On Tuesday, July 9th, 2019 the official meeting of the Franklin Twp Senior Advisory Commission was called to order by Mayor Dave Deegan at 10 Am in the Conference Room of the Franklin Twp Community Center. The members were requested to select a chairman, vice-chair and secretary.

The members approved the following for the 2019 year: Chairman - Bill Morris; Vice Chairman – Jean Thompson and Secretary – Cindy Merckx.

The Commission shall meet monthly at the Community Center. The meeting shall be held the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. in the conference room. A sign-in sheet was signed by members who provided their email address and phone number that serve as contact information.

Mayor Deegan stated that he and Committeewoman Mary Petsch-Wilson will be the liaisons from the Township Committee and one of them will be present at the meetings each month. Bill Morris asked Mayor Deegan if there was any progress on members getting a copy of the approved contract between the Township of Franklin and Nutri-Serve who is providing the lunchtime meal for our senior citizen lunch program. Deegan stated that the company is inept at following through, but that there is a contract in
place. Deegan stated that the committee has a line item in the new budget for $66,000 for senior lunch program that includes cost for delivery of meals on wheels.

Concerns were discussed of operating without a contract in place. Jean Thompson expressed her disappointment with the freshness of the food since summer has begun. She stated that the food was only being picked up two days a week at Delsea HS and there was always prepared tuna fish for Fridays and the food was being made in advance. She was concerned with refrigeration problems that occur. The steam table to heat meals has still not yet been delivered and seniors are only getting a hot meal twice a week now.

Approximately 40 seniors have lunch daily at the Community Center – some pick up meals for take outs – when the Senior Club meets on the first and third Wednesday of the month there is an increase of senior residents who eat lunch on those days. Lunch is served at 11 am and over by 11:30 am. Activities begin at noon and are over by 1:30 PM in the community center.

Jean explained that seniors play Bingo on Mondays $1 fee for prizes. John Sheldon stated that the seniors play cards on Fridays from 1-3 PM. The seniors would like to see more activities such as bus trips to Cape May/ casino’s ball games, etc.

Bill Morris requested that a list of activities the seniors would like to do needs to be compiled for future planning purposes. Jean will oversee obtaining a list from the seniors attending the lunch program. Meeting adjourned 10:50 am. Next Meeting will be Tuesday, Aug. 13th at 10 am Community Center Conference Room.

Submitted for review/approval by Cindy Merckx/Secretary