

Senior Millage Allocation Committee

Virtual Meeting by Zoom

Friday, February 5, 2021 8:00am – 9:30am

MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll Call at 8:03am

- a. **Attending:** Jim Powers (Marshall Township, MI), Commissioner Gary Tompkins (Homer Township, MI), Bob Lyng (Marshall Township, MI), Diane Peters (Marengo Township, MI), Willie Tabb (Albion, MI), Richard Lindsey (Marshall Township, MI), Tom Hunsdorfer (Albion, MI), Yvonne Chapman (East Leroy, MI), Jill Booth (Elmira, MI; left at 9am), Commissioner Rochelle Hatcher (Battle Creek, MI; arrived at 8:10am), Art Kale (Clarence Township, MI; arrived at 8:05am)
- b. **Excused:** Michelle Hill, Commissioner Jake Smith
- c. **Absent:** Teresa Schell

2. Approval of Agenda

- a. Motion to accept agenda – **Tabb & Lyng: Motion & Second. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried, 9-0 with three excused and one absent.**

3. Approval of the January 8, 2021 Minutes

- a. Motion to accept minutes with corrections to include Jim Powers location (Marshall Township, MI) and correct item 3a to read “motion to accept minutes” – **Lyng & Tabb: Motion & Second. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried, 10-0 with two excused and one absent.**

4. Introductions and Citizen’s Comments

- a. **Staff:** Manager Helen Guzzo (Battle Creek, MI), Specialist Kate Turner (Marshall, MI), Intern Emily Batch (Battle Creek, MI)
- b. **Introductions:** Linda Kolmodin & Marcia Starkey, Albion Senior Housing Commission; Kitty Knoll, Coordinator, Heritage Commons Senior Enrichment Center; Jen Bomba, Community Development Director, Calhoun County; Lucy Blair, Communications Manager, Calhoun County; Carl Gibson; Laura Ferrara, CEO, Senior Care Partners PACE; Luann Sommers, Executive Director, Forks Senior Center; Susan Vander Weide, Manager, Senior Health Partners

5. Special Presentation: Update on the Albion Senior Retirement Housing Development

Linda Kolmodin and Marcia Starkey, Co-Directors of Senior Housing Commission

The Albion Community Foundation was granted \$150,000 in Senior Strategic Project funding during summer 2020 for the predevelopment of market rate senior housing in Albion. The Foundation has yet to make a draw on their funds as they are still getting organized. An Albion Senior Housing Commission has been formed with eleven members, including SMAC member Tom Hunsdorfer.

The need for market value senior housing has been recognized in Albion for a long time but has lacked a real leader and serious funding. The Commission is working closely with Albion College and is holding focus groups. They are currently considering potential sites and ways to promote this project with Brick Street Marketing.

6. Reports

a. Budget & Manager's Reports

2020 spending is not yet final, as final bills have yet to come in. County Finance will close the 2020 books on Friday, February 12, 2021. Final 2020 spending will be reported at the March 5 SMAC meeting. Helen Guzzo noted that \$75,000 was budgeted in 2021 Contractual Spending that is not currently committed to project because of the elimination of the need to pay for the partnership part of Senior Health Partners and that there isn't a contract for senior center support for the Marshall area for 2021.

Manager Helen Guzzo shared a comparison of seniors served and dollars spent by program in 2019 and 2020. Biggest decreases in seniors served are in Benefits Counseling, Health Education, Senior Fitness & Fun, and Transportation. Overall, 5,449 seniors were served by Senior Millage programming in 2020, which marks a 1,100 decrease from 2019. The 2020 Seniors Served map was shared, along with a map showing the difference in seniors served by municipality between 2019 and 2020. Please see the budget and manager's report for more details.

b. Heritage Commons Senior Center Steering Committee

Diane Peters shared that the committee has met with architect John Metzger, who provided drawings at no cost. The next step will be to obtain costs for lease and renovations. Nothing is set in stone yet, but the committee is considering both the former Goodwill and Cash Advance storefronts in the Kmart Plaza off Michigan Avenue in Marshall.

Discussion was had on the challenges that COVID might present when it comes to fundraising, and the continued concern of Heritage Commons not being its own 501c3.

c. Reducing Social Isolation Subcommittee

The subcommittee has met three times since forming and has identified three pillars to base their recommendations on: encouraging seniors helping seniors, exploring local solutions, and strengthening and promoting human connection. Staff are finalizing the written report that will be shared with SMAC at the March 5 meeting.

7. New Business

a. End of Year 2020 Contractual Spending Supplementals for total of \$10,268.04

Guardian: Money Management	\$ 792.50
Fountain Clinic: Prescription	\$1,223.00
Habitat for Humanity: Ramps	\$ 240.00
CareWell Services: Hearing	<u>\$8,012.54</u>

Lyng & Tabb: Motion & Second. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried 10-0 with two excused and one absent.

b. 2021 Senior Strategic Projects Request for Proposals (RFP) recommendation: \$500,000

Lindsey & Hunsdorfer: Motion & Second with the stipulation that the RFP language clarifies “up to \$500,000 may be granted.” Roll call vote taken. Motion carried 10-0 with two excused and one absent.

c. Revision to the Community Care Options Min. Service Standard

Because of Senior Health Partners’ reorganization as a branch of Senior Care Partners PACE, PACE is recommending a revision to allow for other licensed health professionals, such as a social worker or occupational therapist to be allowed to conduct Community Care Options assessments, broadening professional role from only being a nurse as required per the minimum service standard. **Powers & Tabb: Motion & Second. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried 10-0 with two excused and one absent.**

d. Approve moving Sept. 3 meeting to Sept. 10/Revision to the annual meeting calendar

Lyng & Tabb: Motion & Second. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried 10-0 with two excused and one absent.

e. SMAC Members up for renewal April 30, 2021

Art Kale, Bob Lying, Jim Powers, Willie Tabb

These SMAC membership renewals will be voted upon at the March meeting and go before the Board of Commissioners in April. Commissioner Rochelle Hatcher has been reassigned and will no longer be a SMAC member, she is thanked for her contributions. Commissioner Jake Smith will be the new commissioner assigned to SMAC.

8. *Next SMAC Meeting: Friday, March 5, 2021, 8am-9:30am via Zoom*

9. **Upcoming Events: Thurs., Feb. 25, 8:30am, Calhoun Professionals in Aging Network, *Encouraging the Gift of Advanced Planning* with Laura Ferrara and Dr. Elizabeth Warner**

10. Adjournment at 9:32am

Respectfully submitted, Kate Turner