

Senior Millage Allocation Committee (SMAC)

Friday, January 20, 2017 8:00 a.m.

Calhoun County Garden Conference Room,
315 W. Green Street, Marshall, MI 49068

MINUTES

Call to Order/Roll Call: Vice-Chair Jill Booth at 8:08 a.m. and Roll Called

Attending: Rod Auton, Jill Booth, Art Kale, Dianne (Willy) Kalnins, Joanne Konkle, Richard Lindsey (8:25 from Albion Chamber Meeting), Ralph Moore, Vic Potter, Jim Powers, Teresa Schell, Willie Tabb (Via Skype), and Gary Tompkins (8:20 from Albion Chamber Meeting)

Absent Excused: None

Vice-Chair Jill Booth turned the Chair over to Commissioner Vic Potter appointed SMAC Chairman by the Calhoun County Board of Commissioners at Thursday, January 19, 2017 meeting

County Personnel: Brad Wilcox – County Assistant Administrator; Carl Gibson, Director and staff: Rodna Stealy and Lora Stevens; Michele Johnson, Finance Director; Jen Bomba, Community Development Director.

Visitors: Luann Sommers, Forks Senior Center; Linda Grap, Senior Health Partners; Katherine Lipari, Aetna Better Health Transportation Services; Karla Fales, CareWell Services; Charles Asher and Michelle Williams-CEO, Community Action (CA); Alexandria Lueth, CEO-CentraCare; Dan Pontius, Senior Services of SWMi Inc.

Agenda for January 20, 2017:

Motion to accept Agenda – Powers and Konkle: Motion, Second and Approved - *Motion Carried*

Minutes for December 2, 2016:

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

Introduction: Katherine Lipari – Aetna Better Health – Non-Emergency Transportation Program for Medicaid clients that have Aetna Better Health coverage and Jen Bomba, Calhoun County New Community Development Director.

New Business: Community Development (CD) Staffing Organizational Plan

- ✓ Brad Wilcox presented his history with Senior Services Millage and discussed his vision for the staffing plan. He is looking forward to working with Art Kale and Joanne Konkle and Commissioners Potter and Tompkins to review and come with a plan for a new Director for Senior Services.
- ✓ The SMAC members each in turn discuss their opinions about the new organization chart and general consensus is that they do not agree with the new organizational plan. The Senior Millage is approximately a 2.5 Million dollar millage and stressed that this department should be managed by one person as this is citizens money.
- ✓ This director position should be in Marshall and work for the whole County, not a general area.
- ✓ Cross training between Senior Services and Veteran Affairs departments that have millages is a good suggestion as they do cover some of the same services and could refer more seniors to each other departments.
- ✓ Commissioners Potter and Tompkins are new to SMAC committee and that they stated they will work with the SMAC and the County Administrative staff to come up with a reasonable solution taking in everyone viewpoint.

Contract Spending/Budget Report:

- ✓ Through end of 2016

Motion to accept Agenda – Booth and Kalnins: Motion, Second and Approved - *Motion Carried*

Old Business:

- ✓ **Senior Center Update – Kara Fales, CareWell Services**
 - Lease agreement with Oaklawn has been finalized
 - Interim staff from CareWell is Kitty Knolls, she will start as Center’s Director
 - 4 to 5 programs are ready to be started; Oaklawn will also provide programs
 - Goal is sometime April to opening the center to the public – Open house
 - In future possible a Congregate Meals site at the Center

New Business (Continued): Meal update and Billing Invoices:

- ✓ Kara Fales, CareWell Services and Dan Pontius, Senior Services of SWMi presented; Both fiscal calendars are up in September and Calhoun County’s is December.
- ✓ Discussing about the waiting list for home delivered meals (HDM) and not spending SMAC funding. (75% HDM and 25% Congregate meals.)
- ✓ Wait list criteria - seniors are reviewed with a system that goes up to 14 and 14 being the highest and immediate concern for meals. Seniors that are on the wait list are 6 and under, not high risk. There are currently 30 people on the wait list.
- ✓ Fales discussed using Federal and State dollars first and SMAC last, that makes the invoicing in the last of our quarters. Federal ‘Continual Resolution’ which could stop all money coming in. Millage funding is to fill gaps and to spend Federal and state first.
- ✓ Hard for Senior Millage to balance books for this account. CareWell has just sent an invoice (January 10) for approx. \$12,000.

Mini Grants:

- ✓ **CentraCare** – Alex Lueth discussed the request for an additional \$20,000 for a Caregiver Respite Program. CentraCare is now open from 8 to 5 for Dual eligible people only. The need is for outside this time frame to help prevent “Burn Out” of caregivers. Looking at opening the program at its Kool Family Center offices – proposed use of Center for 2 nights a week and a Saturday a month to help Caregivers that have family that is not necessary dual eligible and need time away. The cost would be \$65.00 for 4 hours plus transportation and looking to serve 12 people at a time. The full amount needed for this program is \$60,000 to run it a full year. They eventually would like this to become a self-funded program with a sliding scale or maybe in the future insurance companies will pay for this service.
- ✓ Discussion on how to reach the surrounding townships about this program. Linda Grap from Senior Health Partners discussed their publications that reach all townships. SHP have over 300 family care givers that connect with them on regular basis and through their newsletters they can reach people that are not dual or qualify for waiver programs. This Caregiver Respite program was tested over the holidays this year and in January; it is very much needed.

Motion to grant CentraCare and \$20,000 for Respite Care for Caregivers outside the PAS program – Lindsey and Powers: Motion, Second and Approved - *Motion Carried (Auton - Abstained because of his relationship with CentraCare).*

- ✓ **Community Action - \$50,000 additional request for transportation** – Michelle Williamson, CEO and Charles Asher handed out a needs assessment for Calhoun County. Federal minimum wage has increased to \$8.90 for 2017 and to \$9.95 for 2018. Staff cost will increase and vehicle repairs because of the troubled roads will increase. CA had to shut down routes in December because they ran out of funding. Currently they have 8 regular routes and the 9th one is for special events with donations asked for. Calhoun County Senior Millage is charged \$16.50 one way and if a donation is received they will reduce our billing by that amount, this helps the grant go farther.

There has been a wait list - 130 seniors in January, but typically 60 a month. These additional funds will reduce the wait list. Albion Center for Dialysis currently has 3 people a week at 3 times a week is being added. Door to Door service is being discussed which will need more staff training. Albion/Connector will end as of September and they served all ages. CA only serves seniors by appointment.

Motion to Amendment Community Action's contract to add an additional \$50,000 (plus \$10,000 from CareWell contract) will be sent to the BOC for approval – Konkle and Tabb: Motion, Second and Approved - *Motion Carried*

- ✓ **Miles for Memories Request for \$4,765** – Bracelet with a chip for Identification to the Help Home program. This chip will tell the Officers who they are and where they live.

Motion to accept grant request for Miles for Memories Bracelet and Chip for Help Home Program – Lindsey and Auton: Motion, Second and Approved - *Motion Carried*

- ✓ **Hands On-211 grant renewal of \$10,000 for 2017**
- ✓ **Fountain Clinic RX Vouchers and PDAP request of \$18,000 for 2017**

Motion to accept Hands On-211- \$10,000 and Fountain Clinic RX Vouchers and PDAP - \$18,500 request – Booth and Powers: Motion, Second and Approved - *Motion Carried*

- ✓ **Countywide Transit Plan Request for \$5,000** – the total grant request is for \$175,000 and they will receive \$140,000 from MDOT and only need to match 20% = \$35,000. The goal is to hire a consultant to help with the plan. Many other agencies are being asked to help with this match. At its Jan 13th meeting the SMAC agreed to support the \$5,000 amount even though the first request had been for \$1,000.

Motion to grant up to \$20,000 to fill in amount that is needed – Lindsey and Powers: Motion, Second and Roll Call Vote - 9 NO and 2 Yes - *Motion Not Passed*

Motion to grant \$5,000 for the Countywide Transit Plan – Kale and Auton: Motion, Second and Approved - *Motion Carried*

Future Events – All Vendor Meeting will be schedule when new director transition plan is in place.

Senior Fair is scheduled for Thursday April 6 at the Marshall Middle School from 10:00am to 1:30 pm.

Next SMAC meeting has been changed to February 10, 2017 by member consensus

Adjourned 10:00pm

Next SMAC Board meeting – February 10, 2017, Friday - 8:00 a.m. in the 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