.

Phil Ives, Judy Bentley and Barb Achenbaum will meet with Dave Smith, Senior Vice-President for Strategy and Development, at Stamford Hospital to develop programs that would be of interest to our members.

Board/Community Reports

At the spring Advisory Council meeting, we provided an overview of Staying Put activity, as well as an update on current offerings for seniors in town. Two suggestions from the meeting: 1) to develop a

survey to assess the value to members of being a part of our “village” -- in terms of quality of life and physical and emotional health; and 2) to reach out to the adult children of members in town. The Council also requested a “meeting” with the Board, which we are accommodating via a reception following the June 8th Board meeting.