

**FRIENDS  
MEETING MINUTES  
5-13-2024**

Attendance:	Committee Council: S. Agarwal ,G. Balasubramanian,S. Patel ,G.Seepurshad, S. Ramananda, B. Christiano
	Advisors: J. Agarwal (absent), I.Bhatti , L. Brown, M.Hemrajani (absent)
	Senior Center Staff : JillAnne Foxxe
	South Brunswick Town Council: absent
	Total # Members in attendance: 36
Call to Order:	Time: 11:04 am
<b>Reports</b>	
President's Welcome/Greetings: S. Agarwal	Friends have been working hard to make programs at least once a month . Longwood Gardens next month - Geeta and Gina will explain more. Would like to know what members would like to do.
Approval Meeting Minutes: B. Christiano	Meeting Minutes approved: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 1st - L. Brown</li> <li>• 2nd - B. Holt</li> </ul>
Treasurer: S. Patel	April 19th deposited \$452 April balance = \$7143.59 50/50 collected = \$97 (-) Prizes = <u>\$45</u> \$52 Donation = \$4 <u>Membership = \$210</u> \$266 <u>(-) Musician exp = \$200</u> \$166 Balance as of 5/13/2024 = \$6970.87
Events and Programs: G. Balasubramanian G. Sepurshad	Gina's Report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• next event coming up is on Wednesday to the Prince Tea House in Kingston - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 33 people have signed up.</li> <li>○ Bus will go from the Senior Center to the Tea House. Some participants have opted to drive.</li> <li>○ If taking the bus - report at 10:45am to the senior center bus will leave promptly at 11:00 am sharp.</li> <li>○ People will be notified to remind them they have signed up for the event.</li> <li>○ Dress however you want - some participants will be wearing hats and gloves. There are also men who have signed up to attend. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Linda Kelly mentioned that hat fascinators are available</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<p>to purchase on Amazon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• June 26th is the next trip which is to Longwood Gardens. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ There is no lottery for this trip - starting May 14 tables will be set up in the lobby to sign people up for a trip.</li> <li>◦ Longwood Gardens is owned by the DuPont family and it is 200 acres of gardens. About 1 ½ hr drive.</li> <li>◦ A bus will be rented.</li> <li>◦ Cost of trip = \$55 for Friends members and \$65 for non members.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• July - there will be a trip to the Shore Premium Outlets in Neptune NJ . There will be a bus for this trip.</li> <li>• Looking into a Wine Train trip for August. If not, there will be an alternative.</li> </ul> <p>Geeta thanked Gina for her work getting the trips together.</p>
<p>Friends "By-Laws" S. Agarwal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ByLaws complete.</li> <li>• Satya reported that he discovered that the Friends of South Brunswick Senior Center 501C-3 status was evoked by the IRS in 2012. The forms had not been filled out for that period of time. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ Satya contacted the IRS regarding the issue who then provided the form to fill out to reinstate the tax exempt status.</li> <li>◦ We are currently registered with the state of NJ.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Karaoke Program: S. Patel</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Karaoke program is both popular and successful - approx 50 people in attendance regularly . <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ People are requesting to increase the number of days available to do Karaoke.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Friends member asked for more information about the Karaoke program. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ It was explained that it is a singing program - people sing to music available with or without being accompanied.</li> <li>◦ There are no restrictions as to what to sing - such as language or religion. People love to sing.</li> <li>◦ Participants do not have to be a professional singer.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Mexican Train Dominoes B. Holt</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bob Holt reported that Mexican Train Dominoes has been enthusiastically received. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ There are 2 tables set up and working on getting a third table.</li> <li>◦ 6 people can play on one table.</li> <li>◦ Last Monday there were people waiting.</li> <li>◦ Friends donated the actual game and Bob orchestrated it.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>In-person Bridge Tournament: S. Agarwal</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People continue to participate from home rather than come to the Center to play.</li> <li>• Lynn Brown recommended leaving the program as is for the regular day and whoever shows up can participate.</li> </ul>
<p>Membership update: R. Gupta</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There were a total of 170 members for the entire year in 2023 - There are currently 196 members as of today.</li> <li>• R. Gupta was applauded for the work he has done to increase membership. - he announced there may be 200 after this afternoon.</li> </ul>

<p>Senior Center: JillAnne Foxxe</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tuesday May 21st all auditoriums will be closed in order to set up for the celebration of 90 year olds scheduled for the following day, May 22. There also will be no food service that day. Everything closed on that day.</li> <li>• South Brunswick HS will have 21 kids coming to the Center to participate in an intergenerational program where they oversee will run table games, ping pong, and help with computer tech - members are encouraged to participate.</li> <li>• May 24th the Senior Center will be closing at noon for Memorial Day and also closed all day Monday, May 27th for Memorial Day.</li> <li>• June 4th is primary Day - all auditoriums will be closed. There will be no food and no coffee.</li> <li>• June 11th - no Karaoke.</li> <li>• June 28th is the date for the Ping Pong tournament. Just sign up in Ping Pong.</li> <li>• In July - Friends has scheduled a trip to the the Jersey Shore Premium Outlets -</li> <li>• The Bridge Tournament continues to be conducted by many members virtually. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ There is no formal plan for a Bridge Tournament on site. Instead the tournament will be a pop up for those that show up.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Starting in July - Monday Bingo will start at 10:45am to accommodate those arriving by bus.</li> </ul>
<p>Member Comments/Suggestions:</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A member suggested that the Senior Center consider having a special program or celebration in honor of Mother's Day and Father's Day. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ JillAnne responded that there was recently a Ladies Tea that was sponsored by Brandywine and we can consider something special for the men.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
<p>Meeting Adjourned:</p>	<p>11:41 am.</p>
<p>Next Meeting:</p>	<p>June 10th 11:00 am</p>

Respectfully Submitted *Barbara Christiano*

Barbara Christiano, Friends Secretary