

**INDEPENDENT COUNCIL ON AGING**

**1/5/24**

**11:30am**

**Regency and Zoom**

**GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Ray and Katrina

**SPEAKER:** Jackie Beardsley from National Fuel

- Customer service number 1-800-365-3234
- 150% of poverty level to income qualify for LIHEAP
- Grant between \$300-\$1000
- Liheap apply through CAO
- Also has Crisis option
- Opens Nov. 1 – closes beginning of April
- Neighbor to Neighbor – available all year around. Up to \$500
- No income requirement. Must be over 55 yrs. Old, on disability, on unemployment, certified medical emergency, difficult paying your bills. Through GECAC. Have to have at least 3 good faith payments
- LIRA – National Fuel low income program. Reduces utility bill from 10-80% and existing balance can be forgiven.
- LIURP – weatherization program. Have to have 12 consecutive months of services
- Budget plans available to everyone
- Payment agreements
- PFA, certain protections for domestic violence victims

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Kathie Soudan

- Thank you for your contributions for Christmas donations
- Update on Patty Farrell

**VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT:** Lisa Anderson

- Has programs scheduled for the rest of the year

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Wendy Wallace

- See attached report

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Stephanie Garcia

- Nothing to report

**MEMBER'S AT LARGE:**

- Nothing to report

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT:** Wendy and Sharon

- 75 members, 3 joining today
- Please remember to RSVP for yourself and any guests.

**ARTS AND CULTURE REPORT:** Ray and Craig

- May 16<sup>th</sup> – tentative date
- Letter going out in Feb.

**VALENTINES DAY SENIOR LUNCHEON:** Pat Hause

- Almost 400 reservations
- Volunteers needed
- Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> at Ambassador
- Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> will be interviewed by LECOM on podcast

**COMIC RELIEF:** Amee Weislogel not present

- Nothing to report

**BY-LAWS:** Wendy Wallace

- Nothing to report

**ELDER JUSTICE:** Pasquale Casane

- Amanda Merski will be speaking
- Wed. June 12<sup>th</sup> at Yacht Club

**PUBLIC RELATIONS:** Jennifer Moody not present

- Nothing to report

**GUIDES TO SERVICES:** Katrina and Robert

- \$7700 cost to produce
- Any updates or changes let Katrina know

**FINANCE:** Wendy

- Nothing further to report

**LEGISLATION:** Matt Trott

- Each bill has to be authorized by certain dates
- Feb. 5<sup>th</sup> is the Gov. budget address
- Huge focus on older adults
- Property tax and rent rebate – increased amount Seniors will get back, expanded eligibility
- Every leg. Office, GECAC, Dept. of Revenue can assist with applications

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** Pat Christenson

- See Pat if want to be on ballot

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- Nothing to report

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Nothing to report

**ANNOUNCEMENTS/GUESTS:**

- Guests introduced
- Moravia currently looking to hire inpt. Scheduler
- Next meeting GSWA Jan 17<sup>th</sup> at 8am
- Coat collection continues at Interchurch Ministries Church of Covenant of 7<sup>th</sup> Street. Chido will Dry clean them

**Motion to Adjourn:** Ray and Lisa

**NEXT BOARD MEETING: Thursday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at 8am at Maryvale Apts.**

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Friday, 2/2/24 at 11:30 at the Regency or via Zoom**

**Minutes Submitted by Stephanie Garcia Secretary**