

QL-5 Improved Services for Seniors

In response to request by Herb Ailes and Tom Keating, Co-Chairmen of the KICA Long Range Planning Committee, we (Carolyn Lancaster, Smiley Putnam, Nancy Schuette and Tony Speno) were asked to “brainstorm” “quality of life issues” of “improved services for seniors.”

During an informal meeting on March 3, 1999, we discussed a number of topics and made several recommendations for further study and consideration. Responses were received from the Covenant Compliance Committee Chair, Bill Gamble. Below is a brief summary.

1. Emergency Medical Service located on the island for a more rapid response

Possibly in the future, with continued growth and if a new large hotel is built. Currently we have two fire stations with trained personnel and an EMS substation just off the island. Two automatic external defibrillators are located on the island.

2. A helicopter pad between Kiawah and Seabrook for rapid evacuation to a local hospital

Use of “Life Flight” service would be very infrequent, and will not be used to transfer cardiac patients (the most common emergency). In other emergencies, depending on location, a helicopter could land at Night Heron Park, a golf course driving range, or on a street.

3. The possibility of an outpatient rehabilitation and physical therapy center on our end of Johns Island to serve our islands

The idea is appealing, but is there enough demand to warrant a center? More information is needed about demand. If sufficient, of private funding and exploring the idea with local medical centers.

4. A weekly program at the Sandcastle tailored to needs and interests of Senior Citizens-a committee of Seniors to organize-use of interest and ability surveys

Many programs are already available (i.e., fitness classes of various skill and ability levels; many island interest clubs, etc.). Recreation Center Manager and Operating Committee may explore other ideas.

5. Better publicity of purposes and activities of the Kiawah community groups. Most residents have no idea of the breadth and variety of groups

The *Kiawah Community Groups* list, including KPOG and POPS organization, is distributed by KICA. The list is available at KICA Administration Customer Service Counter, and at the Recreation Center. It is also distributed in New Owner packets.

6. The “Alternatives” group to sponsor the Friendship Committee’s activities such as visiting seniors, taking them shopping, to doctors’ appointments, etc. (Alternatives is a very broad based group).

7. A regularly scheduled van service to take seniors to Charleston - or a service to

take seniors to special events

A previous RTMA service to downtown Charleston was canceled due to lack of interest. CARTA (Charleston Area Regional Transportation Authority) is considering a route to this area. KPOG or POPS might think about the need for this service, or lack thereof.

8.A conveniently located library to offer the service of books, movies, VCR tapes, computer access, arts and crafts, etc.

The Recreation Center offers a small book lending library. The Bookmobile makes two visits per month to Night Heron Park. The Charleston County Public Library is considering a branch location near Haut Gap Middle School on Bohicket Road.

9.A heated swimming pool for year round water exercise

An agreement might be made with the resort to use KIR's heated pool during the months when the KICA Recreation Center pool is unavailable for use. A usage or membership fee might be included in the agreement.

Further ideas may be explored in the future.