

Senior Millage Allocation Committee
Friday March 6th, 2015 8:05 a.m.
Calhoun County Garden Level Conference Room
315 West Green Street, Marshall, MI 49068

MINUTES

Call to Order/Roll Call: Jim Haadsma at 8:04 a.m. and roll call

Roll Call Attending: Mike Bearman, Jill Booth, Shirley Clutter, Jim Haadsma, Art Kale, Dianne (Willy) Kalnins, Joanne Konkle, Ralph Moore, Willie Tabb via-teleconference, and Drew Walker.

Absent Excused: Jim Powers

Staff: Carl Gibson, Rodna Stealy and Lora Stevens

Visitors: Linda Grap, Director for Senior Health Partners; Bev Bentley, Citizen; Donna Danes, Advisor/Chronicle, Mary Jo Byrne and Maureen 'Mo' Marshall, Fountain Clinic, Greg Allen and Linda McTague from Talons Out Honor Flight Program of Michigan.

Agenda –Konkle and Kalnins: Motion, Second and Approved - *Motion Carried*

Minutes for February, 2015 –Tabb and Clutter: Motion, Second and Approved - *Motion Carried with Correction* (Correction: Guardian Vote – Jill Booth was the fourth SMAC member to abstain their vote)

Citizens Comments: Carl Gibson introduced all visitors

Report: Contract Spending

❖ Discussion

- 2014 report finished and annual report will be completed soon.
- 2015 format will be changed to be alphabetical by agency name.

2015 Contract Spending report – Moore and Kalnins: Motion, Second and Approved - *Motion Carried*

Talons Out Honor Flight Program of Michigan Check acceptance

- ✓ Linda McTague, retired Air Force (Talons Out board member & military liaison) accepted the \$5,000 mini grant check and thanked the committee; this check will send 10 veterans to War Memorials in Washington D.C.
- ✓ McTague discussed the program – In the summer on a Saturday, they take WWII veterans or Korean War vet that is terminally ill. This program started a few years ago with 22 vets and now it is up to 85 vets going to D.C. War Memorials.
- ✓ Costs s \$500 for each veteran and \$500 for their guardian. Vets must have a guardian who then pays for themselves.
- ✓ Chartered planes - direct same day flight with former military crew members.
- ✓ They have a police or fire department escort around D.C.
- ✓ Welcome celebration is open to the public and it is a big part of this process for them, last trip had over 1,000 people attending.
- ✓ April 25 is the next flight out of Kalamazoo.
- ✓ More information at www.talonsouthonorflight.org

Old Business:

❖ Senior Health Fair -

- Thursday, April 9th, at the Middle School Gymnasium from 10:00am to 1:30pm, free light lunch provided.
- 56 confirmed vendors and 6-8 waiting on payment before confirming.
- 73 vendors last year and more space available this year.
- Retired Judge Harter and County Prosecutor David Gilbert will be giving 30 minute presentations.
- Stealy discussed the changes in the luncheon area and handed out flyers. Clutter and Konkle volunteered to help with booth.

❖ Telephone Reassurance Program (TRP) -

- TRP is currently on Hold.
 - Discussion and public relations issues that need to be address

❖ Forks Senior Center in Albion

- Maureen Reed, Director resigned 2 weeks ago.
- Tom Hunsdorfer is Interim Director; Hunsdorfer does not want a permanent position.
- Barbara Knight is the Financial Advisor and her hours have been increased.
- Updates to follow.

New Business:

❖ Marian E. Burch Day Care

- Requested change in their rate to \$93.44 from \$87.00. This will reduce the number of client days by 71 less a year .They are not asking for an increase of their grant funds and gave assurances that no client will go without services.
- Auton stated national average amount for adult day care is well below this amount, around \$60.00.
- Konkle said that Marian Burch Day Care offer more services then the average day care center, i.e. transportation and meals to list a few.
- Bearman request a break down in services as to how the money is being spent; he will review their contract.

Increase rate in contract to \$93.44 – Booth and Clutter: Motion, Second and Approved - Motion Carried

- Tabb abstained – currently on the Marian Burch board

❖ Partnership with Battle Creek CDBG and AAA

- Centralize intake and coordinator of services for home repair, ramps, and chore services among a number of agencies. This will bring coordination of services together where they might overlap each other.
- BCCF grant request on hold till May for reconsideration; Karla Fales from AAA is handling this.
- Kalnins was surprised to see this grant as she thought this was not a service offered anymore.

Grant initiative in partnership with BC CDBG and AAA – Booth and Kalnins: Motion, Second and Approved - Motion Carried

❖ **Fund Balance – Sub Committee**

- Gibson requesting 2 to 3 SMAC members to work on policy for drawing down the fund balance and come up with more or different services to help seniors in Calhoun County.
- Konkle, Moore and Bearman volunteered to work with Gibson.
- More to follow, no action needed at this time.

❖ **Centenarian Luncheon**

- Stevens report - Scheduled for June 23rd at Schuler's Restaurant – Noon
- Honoring Calhoun County residents 99 years and older.
- 2014 we had 12 Centenarians attending and 10 that were not able to attend with a total of 65 people at the luncheon
- Clutter and Konkle volunteered to work on this event

❖ **SMAC member's status – Reappointments**

- Powers, Tabb and Auton – member terms up for reappointment
- Carla Reynolds as a County Commissioner District 2 (Battle Creek) was appointed to SMAC board at last night BOC meeting.
- Drew Walker gave his resignation as he is in school full time and cannot attend meetings regularly, would like to come back at a later date if a position is open.
- Haadsma accepted Walker's resignation with regret - Effective immediately.
- One seat open, SMAC members encourage to recruit for this position, position will be posted in the news, on County's website and social media.

Reappointments for Rod Auton, Jim Powers and Willie Tabb – Kalnins and Booth:
Motion, Second and Approved - ***Motion Carried***

❖ **Year End Reports**

- Two binder sets of vendor reports are available to SMAC members in the Senior Services office.
- Bearman would like to see townships not just seniors' locations by zip codes as zip codes can cover several townships. Example: Lee Township – 4 seniors served and East Leroy – 7 senior served
- Home delivered meals map was handed out several months ago with this information; Office will continue pursuing meaningful reports.

❖ **Fountain Clinic Dental Services - Mary Jo Byrne and Maureen Marshall**

- Currently helping seniors for dental services at the 200% poverty level. Request to increased income eligibility to 250% for the next 2 years, so they can assist more seniors in need. Dental services are expensive and this will increase the income level an extra \$8,000 per year per person.
- Fountain Clinic is not asking for more money only to raise the standards for intake screening purposes. This will not be publicized, used for internal intake purposes.
- Marshall described the intake process and many seniors are just over so they were declined. Medicaid does cover dental services; these seniors are not eligible.
- Example: to remove teeth could be up to \$4,000 and then dentures are approximately \$1,800. One gentleman who got dentures, at the age of 60, described life as this is the way it is supposed to be and life is so much better.

Change standard for intake purposes from 200% to 250% of poverty level for the next two years – Booth and Bearman: Motion, Second and Approved - ***Motion Carried***

2nd Baptist Church in Battle Creek services lunches and money has been a problem for volunteers for gas. They would like to cost share for the volunteer van drivers to take them to the lunch site and provide gas funds. Gibson approved this mini grant for \$1,000.

Jill Booth discussed the vacant SMAC seat. Gibson this will be posted in newsletters, website and social media. SMAC members are encouraged to recruit for this position.

Mike Bearman invited everyone to the Bohm Theater in Albion on the main street for a free concert at 7:30pm tonight, big band music from the 1930s & 1940s. Swinging at the Shell! They will be having more inside at the Bohm until this summer then the concerts will be held in Victory Park

Adjournment at 9:47 a.m. - Moore and Walker: Motion, Second and Approved - Motion Carried

Next SMAC Board meeting – April 3th, Friday at 8:00 a.m. at Grace Health (181 W. Emmett St, Battle Creek, MI) **in their Park Hill Conference Room (2nd floor)**. Please park in the patient parking lot as close to Washington Street as you can. Take the elevator or stairs to the 2nd level and the desk person will direct you to the Conference Room.