



TOWN OF EAST HAMPTON

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

128 SPRINGS FIREPLACE ROAD
EAST HAMPTON, NEW YORK 11937
Tel: 631-329-6939 / Fax: 631-329-6693

Diane Patrizio, Director
DPatrizio@EHamptonNY.Gov

TO: EAST HAMPTON TOWN BOARD

FROM: DIANE PATRIZIO, HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR

DATE: FEBRUARY 13, 2018

RE: **SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT UPDATE**

The East Hampton Town Senior Services Committee was formed in 2014 and met bi-weekly beginning in March of 2014 to review current services available for Seniors. (See appointing Resolution 2014-259 attached.)

Senior Services Committee Members

- Tom Cohill, YMCA
- Dennis Fabiszak, East Hampton Library
- Mary Fallon
- Paul Fiondella
- Howard John Lebwith DDS
- Jola Marcario
- Mary Ella Moeller
- Dr. Nancy Peppard
- Sheila Rogers, East Hampton Healthcare Foundation
- John Rooney, Superintendent of Recreation
- Tom Ruhle, Director of Housing
- Diane Patrizio, Director of Human Services
- Kathee Burke-Gonzalez, Board Liaison

In an effort to garner more input, a survey was undertaken by the Committee to help assess current use of the various programs and to discuss future needs for a growing population of older adults who plan to age in place.

The Committee made the following recommendations on December 2, 2014 to the Town Board based on immediate, short range and long range time frames:

- Immediate - 1 month to 1 year
- Short Range - 1 year to 3 years
- Long Range - 3 years +

This memorandum serves as an update on our progress in response to that report.

Recommendation -- Immediate

The creation of an On-Line Calendar

It is recommended that the Town purchase a calendar software program to be used for the creation of an online calendar with links to all of the institutions offering services - with special emphasis given to affordable recreational activities/active exercise as 2 hours of instruction-led, appropriate level activity supports healthy aging. This calendar, which could also be printed, would provide current information on the availability of the various programs for older adults scheduled each day, week and month in the community. The calendar should be featured prominently on the Town website. The Town should work with all local media to help publicize events online and in print. The Town should launch a PR campaign to advertise to all residents the existence and benefit of the calendar.

Results

The Town of East Hampton hired contractor CivicPlus to redesign and implement a new town website. The website contains a Calendar Module, which allows the Town to create as many calendars as needed. These individual calendars are then linked to the main Community Calendar, which is available on the homepage of the Town website. Citizens can then choose to view the main community calendar and individual calendars at their leisure. In addition citizens can choose to sign up for event notifications within individual calendars via rss feeds or email and/or text message through the "Notify Me" section of the Town website. The Information Technology department presented an overview of the new website to the public at a Town Board Meeting on September 20, 2016. More specifically the Human Services Department created a department calendar which lists all activities available to the public. In addition the Recreation Department has created a calendar which includes recreational activities for adults.

In an effort to expand our reach, there are daily announcements on WLNG regarding the daily luncheon menu and activities at the Center.

Recommendation -- Immediate

Forming an Inter-Agency Committee

A permanent committee of service oriented institutions in the Town should be formed to facilitate information sharing and ideas for the development of new programs that could be offered by each organization. The purpose is to:

1. Advise on how best to coordinate the programs and services offered by all public and private entities in the Town;
2. Work together on a regular basis to share information among the institutions to improve and expand their offerings in a coordinated non-duplicative manner;
3. Develop improved methods of communication to provide information on the various programs in the community;
4. Evaluate the progress of and attendance at services and programs to assess if current and new programs are meeting the needs and interests of as many sub-groups as possible.

Results

In May of 2015 the Town of East Hampton Inter-Agency Committee was formed. It's a permanent committee of service oriented institutions in the Town who share information and ideas. We meet quarterly and work together to coordinate programs and services offered, in addition to working together on a regular basis to share information and expand our offerings in a coordinated non-duplicative manner.

Inter-Agency Committee Organizations

- Montauk Library
- East Hampton Library
- Amagansett Library
- Guild Hall
- East Hampton Health Care Foundation
- EH Clericus
- YMCA
- EH Lions Club
- EH Rotary Club
- Phoenix House
- East Hampton High School
- Montauk Playhouse Foundation
- Family Service League

Ex-Officio

- East Hampton Human Services
- East Hampton Recreation Department
- Kathee Burke-Gonzalez – EH Town Councilwoman

Sponsored Events To-Date

April 18, 2016	The Hunting Ground Panel Discussion at EH Library
August 18, 2016	Rising Above Addiction – Opiate Presentation at EH Library
March 27, 2017	The Hunting Ground Panel Discussion at EH Library
April 18, 2017	safeTALK Training at Guild Hall
May 15, 2017	safeTALK Training at EH Library
February 28, 2018	safeTALK Teen Training at EH Library

Recommendation – Immediate and Long Range

Medical Services Committee

Although the Town of East Hampton does not provide medical services to its residents, a committee of East Hampton Town/Southampton town residents should be formed to work closely with Southampton Hospital in its planning process for the new hospital to be built at the Southampton College campus and satellite care facility which may be established in East Hampton to facilitate improved access to emergency medical services. Additional future medical services to be considered should be addition of geriatric practitioners and in-patient rehabilitation. The quantity and quality of these services available on the East End needs a great deal of improvement and are not sufficient for the growing population of older adults.

Results

For the last several years, the Town has been working with the leadership of Southampton Hospital to locate a Freestanding Emergency Department (FSED) here in East Hampton. Just last month, the Town entered into a lease agreement with Stonybrook/Southampton Hospital for the Town-owned property located at 400 Pantigo Place, East Hampton. The plan is for the Hospital to construct a FSED that contains 7 treatment rooms, a bariatric room and an OB/GYN room, as well as a stat-laboratory/phlebotomy, pharmacy, diagnostic imaging including a CT scanner and radiology room. The project will total approximately 27,700 SF.

Having a FSED here in East Hampton will provide our community with access to timely, high-quality care and treatment, close to home, eliminating the long travel times in bumper-to-bumper traffic.

Recommendation – Short Range

Transportation

As residents age, many are no longer able or willing to use their own vehicles, especially in the evening. Understanding that most people wish to age in place rather than relocate to nursing homes or assisted living facilities, the Town should pursue a study of ways to increase transportation services for older residents, i.e., senior Town transportation to be used from 4PM – 10PM (October - April).

It is also recommended that all major heavily trafficked roads be maintained with striped white lines.

Results

The East Hampton Senior Transportation Program provides essential services to residents 60+ to the East Hampton and Montauk Nutrition Programs and Adult Day Care Program, in addition to transportation to medical appointments, food shopping, physical therapy, post office and banking Monday through Friday, 8 am – 4 pm.

The East Hampton Town Transportation Program has expanded its services and now transports Veterans to the Northport VA. In addition, a bus is stationed full time in Montauk during the summer and early Fall to provide services to Montauk residents. Our service also includes transportation to special events which can be scheduled outside of regular hours.

White lines are maintained and are re-painted every (4) years.

Recommendation – Long Range

Housing

Housing for downsizing for all older adults needs to be fully explored. The Town should examine its current rules and regulations and change them with the goal of enabling residents to age in place in their current homes.

The East Hampton Town 2005 Comprehensive Plan suggested that housing for all older adults was an important component of the Plan. The Comprehensive Plan recommended that the town consider many types of housing for older adults.

Currently, affordable housing developments for older adults have been concentrated in the lower income ranges and have excluded people who have previously owned homes.

There exists a need for housing for those who have been forced to sell their homes by age or infirmity to be able stay in East Hampton. There also exists a need for current residents who do not fall into the lower income ranges to be able to find affordable apartments in East Hampton if they need to downsize. The spectrum of housing needs for older Americans runs the gamut from single family homes, to apartments, to assisted living facilities, and to nursing homes. All these may or may not be cost effective in East Hampton and may have to be available on a regional basis.

Notwithstanding that the Town should continue to explore the demand for these in the future and work with the appropriate agencies for planning purposes.

Results

The Town conducted a review of its regulations related to apartments in single family residences. Two changes were made that were directly related to aging in place. Under certain conditions now a resident can create an apartment, live in that apartment, and rent out their main home. In addition under certain circumstance a resident can place an apartment in a detached structure. It is hoped that this will be used by those who wish to remain in their homes but do not require a large home.

The Town has broken ground on a Manor Home property that is consists of four unit manor homes sold as a condominium (one one-bedroom, 2 two-bedroom and one three-bedroom unit). The income limit is moderate income. It is hoped that this can be a template for future developments. Currently the requirement of being a first time homeowner remains in place.

Several committees, primarily the Community Housing Opportunity Fund Advisory Committee (CHOF), have been involved in a systematic evaluation of the Housing problems in Town and an exploration of possible solutions. There remains a critical shortage of legal affordable apartments in East Hampton. To that end the East Hampton Housing Authority (EHHA) is proposing a mixed income 38 unit apartment project in Amagansett.

Housing for downsizing for all older adults needs to be fully explored. The Town should examine its current rules and regulations and change them with the goal of enabling residents to age in place in their current homes.

Recommendation – Long Range

East Hampton Town Community Center

The current Senior Services Center on Springs Fireplace Road provides vital services in the Town of East Hampton. It offers many programs including the popular lunch/nutrition program, adult day care, and limited daily exercise and social programs. However, the current Senior Center is inadequate for the types of programs and services that are needed to meet the current and future needs of the growing older adult community. The committee strongly recommends that the Town replace the current Senior Services Center with one that can serve the entire community. It is estimated that the over 65 population in East Hampton will be double the size of the school age population within 15 years. This population will need emergency medical

facilities, assisted living facilities, senior housing, and a wide range of social programs and services. Adequate and appropriate space is needed. The Town Board needs to identify a centrally located site where a new center can be built and expanded with other future facilities as needed. A committee of interested and informed citizens needs to be appointed to work on the design, programs and services that such a facility would require.

Results

An internal working group was formed with members of the Planning Department, Human Services Staff and our liaison, Kathee Burke-Gonzalez. The committee met for a year and reviewed best practices for senior centers, made visits to local senior centers, identified properties, analyzed demographic data and projected future needs.

The working group reviewed the services provided at the East Hampton Senior Center and considered the fact that the East Hampton Senior Center operates 7 days a week as much as 12 hours per day. They recognized the need to encourage senior activities, increase wellness programs, maximize outdoor space and utilize natural light.

The group also considered the need for automatic doors, a covered entrance for picking up and dropping off, a private restroom and walk in shower for the Adult Day Care Program, a computer/media room, a wellness room and a parking lot with ample parking.

After much debate the working group recommended siting the new center at the present location. The benefits of using the existing property include the fact that it's Town-owned property, and is centrally located for seniors driving themselves, it's within walking distance to Windmill I & II. In addition, senior programs have been running at this location for over 30 years and the consensus of seniors who use the center was it should remain at the current location.

The recommendation of the working group was to have a two-story building.

In the Spring of 2016 a Request for Proposal for Architectural Services was noticed. An internal committee independently reviewed and scored each proposal submitted and the scores were compiled and the top three were invited to present their plans to the working committee. The committee presented their findings to the Town Board and the firm of SAVIK & MURRAY was selected to design the new Older Adult Community Center.

The working group has been meeting with the project architect over the last year, in addition to a public session open to the community for their input.

Timeline

March 2014	Formation of Senior Services Committee
December 4, 2014	Senior Services Committee Recommendation
January 2015	Formation of Internal Town Building Committee
April 19, 2016	Preliminary Recommendation to Town Board
Spring 2016	Noticed RFP for Architectural Services
Fall 2016	Interviewed Architects
December 15, 2016	Selected Architect – Savik & Murray
March 14, 2017	Meeting with Savik & Murray
March 27, 2017	New Building Committee Meeting

March 31, 2017	LTV- Group for Good Government with Arthur Malman
April 19, 2017	New Building Committee Meeting
May 4, 2017	Savik & Murray New Building Meeting with HS Staff
May 23, 2017	Savik & Murray New Building Meeting with Seniors
June 20, 2017	Savik & Murray Presentation to the EH Town Board
October 20, 2017	New Building Committee Meeting
November 6, 2017	New Building Committee Meeting
January 31, 2018	Savik & Murray Presentation to HS Supervisors
January 31, 2018	Savik & Murray Meeting with Supervisor Peter Van Scoyoc
February 13, 2018	Savik & Murray Presentation of Schematic Design to Town Board
February 13, 2018	Savik & Murray Presentation of Schematic Design to Seniors

In summary, much has been done over the last four years to support our Seniors. And I am confident that more progress will be made as we continue to work together.

Should you need additional information, please don't hesitate to reach out.