

Minutes
Chatham-Harwich Newcomers General Meeting
November 17, 2008

9:50 a.m. President Jerry Lima opened the meeting with a warm greeting to all our members.

Secretary's report was posted on the web site and accepted.

Treasurer Don Kolp reported that the club is financially sound with a working capital of \$4700. Club expenses will deplete that by the next meeting. Report accepted as read.

Vice President, Mike Cimini gave an update on the holiday luncheon at Eastward Ho Country Club on December 8. There are still tickets available. The next function will be the Valentine luncheon at Old Yarmouth Inn on Saturday, February 14. Flyers will be on the web site and mailed to those without internet connections. Going forward, that will be the main method of correspondence.

Membership Chair Art Hanrahan reported that our total membership is 386, with four new members recently signed up. New members were introduced.

Barbara Lynyak reported the following upcoming events from the Day Travel Committee.

1. Pops Holiday Concert and dinner afterwards at the Sea View Restaurant is scheduled for December 7.
2. Ski Trip combined with the Nauset Newcomers is being planned for February.
3. Big Apple weekend in New York, is planned for April 3-5, includes theater tickets.
4. Bye Bye Birdie at the Harwich Junior Theater and dinner at Alouette is planned for March 8.
5. April 19 will be a bus trip to Boston to see the sights.
6. April 27 will be a trip to the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston.
7. In June, a tour of the Boston Globe and Harvard University and Harvard Square is in the works.

The Travel Committee is looking for any new members to help out with the plans.

Diane Karel and Pat Kokoszka are introducing a Theater Group. The first event is planned for December 4. Includes dinner at Laurino's and the play A Member of the Wedding, price \$15 per person. Contact Diane or Pat for further information or the web site.

Jack Wyatt, Program Chair, introduced the Superintendent of the Harwich Water Department, Craig Wiegand who spoke about the water and waste water on the Cape. Everything that goes in the ground ends up in the aquifer. The Water Dept. monitors the levels and he explained the process of having clean drinking water. As individuals we

can do a few things to help keep water clean by minimizing fertilizer use, landscape watering, not putting contaminants into the ground, having septic systems pumped once a year and the use of phosphate free detergents and soaps. Further information is on the Water Dept. website. Jack presented him with a Chatham Harwich Newcomers hat.

Jerry Lima introduced representatives from various organizations about volunteer opportunities.

1. Gayle Johnson, Coordinator of Volunteers from the Visiting Nurses Association spoke about the Hospice program. Volunteers can give respite to caregivers. There are other opportunities, such as in the Children's Bereavement program, Veteran's program, Pastoral Care program, Wellness, immunization and flu programs, administrative help and a thrift shop in South Yarmouth.
2. Mary Anderson from the Family Pantry. The Family Pantry provides food and clothing to those who need it. Volunteer opportunities may include collecting bottles and cans, back up drivers, stocking shelves in the warehouse, or thrift shop substitutes.
3. Hilary Greene, from Habitat for Humanity mentioned there is a new build of nine homes in Harwich. There are at least 15 committees that need help.
4. Ann Smith mentioned the Harwich Stroll that is coming up in December 5, 6 and 7. She represents that the Pilgrim Church who is sponsoring house tours with the profits going to Habitat for Humanity.
5. Joanne Chilingirian, Harwich Site Coordinator, from Elder Services. There are numerous opportunities to volunteer, including Home Care Programs, Senior Nutrition Program either at dining centers or meals-on-wheels, Family Caregiver Support Program, Long Term Care Ombudsman Program, Mature Workers Program and others. The Volunteer Resource Center is a central organizing point between volunteers and needs of clients.
6. Ellen Bernstein, Volunteer Program Director of the Homeless Prevention Council said her organization focuses on helping clients who may be in crisis. Some volunteer opportunities include data entry, office work, helping on fund raising events, marketing, public relations, car donations, special projects and much more. Schedules are flexible and can be shaped to meet anyone's schedule.

As a point of interest, Oz Osborn from the Lower Cape Rose Society talked about an evening with Stephen Scanniello at the Harwich Community Center on December 3 at 7 p.m. Stephen will talk not only about roses but companion plants as well.

Jim Rappolt said that Men's Cooking is looking for one more good man.

Contact these agencies if you are interested in volunteering.

Jerry Lima introduced a vote on the terms of officers. Currently the term is September to September and the change would be from June to June. Also voting on the inclusion of a new officer to the Board, that of Ex Officio. The Ex Officio will be the past president. Both votes passed in the affirmative.