

Senior Millage Allocation Committee
Friday, September 7, 2018 8:00 am – 9:30 am
Heritage Commons Senior Enrichment Center
13444 Preston Drive, Marshall MI 49068

MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll Call: Chair Vic Potter at 8:04 am. Roll called.

Attending: Jill Booth, Tom Hunsdorfer, Michelle Hill, Art Kale, Dianne (Willy) Kalnins, Vic Potter, Jim Powers, Richard Lindsey, Teresa Schell, Gary Tompkins, and Willie Tabb

Absent Excused: Rod Auton, Jason Rapele

County Personnel: Helen Guzzo, Senior Service Manager; Rodna Stealy and Lora Stevens, Senior Services staff;
Brad Wilcox, Assistant County Administrator

Visitors: Luann Sommers, Director, Forks Senior Center; Karla Fales, CEO CareWell Services, Karen Courtney, Regional Coordinator, MMAP; Kitty Knoll, Coordinator, Heritage Commons Senior Enrichment Center

2. Approval of Agenda for September 7, 2018:

Motion to accept agenda - Booth & Tompkins: Motion, Second and Approved. ***Motion Carried.***

3. Approval of Minutes for August 4, 2018:

Motion to accept minutes – Booth & Powers: Motion, Second and Approved. ***Motion Carried.***

4. Introductions and Citizens Comment: Anna Westfall, Vista worker Forks Senior Center.

5. Vendor Presentations:

- a. **Heritage Commons Senior Enrichment Center:** Karla Fales, CEO, discussed the many programs offered at Heritage Commons, and the number of people who are attending programs. Fales also told members that CareWell has purchased a new electronic membership sign-in system to be used at Heritage Commons and the Forks Senior Center in Albion to make tracking attendance and volunteer hours easier. Fales stated that the Senior Center is out growing the space and noted that it will be necessary to begin thinking about future needs.
- b. **Benefits Counseling:** Karen Courtney, MMAP Regional Manager reported 611 clients have been served since January. Of those, 325 are over age 65. Counselors have spent over 500 hours counseling so far this year. Barb Barnes has contributed 54 hours of outreach so far this year, and Micki Olgibee, counselor at Forks Senior Center, has provided more than 329 hours with clients to date in 2018.
Documented saving to clients in 2017 was \$1,359,225. In 2018, year to date saving is \$772,961 before Open Enrollment starts. Senior Millage brochures are provided to all MMAP clients.

6. **Proposed 2019 Senior Millage Budget:** Guzzo presented the proposed budget for 2019. Motion to Approve, with second by Booth & Powers. **Motion Carried.**

7. **New Business:**

- a. Service Standard Revision - Transportation: Proposal to change *door-to-door* to *curb-to-curb* service. Motion to approve and Second, Kalnins & Booth. Discussion. Motion withdrawn by Kalnins & Booth. **Motion Tabled.** Members request investigation and further discuss with provider. Door-to-door means assistance provided for those seniors who need help opening and closing the door to their house or other help down stairs or over thresholds. Community Action will address these concerns at their RFP presentation.
- b. Service Standard Revision - Personal Emergency Response System: Change standard to include provider checking to make sure that client is not served by a program that includes a service for a Personal Emergency Response unit among other changes discussed with CareWell Services at their 2018 PERS Program Assessment. Motion to approve and second, Hunsdorfer & Powers. Discussion of changes. **Motion Carried.**
- c. 2019 SMAC Meeting Calendar: Motion and second to approve, Thompkins & Lindsey. **Motion Carried.**
- d. Prescription Co-Pays: Fountain Clinic is underspent in their Prescription Assistance Program. They are requesting that they be allowed to help clients with their co-pays. Discussion about pros and cons. Tabled for more information and research
- e. Bed Bugs - Should Senior Millage dollars be used to help low-income senior homeowners who have been refused homecare or other services because of bedbug infestations? Treatment is \$1,200 to \$2,000 per household. Marian Burch has to tell two seniors that cannot come back for Adult Day Care until they can show proof of treatment and be certified as bud bug free. CareWell Services had a case where an elderly headed family could not afford prescriptions or food because of purchasing bed bug treatment on an installment loan. Senior Services in partnership with CareWell Services is organizing a bed bug education session on Oct. 24 at 3pm. The Office is also working with the Health Dept. to determine the best way forward.

8. Reports

- a. Requests for Proposals notebooks distributed to sub-committee members: Auton, Hunsdorfer, Potter, Schell and Tabb.
- b. 2018 Contract Spending – see written report. Low spending in certain programs was highlighted.
- c. Manager’s Report — see written report, highlights presented by Guzzo

9. Next SMAC Meeting: **Friday, October 5**, Calhoun County Building, Lower Level Conference Room

10. **Upcoming Events:**

- **Miles for Memories Community Stroll**, Downtown Battle Creek, **Sat., Sept. 15**, 10am
- **Parkinson’s Walk**, Binder Park Zoo, Battle Creek, **Sat, Sept. 22**, 10am Reg., 11:30am walk
- **Caregiver Retreat**, First Congregational Church, Battle Creek, **Wed., Sept. 26**, 10am-2pm
- **Homeless Health Fair & VA Stand Down**, Full Blast, Battle Creek, **Fri., Oct. 19**, 9am-1pm

11. Adjournment called by Chairman, Vic Potter, 9:15am

Respectfully submitted, Rodna Stealy