

## Senior Advisory Board Minutes

July 19, 2006

The Bi-Annual Meeting of the Senior Citizens Advisory Board was held July 19, 2006 at Rose Park Senior Activity Center, located at 2625 South 7<sup>th</sup>. Those in attendance were: Van Boozer, Leroy King, Paul Rehm, Hazel Forkerway, Linda Rutledge Smith, Emory Walton, Harriet Connor and Eddie Hodges. Staff members present were Tony Neitzler, Carl Scott and Dominique Benavides.

Meeting was called to order by Eddie Hodges.

Linda Rutledge Smith was introduced as the newest addition to the Senior Advisory Board, as she is replacing former member, Honey Casey. Mrs. Smith is employed at Abilene Regional Medical Center as a Senior Coordinator and oversees 3000 seniors.

Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed. A motion was made by Emory Walton and a second by Paul Rehm to approve minutes. The motion carried 7-0.

Participation reports for March, April and May were presented to the board by Carl Scott. Carl pointed out the percentage increases in deaths and new people. He also pointed out the increase of the exercise classes and center participation overall. He asked board members to look over the rest of the participation reports and if they had any questions or comments he would be glad to address them. No comments were made.

Carl informed council members of the story the news media did regarding seniors and the heat on July 18, 2006. He also informed of the newspaper article regarding the media and their help to the seniors. The history of the Senior Citizens Division was introduced. Carl explained the advancements over the years and expressed his ideas for the future. Eddie Hodges added and suggested a duties and purpose list for each board member for future meetings. No comments were made.

Carl informed all of the building renovations. Odell Parker was a long time participant of Rose Park and left monies in the amount of \$100,000 to the center. These funds will be used to renovate the exercise room by expanding and adding more equipment. Inquiries were made to other Senior Centers in the metroplex, regarding renovation ideas. Plans for the project were taken to a contractor and given an estimated cost of \$20,000. Plans to add fitness, strength, and toning equipment targeted for seniors were discussed and given an estimated cost of \$36,000. Leroy King asked about the electrical aspect of the new room and if there will be a divider to separate the exercise room from the ballroom. Carl stated that the majority of the equipment is non-electric and there will be a glass door added to separate the two rooms. Van Boozer inquired of the dimensions of the new room. Carl stated it would be 22 x 30. Van Boozer also suggested staff members remain in the new exercise room at all times to assist participants. Carl stated the nurses and universities currently involved with the center would try to be more involved with the new room.

Linda Rutledge Smith informed the entire committee of the workings at the Abilene Regional Senior Center. She stated that all participants must have a doctor's order to participate in the exercise room and classes. There is also a fee \$1 a day. She also stated the center has an intern for approximately 3 hours per day monitoring seniors in the exercise room. Carl stated supervision is the key and a plan will be implanted before the equipment is added and used. Carl suggested at the ribbon cutting of the new exercise room that all those who donate and contribute to seniors will be acknowledged.

Hazel Forkerway asked about the computer room at G.V. Daniels. Carl stated he would visit with Petty Hunter to implement a computer program at the center.

Carl informed of the incidents in the ballroom and pool room. He stated the input of cameras was being discussed because of confrontations and accidents in both rooms. It will be very inexpensive and beneficial.

Carl presented the upcoming events. A trip to Granbury will be taken on August 26<sup>th</sup>. The Volunteer Luncheon will be September 6<sup>th</sup>. Senior Day at the Fair will be on September 16<sup>th</sup>. The Holiday Festival will be December 8<sup>th</sup>. It will consist of a silent auction, games, dinner and dance. He stated the next meeting will be held on January 17, 2007.

The meeting was adjourned.