

# Senior Millage Allocation Committee

Friday, May 3, 2019 8:00 am – 10:00 am  
Calhoun County Building, 315 W. Green Street, Marshall, Michigan 49068

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## MINUTES

1. **SMAC meeting called to order by Chairperson Gary Tompkins at 7:59am. Roll called.**
  - a) **Attending:** Tom Hunsdorfer (left at 10am), Diane Peters, Gary Tompkins, Jim Powers, Jill Booth, Richard Lindsey, Michelle Hill, Rod Auton, Willy Kalnins, Willie Tabb via Skype, Art Kale, Teresa Schell (came at 8:10am)
  - b) **Absent:** Rochelle Hatcher
2. **Introductions and Citizen's Comments:** Carl Gibson, Wilder Creek Conservation Club; Jack Reed, Heritage Commons Steering Committee; Kitty Knoll, Heritage Commons; Mary Frisby, Marian Burch Adult Day Care; Luann Sommers, Forks Senior Center; Amy Reimann, Oaklawn Hospital; Linda Grap, Senior Health Partners; Mary Jo Byrne, Fountain Clinic; Emma & Earl Bisel, Jill Simpson, Joe Bonato, Heritage Commons members; Trisha Franzen, Albion Community Gardens; Jen Bomba, Calhoun County Community Development  
Jack Reed – Voiced support for funding for Preston Drive going into Heritage Commons  
Jill Simpson – Voiced support for funding for Preston Drive going into Heritage Commons  
Emma Bisall, Kitty Knoll & Joe Benauto – All spoke in support of Senior Millage funding for Preston Dr.
3. **Approval of Agenda**
  - a) Motion to accept agenda – Kalnins & Aution: Motion, Second and Approved. **Motion carried.**
4. **Approval of Minutes for April 5, 2019**
  - a) Motion to accept minutes – Booth & Lindsey: Motion, Second and Approved. **Motion carried.**
5. **Vendor Presentation: Fountain Clinic**

Given by Mary Jo Byrne, Executive Director. The dental program has served 127 seniors and has spent \$96,000 so far this year, 2019. Mary Jo expects bigger bills to come towards the end of the year, so the program is on track with spending.

Prescriptions assistance has served 15 seniors and spent almost \$5,000 in 2019, and the bigger bills will also come towards the end of the year for this program as seniors start to fall into the donut hole. The Fountain Clinic met with Luxcare Pharmarcy in Battle Creek to talk about Luxcare becoming a partner for their prescription assistance program and they are coming on board! Luxcare is joining Hemmingsen Drug Store in Marshall, Young's in Albion, and a pharmacy in Athens, as partners.  
Also new, the Fountain Clinic has begun to expand their services to Albion by hosting office hours in Oaklawn's new clinic one Friday morning a month.

Mary Jo also reminded everyone that Mo can help people get signed up for Medicaid, and the Fountain Clinic does free blood pressures and blood sugars on the first Friday of every month. This service is open to everyone, and done because the top two health issues in this area are diabetes and hypertension. As far as new trends, the individual mandate was lifted, which means there is no longer a tax penalty to encourage people to get health insurance. The Clinic is starting to see an uptick in new patients, and they are thinking this is why.

### **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.*

## 6. Reports

- a. **2019 Contract Spending** – See the Contract Spending Report for April 30, 2019
- b. **Manager's Report**
  - a. The Board of Commissioners approved a resolution making May Older Americans Month; recognizing May 15 as Older Americans Day, inviting those interested to take part in a rally at the Capitol in Lansing; and setting May 23<sup>rd</sup> as Calhoun County's Centenarians Day, which will be celebrated with a luncheon at Schuler's Restaurant in Marshall.
- c. **May 23 Centenarian Luncheon at Schuler's**
  - a. Invites have been sent out, and people are starting to call to RSVP. Lora has identified at least 50 so far, but obviously not all will come. This year we will be stricter about guests can only attend IF their centenarian is also in attendance, and only the centenarian and one guest eat for free. Everyone must pay \$16 ahead of time. SMAC members are more than welcome to attend, Thursday, May 23 at 11:30am at Schuler's Restaurant.
- d. **Commodity Distribution at Westbrook Place**
  - a. Kate is meeting with Greg Casterline, who will be picking up and delivering the food, and Starr Commonwealth volunteers, who will be unloading and setting up the food, at Westbrook Place to do a walkthrough of the building and go over expectations for the May 13 distribution. The eventual goal is to bring commodity distribution to all the affordable senior housing complexes in the County.

## 7. New Business

- a) **Mini-grant Application: Oaklawn, Preston Drive for Heritage Commons - \$5,000**

Guzzo supports. Preston Drive is an obstacle for our seniors who would like to attend Heritage Commons, and this goes along with the Millage mission of promoting safety and independence. The total cost of the project is estimated at \$63,231, of which the County will pay \$18,969, and Oaklawn has agreed to pay \$15,000. The remaining cost will be split among the five other property owners when Marshall Township decides to assess them. It is estimated they will each pay an additional \$1,200 in taxes each year for the next five years. By Senior Millage approving a mini grant of \$5,000, this will help lower the cost burden on the five other owners. It was agreed that this is ultimately a safety and access issue, and similar grey-area decisions were made regarding the Forks Senior Center in Albion several years ago. Heritage Commons becoming a 501c3 organization was also discussed at length. **Kale & Hunsdorfer, Motion & Second. Roll call vote taken. Approved 8-3, with one absent and one abstaining.**
- b) **Move June SMAC meeting from 6/7 to 5/31**

June 7<sup>th</sup> is the Legislative Breakfast that many members attend, so it was decided to move the meeting forward a week to avoid any schedule conflicts. **Hunsdorfer & Lindsey, Motion & Second. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.**
- c) **Bed Bug Minimum Service Standard**

Bed bugs are a persistent program among seniors, especially low-income senior home owners. Many seniors let the infestations get out of hand, and are eventually turned away from services because of the infestation. By approving a minimum service standard, the next step will be to issue an RFP in July. This RFP will include a public education piece with the Health Department. **Auton & Powers, Motion & Second. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.**
- d) **SMAC Strategic Plan follow-up**

Lindsey, Tabb, Peters & Tompkins (with Kale as an alternate) volunteered and were approved.  
**Lindsey & Auton, Motion & Second. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.**

**e) Create a volunteer leadership category for the Joanne Konkle Senior Services Achievement Award**  
While deciding awardees for 2019, the subcommittee felt strongly that two awards should be created, one for professional leadership and another for sustained volunteerism, which would be awarded at the discretion of future subcommittees. **Lindsey & Auton, Motion & Second. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.**

**f) Affirm the nominees for the Joanne Konkle Senior Services Achievement Award**  
For professional leadership, Jane Chappell, RN, nominated by Linda Grap, Director of Senior Health Partners. For sustained volunteerism, Micki Ogilbee, nominated by the Forks Senior Center. **Booth & Auton, Motion & Second. Voice vote taken. Motion carried.**

**g) Supplemental funding request, *Marian Burch Adult Day Care* - \$23,000**  
Guzzo supports. MBADC is short on funding for seniors who make more than 125% of the federal poverty level, but less than 200%. The MBADC 501c3 did approve an additional \$2,000 a month in funding, but that money only applies to persons who make less than 125% the federal poverty level. **Lindsey & Auton, Motion & Second. Roll call vote taken. Approved 11-0, one abstaining, one absent.**

**h) Mini-grant application, *Marshall House Exercise Equipment* - \$5,000**  
Guzzo does not support. This is not a countywide effort and will only be available to seniors living at Marshall House. Senior Millage cannot afford to buy exercise equipment for every senior living complex in the County. Conversation was had on additional funding that Marshall House could be directed to, and whether or not this might be a good way to use some of the fund balance. Auton & Kalnins motioned to open a neutral discussion, but withdrew motion once it was decided that the Committee was not ready to take action on this item yet.

**i) Mini-grant application, *Albion Community Gardens* - \$5,000**  
Guzzo supports. SMAC approved a mini-grant for the gardens last year and now they would like more funding to expand the programming of paid staff. This is an excellent intergenerational program, and the fresh produce grown is given freely to residents in Albion and Homer. **Lindsey & Kalnins, Motion & Second. Roll call vote taken. Approved 11-0, with one abstaining.**

**j) Mini-grant application, *Senior Day at Wilder Creek Conservation Club* - \$500**  
Guzzo supports. This is a perfect special event for Senior Millage to be involved in. The public is welcome to attend. **Lindsey & Kalnins, Motion & Second. Roll call vote taken. Approved 11-0.**

#### **8. Upcoming Events:**

- **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**

#### **9. Adjournment: Chairperson Gary Tompkins, 10:02am.**

Respectfully submitted, Kate Rozeveld