

**TOWN OF AMHERST SENIOR SERVICES
MINUTES OF ADVISORY BOARD ZOOM MEETING
Wednesday, September 14, 2022**

PRESENT: Kate Wagner, Chairperson, Senior Services Advisory Board; Asst. Chief Michael Camilleri; Rhonda Frederick; Jordana Maisel; Jay Smith; Del Szczesniak; Melissa Abel, Director, Amherst Center for Senior Services; Honorable Deborah Bruch Bucki, Councilmember/Liaison to Senior Services Dept; Mary-Diana Pouli, Executive Director, Amherst Youth & Recreation Department; Tammy Jacobs, Program Coordinator, Amherst Center for Senior Services

EXCUSED: Aaron Carlson; Bob Durante; Beverly Fish; Dal Giuliani; Hon. Geoffrey Klein

CALL TO ORDER & APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Chairman Wagner called the meeting to order at 8:40am. Motion to approve the June 8, 2022 minutes made by Michael Camilleri, seconded by Rhonda Frederick.

Report from Amherst Senior Services Director, Melissa Abel: Melissa summarized the summer activities, including concerts, exercise in the park and community events. The Center's 60th anniversary will be celebrated on October 21st at 5:30pm. Fall registration went very well. Numerous classes filled up within the first few days of registration. Over 75 classes are being offered. New classes include: Understanding Football 101, Classical period of Music, Archery classes, Strength Training for Life and Gentle Yoga for Stress Relief. We average 268 frozen meals a week & Amherst Meals on Wheels serves over 6,000 meals per month. The nutrition lunch program averages 45 meals per day & dinners average 34 meals per evening. A Cook position has been posted. We welcomed John Jones to our staff - he has accepted the Social Caseworker position. Construction has begun on the new bathroom and we have received the results of the gift shop survey. AADS is still not open. The Chapel assisted over 20 seniors on their Serve-Day.

Report from Mary-Diana Pouli: The Youth/Senior Volunteer Appreciation celebration went very well & was enjoyed by everyone. New staffing plans include a new cook position for the kitchen. The gift shop survey results are as follows: a larger variety of merchandise was suggested, including seasonal & holiday items, cards, clothing, jewelry, Buffalo Bills merchandise, candy, snacks, cold beverages, specialty food items, garden art & men's items. Prices were considered fair. The NWACC held a school supply & clothing drive that benefitted 110 families & 300 children.

Updates from Debbie Bucki:

Over 120 people attended the Juneteenth celebration. Thanks were addressed to the staff, Diversity Commission, Youth & Recreation Department & speakers for their help with the event.

Report from Tammy Jacobs:

Fall events include:

- The Senior Center 60th Anniversary Diamond Celebration on October 21st.
- University Express classes (Oct 4-Dec 9) 49 different classes will be offered.
- "Ask the Candidates" on October 27th at 6:30pm
- Tops will continue to hold Covid Booster clinics at the Center

Adjourn: 9:00 a.m. - Motion to adjourn by Del Szczesniak, seconded by Debbie Bucki.

***The next Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 14, 2022 at 8:30 a.m.
370 John James Audubon Parkway, via Zoom or in person***

Respectfully submitted by Melissa Abel