

Safe at Home Committee Meeting Minutes
May 23, 2025 3:00 pm
Meeting Place, Cook and Larder

Attendance: Joyce Ferrentino, Lynda Brenner, Patti Rohrlich, Rene Gibson, Timi Bates, Joyce Lapenn, Dee Crawford, Natalie Kahan, Mary Lou Kersten

Coffee Hour

May – Gardening is the planned topic. Nico Hernandez, speaker. Shirley is the responsible person.

June -Peter Cipkowski, June 24. Topic is Artificial Intelligence. Title: Understanding AI: What It Can Do, and What It Means for Us. Posters were given out for distribution. Patti is the responsible person.

July – Bill Kramer, CEO of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. The topic will be The State of the Film Industry. Patti is the organizer.

August – Dan Levy, Building a passive home. Rene, organizer. Joyce F spoke with him. She will get photo of him standing in front of his house for the poster.

September – Topic is the importance of human contact and the benefit of physical touch, therapeutic touch. Caroline Kay Wheeler RN practitioner and instructor is the speaker. Rene is the organizer.

October – Music. Cheryl Jones and Steve Livingston will participate. Timi organizer.

November – David Wurth will do a demonstration of making cranberry sauce. Patti is the organizer.

December – Holiday Party

Suggested topic for future coffee hour, Tate Coleman, transit program director for South County Connector. Possible partnership with Egremont and Great Barrington to provide transit services for seniors and persons with disabilities.

For future SAH announcements the Town of Hillsdale requests information delivered before the 20th of the month for inclusion in the Hillsdale Town Newsletter.

Wednesday Walks

Walks started up again April 16. Not well attended, weather could have been a factor. We need to continue getting the word out. Lynda is coordinating SAH members to be at the walks.

Memorial Day Parade Participation

Joyce F purchased a banner for the walk. We will be wearing yellow vests which Patti organized, emphasizing walking with safety. SAH members who plan on walking, Dee, Timi, Lynda, Joyce L, Joyce F, Patti, Mary Lou. We meet in the hamlet park at 11:30 AM and proceed from there. Vests are going to be around \$7 - \$10, will reimburse Patti.

Taconic Hills School Volunteer Program

We will not organize a thank you luncheon to recognize the volunteers. Taconic Hills will do a volunteer appreciation luncheon on June 9 at the school. Joyce L is writing up thank you notes to the teachers involved and Sandra Gardner will distribute them. Rene has small Safe At Home stickers that can be added to the thank you notes. Joyce F had “CERTIFICATES OF ACHIEVEMENT” awards printed up that will be given to the children who participated. She also had wrist bands made which say “I Love Reading”. SAH will hold off on recruiting volunteers for the next school semester until we know who the school liaison will be.

Rene suggested is send out an email blast to let people know about the May 27 Taconic Hills School Science Symposium at 6:00 pm. Will be announced at coffee hour too.

Energy Fair in Hillsdale

Jamie Carano Nordenstrom said it has been rescheduled for autumn.

Newsletter

Will mention a \$500 grant from Bank of Greene County to support SAH activity.
Joyce F is looking for other ideas. Will regularly post something to be aware of scams.

Natalie said that she received a call from April Berger, a representative in Austerlitz, who is working with others to develop a senior service committee there. They would like to know more about the Hillsdale SAH and how it works. Joyce F will mail her some info and she will be invited to attend a coffee hour.

Next Meeting, June 20, 2025, 3:00 pm, Friday _____ Cook and Larder