

Senior Millage Allocation Committee
Friday September 4, 2015 8:00 a.m.
Calhoun County Garden Level Conference Room
315 West Green Street, Marshall, MI 49068

MINUTES

Call to Order/Roll Call: Jill Booth at 8:03 a.m. and Roll Called

Attending: Rod Auton, Jill Booth, Jim Haadsma, Art Kale, Dianne (Willy) Kalnins, Joanne Konkle, Ralph Moore, Jim Powers, Carla Reynolds, Teresa Schell and Willie Tabb

Absent Excused: Mike Bearman and Shirley Clutter

Staff: Carl Gibson, Rodna Stealy and Lora Stevens

Visitors: Linda Grap - Senior Health Partners; Gina Costa - Forks Senior Center (FSC)

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

Minutes for August, 2015 – Moore and Powers: Motion, Second and Approved - *Motion Carried*
(Correction: Willy Tabb abstained from ME Burch Day Care vote)

Carl Gibson introduced Linda Grap and Gina Costa

Citizens Time: None

Report: Contract Spending

- Numbers are through the end of August
- Community Health Care Connections – Rx Vouchers program funds have been drawn on more heavily than expected this year. CHC is often the resource of last resort.
- Gibson will follow up with Community Health Care Connections on their current funds to make adjustments for the next few months and not over spend 2015 grant funds.

Motion to Approve: Auton and Moore: Motion, Second and Approved - *Motion Carried*

Old Business:

❖ **SMAC By-Laws**

- Review committee – Konkle, Tabb and Booth
- Work on ½ for next month review and rest for November review
- Completed full review in November and send to Calhoun County Board of Commissioners for approval in December, implement January 1, 2016

Motion to Approve: Auton and Moore: Motion, Second and Approved - *Motion Carried*

New Business:

❖ **Fork Senior Center (FSC) Update**

- Tabb reported the excitement and positive comfort level of the current FSC board
- Strategic Planning meeting is being set up
- Costa has met with focus groups and discussed their visions the future development
- Currently updating policies and procedures
- Working with Albion College students to come in, volunteer to help seniors in the health and fitness center
- 10th Anniversary celebration next week – SMAC members invited
- Konkle would like to see transportation from Marshall to Albion and get more people involved, 18% of the people in Marshall are over age 60.

- Gibson has written an article that will be in the newspapers soon about the value of senior centers, Marshall center being the main topic
- ❖ **Calhoun County Year End Budget Proposal**
 - Discussion (spread sheet) Senior Services 2016 budget proposal to the County. Copies of the detailed budget were distributed for review. The proposed budget was planned to pull up to \$184,000 from the Fund Balance.
- ❖ **Guardian Report**
 - Request change in income level and asset level to serve more seniors, they are financial conservators for low income seniors and is the Court agency of choice.
 - Powers, served as interim CEO a few years ago and gave insight that they help many seniors with a fee based on services, no interest or service charges.
 - Eligibility is currently below the Medicaid limits.
 - Guardians' fiscal year starts October 1, 2015.
 - Up to \$31,000 additional grant may be requested if the asset is broadened widely.

Motion to table till next year-2016 and after SMAC fund balance review committee's evaluation: Konkle and Powers: Motion, Second and Approved – *Motion Carried*
- ❖ **Meals on Wheels**
 - Kalnins commented on meeting held at Burnham Brook and was served the same meal that they serve to their clients, amazed and recommends the meals that are all made from scratch and fresh food in a super clean kitchen.
 - Haadsma strongly suggested that all committee members ride along on a meal delivery and see how much the meal and the conversations help the seniors.
- ❖ **Telephone Reassurance Program**
 - Planning is on hold due to the increasing need for a Marshall Senior Center project
 - Grap - United Methodist Church in Battle Creek started their program this spring and suggested that we see how their program works and if the need is there for the County. Older people don't answer the phone anymore because of the scams and they are not seeing a big need, but that may change. In the future when you start a senior center that could be the call center.
- ❖ **Dental Services Evaluation** (Kalnins will review Dental RFQ with Gibson)
 - RFQ has been posted and will give update at next meeting.
- ❖ **Senior Services of SWMi**
 - Proposed expansion for services to seniors – Safety Programs for 2016
 - SMAC agreed not to fund increase now and discuss vendor FY2016 Safety Initiative later.
- ❖ **MMAP Program**
 - Congress has proposed a 42% decrease in MMAP (SHIP) funding.
 - More to come if this is passed, possible reduction in staff in around the state and reduce help for seniors that really need this program.
- ❖ **Marshall Lions Club**
 - Mini-Grant Request for \$2,200 grant to help low income senior's pay for Dial-A-Ride one day per month for medical, grocery and other services – in Marshall service area.
 - Lions Club had documentation for 2014 and 2015 for these costs.

Motion to approve \$2,200 for low income seniors travel costs: Booth and Powers: Motion, Second and Approved – *Motion Carried*

❖ **Grace Health**

- \$2,000 maybe requested to carry them through the end of the year. This is estimated the same amount that they underspend in 2014 and had asked to carry it over, but we do not carry funds from year to year.
- Kalnins talked about Grace Health using U of M students to do dental work, this is a new program with great potential.
- Willy Kalnins abstained from voting

Motion to approve an additional \$2,000 for dental services at the discretion of the Director: Booth and Auton: Motion, Second and Approved – *Motion Carried*

Gibson, Grap and Stevens rode along with SMAC Bearman to Clarence and Albion Township meetings on August 10. Senior Health Partners are looking at starting a health and wellness program in Clarence.

SEMCO is taking applications at Firekeepers for Home Heating Assistance – Discussion on allowing CA vans to take seniors for assistance application.

Miles for Memories September 19th in Battle Creek - Stealy has been very involved in its planning.

Educational Video played for SMAC discussing senior’s future life style – Ken Dychtwald
www.youtube.com/watch?v=JYKhIsCN8Dc&list=PLt0eNli5HMj0NvQK3B_EhqQXsuPGe5a6R&index=3

Adjournment at 9:18 a.m. - Kale and Konkle: Motion, Second and Approved - *Motion Carried*

Next SMAC Board meeting – October 2nd, Friday at 8:00 a.m. at Calhoun County Building Garden Level Conference Room



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Questions regarding the minutes may be answered prior to the next meeting by contacting Calhoun County the Office of Senior Services at 269-781-0846