



## BETTER TOGETHER

**Action Agenda**

February 23, 2015

Updates from the Meeting are Posted in Red

**Meeting Attendees – Listing of those Present and Guests**

Wayne Boston	Barbara Peck
Hazel Gerber	Karen Stanley
Mallory Jamison	Maddy Stanley
Peyton Jamison	Mark Stephens
Tripp Jamison	Angela Thompson
Michelle Miralles	

**Events and Activities (Past) – Alzheimer’s Disease (AD) Presentation**

In spite of the very bad weather, we had an excellent attendance at the Alzheimer’s event which was co-sponsored by Better Together, Senior Services North Fulton and the Rotary Club of Milton-Windward. Including the staff and other attendees from the Institute for Advanced Medical Research (IAMR), approximately 40 people were in attendance. Dr. Angelo Sambunaris, Founder and Medical Director of IAMR, gave a very informative PowerPoint presentation and, afterwards, answered numerous questions from the attendees. During his discussion, he emphasized one of the primary needs for organizations involved in Alzheimer’s medical research---the need for more individuals willing to volunteer and participate in research studies. After the program, attendees were given the opportunity to sign up for free memory screenings at the offices of IAMR.

**Events and Activities (Future) –**

- Community Pet Day – March 8 – Community of Christ Church



Wayne reported that the Community Pet Day had been postponed until Sunday, May 17.

- Milton Mayor's Run - February 28 - Freedom Park at 7:30 AM

Wayne reported that volunteers are needed for the race scheduled for February 28. So far, four from our Better Together team will be helping with the race.

- Earth Day - April 18 - Friendship Park - 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM

Barbara Peck updated the group on plans for this year's Earth Day event scheduled for Saturday, April 18. Volunteers are always needed to help with the event.

- Milton Literary Event - Mid-Year Target

Wayne reported that discussions are continuing to be held to bring Milton's first literary, festival-type event to the community in the June timeframe.

- Milton Literary Group

Hopefully, the first meeting of the newly-formed Milton Literary Group will be held in the near future. This group will be very important as planning continues for the June 2015 literary event.

### **Connecting Residents with Businesses -**

- Flowers From Us - April Timeframe

Wayne reported that plans are to hold our second business connection event at Flowers From Us. A meeting to discuss particulars concerning the event is being scheduled with Thom Foreman, one of the owners of the business.

- Milton Fields - Spring 2015

While no specific date has been determined, it is hoped that one of the business connection events in 2015 will be held at Milton Fields within the next few months.

- Cheeses & Mary/Hello Lovely/Blencoe & Co.

Hopefully, we'll be doing one of our business connection events with these three businesses which are located in the same building in the Braeburn Office Park in Crabapple.

### **Special Needs Certified - First Certified City in Country**

Wayne reported that the City of Milton has become the first city in the country to become Special Needs Certified. The purpose of Special Needs Certified is to provide to businesses and other entities the proper training to enable their employees to better understand and better engage those individuals with special needs. This training is accomplished through the review of a series of online videos prepared by professionals. After watching each video, a test is given to ensure that key information has been retained. Once a business or organization has been certified, this information is shared on the Special Needs Certified website.

## **Open Discussion**

**Milton Fire Department Presentation – Deputy Chief Mark Stephens**  
Deputy Chief Stephens provided a detailed overview of the work of the Milton Fire Department. Highlights included:

- There are some 60 fire and administrative personnel in the department.
- In 2014, there were approximately 2,400 calls made by the department.
- The department has as a goal to respond to calls within 6 minutes.
- CPR classes are offered free to the public on the First Saturday of each month.

After Deputy Chief Stephens responded to a number of questions, other officials provided our group with an extensive tour of all the fire equipment, including vehicles, used by the department. It was interesting to note that the equipment is checked and cleaned weekly in order to ensure that all is in order.

**Next Meeting – March 9 – Bethwell Community Center**  
**Special Guest – Jessie Romito – Blaze Sports**