

**Senior Millage Allocation Committee**  
**Friday April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 8:15 a.m.**  
Grace Health,  
181 W. Emmett Street, Battle Creek, Michigan 49037

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**MINUTES**

**Call to Order/Roll Call: Jill Booth at 8:15 a.m. and roll called**

**Roll Call Attending: Rod Auton, Jill Booth, Jim Haadsma, Art Kale, Joanne Konkle, Ralph Moore, Jim Powers and Carla Reynolds.**

**Absent Excused: Mike Bearman, Shirley Clutter, Dianne (Willy) Kalnins and Willie Tabb**

Staff: Carl Gibson, Rodna Stealy and Lora Stevens

Visitors: Linda Grap, Director for Senior Health Partners

Welcome to Carla Reynolds from the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners appointed March, 2015 to be a member of the SMAC board.

**Agenda –Moore and Powers: Motion, Second and Approved - *Motion Carried***

**Minutes for March, 2015 –Moore and Konkle: Motion, Second and Approved - *Motion Carried***

**Citizens Comments: Linda Grap wished everyone a Happy Easter, Happy Spring!**

**Report: Contract Spending**

❖ Discussion

- Report is through February 2015 – 2 months balances.
- Corrections to be made on a few remaining balance columns.
- Reynolds asked who the agency is currently running the Meal program–Senior Services of South West Michigan.
- Gibson is working on summary of year-end report.

**2015 Contract Spending report – Powers and Auton: Motion, Second and Approved - *Motion Carried***

**Old Business:**

❖ Senior Fair

- Stealy reported 80 vendors signed up and paid; no more vendor space available.
- Arlene Bolton former SMAC will be volunteering at booth.
- New signage for fair, expecting a large turn out this year.
- Presentations by retired Judge Harter and Prosecutor David Gilbert.

❖ Forks Senior Center:

- Gibson meeting with their board members to discuss transition issues for a new Center Director.
- Senior Services currently pays 1/3 of their operating costs yearly, with AAA contributing 12%. Forks has grown in a lot of good ways and we can help them grow more, but the County needs assurances with their finances and fundraising events.
- Discussion held on AAA and Millage possible relations with the Forks Senior Center that might assist their administrative and organizational practices.

- Anything done in Albion could set a precedent for a potential senior activity center in Marshall.
- It was again mentioned that a SMAC member should be appointed as ex-officio on their board, as prior authorized.
- It will be up to Forks Senior to determine whether to adopt a partner agency to assist with its stability and governance..
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- Update and more discussion about governing agency for the Forks Center to follow.

**New Business:**

❖ **Fund Balance Committee**

- Gibson – not met yet, meeting will be planned shortly.

❖ **Meals and Whole Person Wellness programs – Senior Health Partners**

- Discussion was held regarding expanding programs.
  - Adding a day in Tekonsha, Albion, Homer, Athens and 2<sup>nd</sup> day in Marshall using local resources.

❖ **Centenarian Luncheon**

- Stevens – June 23<sup>rd</sup> at noon at Schuler’s Restaurant. Update at next meeting.

❖ **Directors Report**

- Possible increased program spending detailed in Director’s Report. Examples include:
- Raising home repair assistance limit. Gibson discussed this fund balance to SMAC and why we could help more as the repairs are costing more.
- Home heating increasing limit; last year \$750.00, is not enough to cover cost to fill a tank of propane/gas.
- Chore services – increasing cap level and looking at increasing budget for this program.
- Congregate meals / AAA going back to 4 days a week meals service. Senior Services Inc. were concerned last year that they would be over budget, but were under budget and want to increase meal services this year, as this is a needed service.

❖ **Grace Health - Tera Wilson, Director of Dental Services**

- Discussed Dental Services that are provided at Grace Health.
- This year they have already helped 75 senior patients through the Senior Millage grant and have been providing services to seniors for 11 years through this grant.
- Grace is open to ALL uninsured people.
- They have 28 dental chairs and areas designed so the family can be together when services are provided.
- Standards state that they don’t pay for heavy dental services; they send them to a private practice, out of town oral surgeon (Muskegon) that takes Medicaid and to U of M. It is hard to find doctors that accept Medicaid as they don’t get their full fees as charged.
- Grace plans to hire 7 more dentists, as they need more as they have extended their hours of services and some moved onto private practice.
- with A benefit in working with an agency like Grace (Medicaid accepting and/or underserved areas) where doctors and other dental assistants can file to have their federal student loans forgiven.

- Grace has expanded their hours last September to 6 days a week 12 hours a day. This allows more patients to be able to receive help. Booking appointments now into September. Currently have a walk-in time from 4 to 6pm daily without appointments and these hours are working for people to get in earlier.
- Currently partnering with U of M to have students come and start working at Grace in May. This will provide more services to the public. Also discussing this program with U of Detroit Dental School to send students.

***Adjournment at 9:20am - Powers and Haadsma: Motion, Second and Approved - Motion Carried  
Tour to follow of Grace Health Dental Facilities.***

**Next SMAC Board meeting – May 1<sup>st</sup>, Friday at 8:00 a.m. at Forks  
Senior Center, 101 N. Albion Street, Albion, MI 49224  
Phone: 517-629-3842**