

**FRIENDS
MEETING MINUTES
3-11-2024**

Attendance:	<p>Committee Council: S. Agarwal , G. Balasubramannian, S. Patel , G.Seepurshad, S. Ramananda, B. Christiano</p> <p>Advisors: J. Agarwal, I.Bhatti , L. Brown, M.Hemrajani (absent), S. Mehta (absent)</p> <p>Senior Center Staff : Caryl Greenburg, JillAnne Foxxe</p> <p>South Brunswick Town Council: Ann Grover</p> <p>Total # Members in attendance: 30</p>
Call to Order:	Time: 11:04 am
Reports	
President's Welcome/Greetings: S. Agarwal	<p>We will try to make the meeting short by request of members.</p> <p>Reminder to all that officers of Friends are available to speak to - please do not hesitate to ask any questions you may have about Friends.</p> <p>Friends is a 501c3 organization in New Jersey - our objective is to make the lives of seniors coming to the center more pleasant. We are always looking for suggestions.</p> <p>A survey was made available in order to find out what activities members would like to have.</p>
Approval Meeting Minutes: B. Christiano	<p>1st: L. Brown</p> <p>2nd: B. Holt</p>
Treasurer: S. Patel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Friends purchased Carrom boards and stands at a cost of \$387 ● Membership money this month - \$700 ● Balance as of last week: \$6861.59
Events and Programs: G. Balasubramanian G. Sepurshad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Geeta B. made a special mention regarding a most senior member of Friends in attendance today. Katherine Ritterman held the office of secretary for 12 years. She was thanked for her years of service and welcomed back. ● Geeta B. acknowledged that some members had difficulty attending meetings because they do not understand English and, therefore, do not understand what is being discussed during the meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ She has offered to interpret in Hindi for those members after the meetings. Geeta also explained this in Hindi. ● First trip planned to the Tropicana in Atlantic City this Friday - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Those participating are reminded they must make arrangements to be dropped off and picked up at Woodlot Park. ○ Bus will leave at 9:15am sharp. ○ No outside food is allowed in the casino but you may bring snacks and drinks to eat or drink on the bus.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It is a 61 passenger bus and 47 members have signed up so there are 15 seats still available. ○ Seating on the bus will be first come - first serve or in order according to who signed up first. You will find out the seat numbers at the bus the day of the trip. ○ ID is needed to get the package offered by the casino. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ■ Make sure you have proper ID and that it is not outdated. ■ You must have the actual form of ID and it cannot be a copy or a photo. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● A survey was provided to allow members to make suggestions as to what kind of trips they prefer - there were 39 responses. The most popular in order: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lunch cruise 2. Botanical gardens 3. Tours 4. Art museums <p>There are no activities/trips currently planned for April.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● May - a trip to the Prince Tea House on May 30th - it is a lovely location that will provide tea and snacks. It is located in Kingston near the Amish Market. ● June 19th - Longwood Gardens in Chester County Pa. Still need to hire a bus. Departure would be from Woodlot Park ● July - currently researching the possibility of a train trip to a winery. ● August - nothing planned at this time. ● September - Annual Friends Picnic in Reichler Park. Menu yet to be determined but there will be a DJ. ● October - looking into arranging a walking food tour. The options are either in Jersey City or Redbank. More to come. ● November - Culture Fest - this will be open to all members of the senior center with multicultural food catered. There will be a DJ. <p>Survey also inquired as to how much members were willing to pay. The response was \$10 - \$200. There is a need to find opportunities that are good for everybody.</p>
<p>Friends "By-Laws" Friends team J. Foxxe</p>	<p>As stated in previous meetings, the current by-laws were last written in 1999 and proved difficult to understand.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● With Caryl's assistance, we were able to obtain a copy of the Friends of North Brunswick Senior Center By-Laws which were much simpler to understand. ● The Friends officers worked for several hours and were able to revise the current by-laws. ● There is a requirement to submit a copy of the revised by-laws to the IRS as part of the 501c3 status. Once that is completed copies will be made available to the members.
<p>Karaoke Program: S. Patel</p>	<p>Program is going well. Many people are participating.</p>

