

Senior Millage Allocation Committee

Friday, February 7, 2020 8:00 am – 9:30 am
Senior Health Partners, 28 Penn Street, Battle Creek

MINUTES

1. **SMAC meeting called to order by Chairperson Gary Tompkins at 8:01am. Roll called.**
 - **Attending:** Gary Tompkins, Yvonne Chapman, Teresa Schell, Bob Lyng, Diane Peters, Jill Booth, Michelle Power, Jim Powers
 - **Absent:** Rochelle Hatcher
 - **Excused:** Tom Hunsdorfer, Richard Lindsey, Art Kale, Willie Tabb
2. **Approval of Agenda**
 - Motion to accept agenda – Hill & Lyng: Motion, Second. Motion carried. Voice vote.
3. **Approval of the minutes of the Dec. 6, 2019 SMAC meeting**
 - Motion to accept minutes – Booth & Hill: Motion, Second. Motion carried. Voice vote.
4. **Approval of the minutes of the Jan. 3, 2020 Special Meeting**
 - Motion to accept minutes – Lyng & Booth: Motion, Second. Motion carried. Voice vote.
5. **Introductions and Citizen's Comments**
 - Introductions: Linda Grap, Director of Senior Health Partners; Luann Sommers, Executive Director of the Forks Senior Center; Jen Bomba, Director of Calhoun County Community Development; Kristyn Denison, COO of Neighborhoods, Inc.
 - Citizen's Comments:

Luann Sommers announced the Forks Senior Center is hosting a Valentine's Dance, on Friday, February 14th, from 7 to 10pm, at the Marshall Opportunity High School (formerly the Albion High School), in collaboration with the Albion NAACP & Albion High School Alumni. And on Saturday, March 7, from 7-9pm, the Forks Senior Center is hosting Colin Dexter, an Elvis impersonator/tribute artist, in the auditorium of the Marshall Opportunity High School.
6. **Reports**
 - a. **Final 2019 Budget Report**

Waiting on final bills from Community Care Options and PERS, and then 2019 budget will be final. Contract supplementals will come out of leftover dollars from 2019 contractual spending. 6,568 seniors were served with Senior Millage programs in 2019, which is 100 more than were served in 2018!
 - b. **2019 Year End Vendor Report**

As part of their contracts, vendors are required to submit reports twice a year: once in July discussing the first six months of programming, and again in January to discuss the previous year's accomplishments.
 - c. **Initial 2020 Budget Report**

2020 contractual spending is set at \$2.8 million. This is much lower than 2019's \$3.1 million, which was due to the large supplemental given to Community Action's Minor Home Repair program.

d. Manager's Report

The 11th annual Senior Fair is on Wednesday, April 8, at the Marshall Middle School, and SMAC volunteers will be needed to staff the Senior Services table. 30 vendors have registered already, 600-650 seniors are expected to attend. This year's sponsors are Oaklawn (\$750), the Marshall Community Foundation (\$500), and Molina Healthcare (\$500). The Senior Fair costs about \$8,000 to put on, and around \$5,000 of that comes from vendor registration fees. Of the \$8,000 total budget, nearly \$2,500 goes towards advertising.

7. New Business

a. Senior Millage Ballot Language

The ballot language for the Senior Millage renewal will go before the Board of Commissioners on February 20th. SMAC prefers 2010 ballot language over 2020 proposed ballot language. Manager Helen Guzzo will meet with Jim Dyer before Wednesday to rework language. No action is needed at this time. SMAC members are welcome to attend the February 20th Commission meeting.

Please note that the Board of Commissioner's Approved this language on Feb. 20:

For the purpose of providing funds to plan, coordinate, evaluate and provide services to persons sixty (60) years old and older, shall the previously approved millage authorization of Calhoun County in the amount 0.7452 mills on each dollar (\$0.7452 on each per \$1000 of taxable valuation) upon real and tangible personal property in the County of Calhoun, State of Michigan, which expires on December 31, 2020, be renewed and continued for a period of ten (10) years, from 2021 through 2030, inclusive? If approved and levied by the Calhoun County Board of Commission, the requested millage would provide estimated revenues to Calhoun County of \$2,783,495 when first levied in 2021.

b. Year End Adjustments: Supplemental Contract Amendments – Powers & Schell, Motion & Second, move to approve all four contract supplementals in one vote. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried 8-0, with four excused, and one absent.

- i. Vision Program, Calhoun County Public Health Dept. - \$340.23**
- ii. Benefit Counseling, CareWell Services - \$1,095.50**
- iii. Sr. Ramps, Habitat for Humanity - \$1,056.00**
- iv. Sr. Fun & Fitness, Senior Health Partners - \$2,572.00**

c. Mini-Grant: City of Marshall, Albion-Marshall Connector- \$3,500

The Connector was created when Albion Community Hospital closed, to increase access to healthcare in Marshall for Albion residents. Most ridership originates in Albion. Discussion on funding the Connector on a broad basis, as opposed to specific senior programming, which has been discussed as part of the Senior Strategic Project funding. **Schell & Powers, Motion & Second. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried 8-0, with four excused, and one absent.**

d. Mini-Grant: Albion Health Care Alliance, Commodity Coordination - \$1,000

When Specialist Kate Turner was hired a year ago, she was tasked with starting commodity distributions at the senior affordable housing complexes that did not already have distributions. Peabody Place & George Mather in Albion are the last complexes left and are planning to start distributions in April. The Albion Health Care Alliance has agreed to manage the coordination of the distribution and the collection of the needed paperwork. It is seeking compensation for their time and efforts. **Schell & Lyng, Motion & Second. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried 8-0, with four excused, and one absent.**

e. Mini-Grant: Neighborhoods, Inc; Marketing and Admin. For Housing Rehab - \$5,000

Last year Neighborhoods Inc. was able to put \$330,000 worth of funding from the Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis through its deferred maintenance improvements and accessibility projects into the area, which consisted of 43 homes, 67% of which were owned by a person 60 or older. In order to bring in more dollars, more outreach is needed. This vote renews another, \$5,000. In April 2019, SMAC voted to approve \$5,000 in funding to Neighborhoods Inc. to support senior applications to the Federal Home Loan Bank of Indianapolis housing rehab programs. **Booth & Lyng, Second & Support. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried 8-0, with four excused, and one absent.**

f. Discussion of tour of the Haven of Rest on January 31, 2020

Gary Tompkins, Teresa Schell, Diane Peters, and Tom Hunsdorfer represented SMAC at the January 31st tour. Also, in attendance were staff members Lora Stevens and Kate Turner, and County Administrator Kelli Scott. The Haven is the only overnight emergency shelter in Calhoun County, and has undergone recent renovations.

Manager Helen Guzzo would like to see a continuing discussion on how Senior Millage can help to support homeless seniors. Of particular concern is seniors who qualify for PACE or Waiver but cannot receive services because they do not have stable housing. Manager Helen Guzzo will contact the SHARE Center to set a date to tour their facility sometime this spring. The SHARE Center serves as the day center for homeless individuals, over the age of 18.

8. Vendor Presentation: Senior Heath Partners

Director Linda Grap spoke about the following:

- SHP's move to the Battle Creek Y is complete, staff is very happy with the new space. The Y has 1,000 members who are 60 or over and have not yet connected with SHP, so moving to the Y made a lot of sense.
- Recent staff change at Bronson. Grap will meet with the interim COO next week.
- Programming is strong. SHP continues to seek out new and strengthened relationships with other agencies.
 - Senior Services of Southwest Michigan: how to integrate Waiver with PACE and CCO.
 - Albion Healthcare Alliance: how to get more CCO referrals from the east side of the County, and how to refer SHP clients to AHCA.
 - MSU Extension, offering a five-week session on Mindfulness beginning in March, followed by a course on Anger Management/Relaxation, and then WISE.
 - Homer: starting monthly programming at the Homer Library; lots of good energy in Homer around senior programming. How do we link, or better link, Homer seniors to Forks Senior Center?
 - Athens programming is growing. The restaurant dining program will hopefully launch later this spring.
- Introduced key staff:
 - Susan Vanderweide, Clinical Supervisor: oversees CCO, and the Fit & Fun nurses.
 - Julie Kaminski, Senior Fit & Fun: working on increased programming/marketing outside of Battle Creek, certified Tai Chi instructor, handles Lunch & Learns.
 - Anne Clark, Eldercare Specialist: manages all vendors and any issues within CCO program, coordinates GEMS, Parkinson's expert, Miles for Memories representative, key liaison to tribe.
- New website: shpcalhoun.org

9. Next SMAC Meeting: Friday, March 6, 2020, 8am, Marshall County Building

10. Upcoming Events:

- **Friday, March 20, SMAC Strategic Planning, Miller Manor, Battle Creek, 9:30am-3:30pm**
- **WEDNESDAY, April 8, Senior Fair, Marshall Middle School, 10am-1:30am**
- **Friday, April 24, Nominations for the Joanne Konkle Senior Service Leadership Award due**
- **Thursday, May 21, Centenarian Luncheon, Schuler's in Marshall**

Respectfully submitted, Kate Turner