Denville Municipal Alliance Committee
Meeting Minutes
September 20, 2012
Denville Town Hall, 7:00 pm

Attendance:  Peg McCluskey, Kathy Covert, Tom Andes, Gertrude D’Souza, Bill Underwood, Amanda Ostella, Beverly Harp, Erin McCluskey, Gene Fitzpatrick, Dawn Mahon and Gail Shelby Horn.

The meeting was called to order at 7:13pm.

1. Minutes from the 07/26/12 and 08/16/12 meetings were reviewed.

   Motion was made to approve the minutes as submitted.
   Motion by Erin McClusky; Seconded by Kathy Covert.  Motion passed unanimously.

   Peg asked that MAC meeting minutes be forwarded to town webmaster, John Ciardi for posting on the Denville town website.  Gail will forward approved June, July, August minutes to jciardi@denville.org.

2. A proposal to offer free tutoring to Denville elementary school children-in-need was presented by Beverly Harp, representing Morris Knolls National Honor Society. Hours donated by NHS students would count toward required community service points. They have the support of Morris Hills Regional District administration but need a facility, liability insurance and adult supervision during the tutoring sessions. They are requesting the use of Denville Town Hall community room and MAC volunteer adults.

   Referrals for tutoring would come through the elementary schools and parent inquiry. NHS would schedule tutoring hours based on interest and need. Three or four sessions will be offered during the school year. They also identified the Kids Club after school programs held at Riverview and Lakeview schools as potential tutoring opportunities.

   Peg complemented the creativity and initiative of National Honor Society. She has spoken with Deirdre Rock of Denville Social Services. Deirdre suggests Peer Place could offer the facility, adult supervision and easy connection to a potential group of students that would benefit from free tutoring.

   Mayor Tom Andes also commented on the wonderful project the NHS has developed but also identified some hurdles: The community room will not be available after 01/01/13; MAC is a small committee without resources of adult supervision on a long term basis; St. Peter’s Orphanage and Peer Place have rooms and adult supervision that could be available to the NHS project.

   It was suggested that Denville Superintendent of Schools be contacted regarding student referrals. Kathy will contact Deirdre to pave the way to Peer Place and St. Peter’s. She offered to also contact Jose Bias at St. Peter’s.

   Peg proposed that MAC donate $150 from the MAC 2012 budget to fund the NHS tutoring project. Money is to be used to purchase office supplies. Proposal passed unanimously.

   Beverly was advised of the need to spend the money before 12/31/12 and to submit a completed event documentation worksheet for reimbursement of expenses.

3. Peg reported on the status of the 2012 budget. Copies of the budget were handed out.

   CAPPs  Denville Police Department has ordered themed pencils as a Red Ribbon Week giveaway - $297.

   Sassy Seniors  Tai Chi sessions are scheduled for 10/3, 10/17, 10/24, 10/31, 11/7 and 11/14. Deirdre is finalizing plans with Danielle Abrahams.
While Denville Seniors are a busy group, the MAC Senior Social plans have not yet been finalized.

Natural High Teens  National Honor Society $150 donation to tutoring project will be spent from this budget line item.  Chris Golinsky inquired on a possible donation toward Fall Festival food booths.  Peg told him $300 has already been approved for purchase of pretzels and that he would need to submit event documentation worksheet for reimbursement of expenses.

Teen Center  Plans for Java Jams concert are in beginning stages.  In the past, the event was held at American Legion hall in Denville. Expenses are expected to be $100 for hall rental and $100 for snacks. Erin and Amanda will research available dates and performers.  MAC asked if a DPD officer could stop by the event and Bill indicated that it would be no problem.

Discussion was held on the continued success of Denville Beautification Committee.  It has been noticed that the red tulips planted in town by past MAC committee members to commemorate Red Ribbon Week are in need of replacement.  Motion was made to give financial assistance to the Beautification Committee so that Red Tulips can be replaced, as needed.  Motion by Gertrude; Seconded by Kathy.  Passed unanimously.

Peg reported that event documentation worksheets have been received for Lindsey Meyer Teen Institute camp, Thru Doctors high school presentation, and Social Services Movie Night expenses.

4. Peg handed out copies of the approved 2013 budget.  She noted that, while our grant request was approved, she has been notified by County MAC representative, Steve Nebesni, that due to our success and skill at spending our grant money, our 2013 grant request was increased by $1,500. The additional funds will go into CAPP and Sassy Seniors line items.  A reward for a job well done, MAC committee!

5. Officer Bill Underwood thanked MAC for our continued, long-term support of the DARE program.  This year the DARE program was expanded to include an end of the year celebration for students and parents and the increased MAC donation was greatly appreciated.

6. Discussion was held regarding meeting schedule for the balance of 2012 and it was decided that we would meet on 10/18 and 11/15 and not meet during December.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:38pm.

Next regular meeting is scheduled for:  Thursday, October 18, 2012, 7:00pm, Denville Town Hall