

**Senior Millage Allocation Committee  
Friday March 7, 2014 8:00 a.m.  
Calhoun County Building – Law Library  
315 W Green Street, Marshall, MI 49068**

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**MINUTES**

**Call to Order/Roll Call: Jill Booth at 8:07 a.m. and roll call**

**Roll Call: Auton, Bolton, Booth, Chappell, Clutter, Haadsma, Kale, Kalnins, Moore, Powers**

Staff: Carl Gibson, Brad Wilcox, Cheryl Pierce and Lora Stevens

Guests: Judy Brown, GFAS; Drew Walker, Marshall resident; Joanne Konkle, Albion resident

**Agenda – Ralph Moore and Shirley Clutter: Motion, Second and Approved – *Motion Carried***

**Minutes for February 04y, 2014 – Arlene Bolton and Jane Chappell: Motion, Second and Approved – *Motion Carried***

**Contract Spending 2013 –**

- Spreadsheet shows about 139,000 not spent; this rolls back into the general fund cash reserve. Not sure of the current fund balance, approx. 800,000.
- Moore discussed transportation and commented about AAA no longer providing the service, but Community Action picked up the balance. Gibson commented this sheet is only for our purposes.
- Minor home repair shows only using 2/3 of the money allocated. Gibson believes this is an error and will have it corrected by next meeting.
- Senior Vouchers and Prescription Vouchers are the same thing. Need to get an updated spreadsheet with these things up to date.
- Fountain Clinic has taken a few new patients lately for Dental and glasses. Everyone was encouraged to use these resources for seniors.
- Chairman would like this spread sheet reconciled by next meeting
  
- Currently, Home Delivered and congregate Meals are up 20% because of the good service and food. Other programs in the area are going down in numbers because seniors are change to our program. Issue with outlying towns/villages i.e. Homer because that is the last drop on the route and the food sometimes arrives cold. The Village is working with Senior Health Partners to designate another site than the Community Center, which is too challenging to heat/cool weekly.

**Money Management Experience (Guardian Finance and Advocacy Services - GFAS)**

- **Judy Brown review and discussion.**
- She discussed the challenges for senior managing their own financial situations and she pointed out some the problems they face. Judy cited some examples of seniors in the area that her agency helps. Their money management service is a big help to seniors – they are an advocate for seniors. They look at ways to help with living expenses, medical cost, living cost, legal problems, looking up possible services that would help them, pay bills and balance check books for seniors, review insurance that they might have for their house/care and self, review debts, and come up with a budget. The agency also looks for ways to help them save money and be debt free. The contact debtors and work to get their amount reduced and with a budget paid off. They also help seniors with scams that they might have gotten into.

- Jim Haadsma thanked her for all that her agency does for seniors and wishes more professionals in the area would use this service and send more clients to work there.

### **Introductions and SMAC and**

**Openings:** one vacancy and one opening up in May

JoAnn Konkle from Albion area, desires re-appointment to SMAC after one-year off.

Drew Walker from Marshall works at the state level with aging services

Both would like appointment to the Senior Millage Allocation Committee

**Re-appointments:**

Jill Booth will be starting her 3rd term and would like to remain a member for one more term.

Arlene Bolton needs to be off for a year as she has held a position for three 3-year terms

Jane Chappell, finishing up for another member that left, would like to start a new term.

**Action:**

Konkle and Walker stepped out of the room; discussion held about their possible appointments.

Drew Walker – members voted and approved to fill the vacant position in the Marshall area and will start at next month's meeting.

Joann status will be tabled until next month's meeting, contingent upon her formally re-applying.

### **Marshall Area Senior Fair April 10**

Discussion held on the status and value of the annual event. Interest remains high in a large area of the county and beyond.

### **Albion to Marshall Dial-a-Ride proposal –**

They would like to extend a run Marshall and Albion 6 to 8 times a day.

Planning on a pilot program this summer to determine fixed route options and demand.

Dial-A-Ride applying for state grant and will need matching funds from the area.

### **Mini Grants-** (Review form in process not finished yet)

A Pilot Grant from Forks Senior Center – requesting \$4,600 for Benefits Counseling support, office equipment and space rent.

Consensus: Hold on Mini Grant for Forks Senior Center: request someone to come to the next SMAC meeting to discuss this proposal

Senior Health Partners – asking for a \$350 membership fee for the “Heart of the Villages” project in BC neighborhoods working with each other. (Will have them come in to talk to us at next meeting.) Jim Haadsma recommended SMAC pay this membership fee. **Voted and Approved**

### **Directors Report:** Review by Carl Gibson

Discussion on Senator Nofs State Mandate Land Line Phone proposal – Concern for seniors not changing to this type of phone line and not being educated enough before.


Recommended that Senior Services hold off becoming a collaborative partner with Senior Health Partners until a natural renewal term, possibly October 1.

SMAC discussed the letter from Samantha Pearl of Community Healthcare Connections stating they will end their 3-yr Plan B Health Insurance contract with Senior Millage as of April 30. The balance of the money allocated to them will remain in the Millage fund balance.

Carl has concerns for the new office on the Garden Level because it does not have windows for Senior Services to see Senior as they get off the elevator or from the courtyard ramps, often needing assistance. No confirmed date set for the move in.

**9:34 Motion for adjournment by Powers and Bolton**

**Next Meeting –April 4, 2014**

 <p>Calhoun County Senior Services</p>	<p>ADDITIONAL INFORMATION</p> <p>Questions regarding the minutes may be answered prior to the next Meeting by contacting the Office of Senior Services at 269-781-0846</p>
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