

AARP CHAPTER 1917      GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
**MINUTES FOR September 13, 2012**

The meeting was called to order by President Chris Norris at 10:05AM. There were 52 attendees.

Chris provided a tribute and offered a moment of silence for Gertie Apple who passed on August 21. Gertie was a long time active member of our chapter and a supporter of many other organizations through out Ocean City. A memorial service is scheduled for September 14, 11 AM at Temple Bat Yam in Berlin.

Our speaker was Ron Piling representing the Jesse Klump Foundation. Jesse was a 17 year old from Snow Hill who committed suicide and the foundation was established to bring awareness to the warning signs of suicide and offer appropriate prevention responses. Mr. Piling stated that Worcester County has the highest suicide rate in the state, but it is fairly common among rural areas nationally due to less access to mental health care and easier access to firearms. He said that young people are more apt to express their feelings of despair to grandparents and grandparent should “keep them safe long enough to have a professional step in.” The hotline is 800-723-TALK. The discussion was riveting despite the subject matter.

**Secretary** Andrea Albrecht presented the minutes of the June 7 meeting and they were approved as read.

**Communications** chair, Garry Fox, stated that our web site host service was down and many did not receive email reminders for this meeting. A free month of service has been provided. Garry asked how many look at the website on a monthly basis; about half raised hands. Garry also asked if members use PayPal; there was little response.

Wearing his **Nominations** chair hat, Garry asked for someone to fill Gertie’s spot as a one-year Board member.

**Treasurer’s Report.** Bill Shoop reported balances ending for August: General Fund – \$11,213, Health Fair - \$828, Travel - \$11,042. The report was approved as presented.

President Chris Norris discussed a **dues increase** for next year which had been approved by the board. A motion was made by Ruth Murphy to increase dues beginning January 1, 2013 to \$7 with any new or renewing member paying by December 31, 2012 staying at the current \$5. The motion was seconded by John Vittek and unanimously approved by the membership.

**Travel** chair Alcea Sprung announced that some trips would probably be cancelled because of too few sign ups – Biltmore, Gettysburg and American Icons. A new trip to the Smithsonian Air and Space Museum has been added for January. She also noted that she has Blood Bank membership information. Sandy Kvech said a breakfast and slots play voucher was scheduled at Ocean Downs for October 16 and asked for sign ups. Andrea Albrecht said that the October 11 meeting speaker was from the Ocean City airport and asked for sign ups for a car pool to Sunset Grille for lunch and a tour of the airport following the meeting.

**Fall Fest** chair Andrea Albrecht had provided members with a flyer detailing the Fall Fest event on October 25 and tickets were available for sale or reservations.

**Scholarship** chair Norma Bull stated that a letter had been received from Mara Smith and the first \$500 check for her scholarship will be sent. She is attending UMBC.

**President's Report.** Chris reported that the details for the Candidates Forum are coming together. Index cards were provided to members to write out their questions for the candidates and hand them in. The Forum will be held on October 16 at the Elks, 4pm-7pm. Due to space limitations at the Elks, only voters registered in Ocean City could participate. Chris announced that our chapter charter was originally designated to Worcester County, but has now been changed to Ocean City Chapter 1917. Future speakers will be October – Ocean City Airport, Huey helicopter; November – Brandywine Assisted Living; December – no speaker but we will have goodies and board installations; January – football player from Green Bay Packers; February – representatives from a credit union and a bank.

**Good of the Order.** Sandy Kvech asked for volunteers for specific projects and said the membership form is changed to include a check off for volunteering.

**50/50** won by Ron Apperson - \$28 to Ron, \$28 to the Chapter.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:40 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Albrecht,  
Recording Secretary