

Senior Millage Allocation Committee

Friday, April 5, 2019 8:00 am – 9:30 am
Calhoun County Building, 315 W. Green Street, Marshall, Michigan 49068

MINUTES

1. **SMAC meeting called to order by Chairperson Gary Tompkins at 8:00am. Roll called.**
 - a. **Attending:** Teresa Schell via conference call (left at 9am), Willie Tabb via video call, Gary Tompkins, Michelle Hill, Rod Auton, Diane Peters, Willy Kalnins, Tom Hunsdorfer, Jill Booth, Jim Powers, Art Kale (arrived at 8:05am)
 - b. **Absent:** Richard Lindsey, Rochelle Hatcher
2. **Introductions and Citizen's Comments:** LuAnn Sommers, Forks Senior Center; Kristyn Denison, Neighborhoods Inc.; Chuck Asher, Community Action; Michelle Williamson, Community Action; Linda Grap, Senior Health Partners
3. **Approval of Agenda for April 5, 2019**
 - a. Motion to accept agenda – Powers & Hill: Motion, Second and Approved. **Motion carried.**
4. **Approval of Minutes for March 1, 2019**
 - a. Motion to accept minutes – Kalnins & Tabb: Motion, Second and Approved. **Motion carried.**

5. **Vendor Presentation: Community Action**

Presentation made by Michelle Williamson, CEO, and Chuck Asher, Director of Programming. Community Action is dedicated to helping people achieve and maintain independence throughout the entire lifespan. Their current senior millage programs are Senior Transportation, Minor Home Repair, and Home Heating Assistance. Transportation is given priority in the following order: medical, employment, nutrition, professional services, and then recreation. They also host transportation to special events each year for senior housing complexes and other groups of seniors.

On average, Senior Transportation serves 600 people a year, which equated to more than 29,000 rides in 2018. Two major issues facing Senior Transportation is the increasing cost of van repairs due to poor road conditions, and being confined to the County.

For the Home Heating Assistance, please be aware that changes in how the State of Michigan administers other utility assistance have affected Community Action's ability to help seniors with other utility assistance funds. The state is now administering utility assistance through the Dept. of Health & Human Services instead of through community based organizations and requiring application to State Emergency Relief through an electronic application.

Minor Home Repair is currently working to refine the process to select contractors, which they are hoping will expedite the process of getting jobs done.

Other senior programs that Community Action administers for which it does not receive Senior Millage funding are Federal Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP) and the Foster Grandparents program. Outside of senior programming, Community Action is also responsible for

Calhoun County Senior Services Mission:

Enhance, promote, and ensure the availability of needed quality services for Calhoun County seniors through the effective and efficient allocation of County Senior Millage resources.

Head Start, Early Head Start, the Lead Safe program, weatherization, emergency assistance, financial empowerment, a GED program, and The Emergency Food Assistance Program (TEFAP) for low-income Americans including the elderly.

6. SMAC Strategic Planning Follow-Up

Members were pleased with the March 22 session at Oaklawn. Two subcommittees will be formed at the May SMAC meeting, so think about which one you want to volunteer - A fund balance Subcommittee and a Say Yes to Seniors Senior Millage Campaign 2020. The Say Yes to Seniors Campaign will meet after the May 3 SMAC meeting.

7. Reports

- a. **2019 Contract Spending** – See the Contract Spending Report for March 31, 2019
- b. **Manager's Report**
 - Guzzo gave recommendations for New Business items
 - Explains individual emergency funding that Senior Services did through Misc. Operations in the Administrative budget
 - details a plan in the works for a hearing and vision expansion in Albion
 - forecasts that a mini-grant application might be made for a strategic plan for the Albion Recreation
 - Marian Burch Adult Day Care will attend the May meeting to ask for \$23,000 in supplemental funding for adult day care
 - PERS is currently maintaining a wait list, will need \$10,000 in supplemental funding to eliminate the wait list
 - Community Care Options is at capacity and will ask for supplemental funding at a later meeting.
- c. **10th Annual Senior Fair**, tabled.
- d. **Commodity Distribution at Westbrook Place**, tabled.

8. New Business

- a. **Supplemental funding Request, *Community Action Senior Minor Repair - \$292,500 to eliminate the waiting list***
Guzzo supports. This amount would come out of the fund balance as one-time funding to be spent within a year, and would need to be approved by the Board of Commissioners. **Booth & Powers, Motion & Second. Roll call vote taken. Approved 10-0, with 3 absent.**
- b. **Bed Bug Minimum Service Standard – Voice vote to table until May 3 due to lack of time remaining in meeting.** Auton & Hill, Motion & Second to table. Voice vote taken. Approved 10-0, with 3 absent.
- c. **Mini-grant application: *Marshall House Exercise Equipment - \$5,000 – Voice vote to table until May 3 due to lack of time remaining in meeting.***
Auton & Hill, Motion & Second to table. Voice vote taken. Approved 10-0, with 3 absent.
- d. **Mini-grant application: *Neighborhoods, Inc. Housing Assistance Programming - \$5,000***
Guzzo supports. Presentation by Kristyn Denison, Program Coordinator and COO, Neighborhoods, Inc. Funding would to support applications to the Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis housing rehab programs for senior residents of Calhoun County. **Kale & Kalnins, Motion & Second. Roll call vote taken. Approved 10-0, with 3 absent.**

9. Upcoming Events:

- Friday, May 3, 8:00am, **SMAC Meeting**, Marshall County Building
- Monday, May 6, 4pm, **CareWell Services State Funding Plan Public Hearing**, Kool Family Community Center, Battle Creek
- Wednesday, May 15, **Older Michiganians Day**, Lansing, MI
- Thursday, May 23, 11:30am, **Centenarian Luncheon**, Schuler's in Marshall
- Thursday, August 8, **Senior Day at the Ball Park**, CO Brown Stadium, Battle Creek
- Wednesday, August 14, **Senior Day at the Calhoun County Fair**, Marshall

10. Adjournment: Chairperson Gary Tompkins, 9:52am.

Respectfully submitted, Kate Rozeveld