

SENIOR MILLAGE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE (SMAC)

Friday, May 5, 2023

8:00am - 9:30am, In-Person

Marshall County Building, Garden Level Conference Room

315 W. Green Street, Marshall, MI 49068

MINUTES

1. Call to Order/Roll Call at 8:05am

Attending: Tom Hunsdorfer, Tom Tarkiewicz, Diane Peters, Bob Lyng, Isabell Nazar, Shirley Tuggle, Diane Thompson, Michelle Hill, Jim Powers, Bobbie Smith, Dominic Oo, Chuck Asher, Willie Tabb

Excused: Diane Thompson left at 8:58 AM

2. Approval of Agenda and April 14, 2023, Minutes

Action: Voice Vote

a) Motion to accept May 5, 2023, Agenda as corrected.

Removal of Item 5, Doug Ferrall will not give presentation on Countywide Transportation Authority Update. Amend the Mini-grant request for Raised Garden Beds and Garden Supplies, Marian E. Burch Adult Day Care, Calhoun County Medical Care Facility \$1,613 to \$5,000 to include the purchase of a medication cart.

Motion by Thompson & support by Asher. Voice vote. Motion carried, 13-0.

Motion to accept April 14, 2023, Minutes

Motion by Tarkiewicz & support by Tuggle. Voice vote. Motion carried, 13-0.

3. Introductions and Citizen's Comments

a) **Staff:** Manager Helen Guzzo; Specialist Rebecca de Finta; Administrative Assistant Teri Zadigian, Intern McKayla Byrd; Administrative Assistant for Veteran Affairs Tailah Huerta, Community Development Director, Jen Bomba

b) **Introductions:** Mary Frisby, Director, Marian E. Burch Adult Day Care, Calhoun County Medical Care Facility; Jodi Vanlerberge, Operations Manager, Milestone Senior Services; Luann Sommers, Executive Director, Forks Senior Center; Anne Clark, Director, Senior Health Partners; Mary Jo Byrne, Executive Director, Fountain Clinic; Maureen Marshall, Intake Specialist, Fountain Clinic; Paulette Porter, Chief Operations Officer, CareWell Services.

c) **Citizen's Comments:** None made.

4. Staff Reports:

a. Manager's & Budget Report

Helen Guzzo

Albion AARP Age-Friendly has created a survey, the organizing committee has asked SMAC members to complete the survey, while not all SMAC members are Albion residents, the Committee wanted SMAC members input. SMAC approved creating Senior Strategic Projects in late 2019, which is a onetime funding opportunity for programs to receive funds, to help spend down the fund balance. Senior Strategic Projects has helped fund the purchase of Grandpads for the PACE program, the renovation of Heritage Commons, a planning grant for market rate housing in Albion, renovation of a garden at True Care Living and others. Rebecca and Helen are in the process of going to every town, village, and city to discuss Calhoun County 2022 Senior Millage Annual Report and upcoming events.

b. May 18 Senior Expo, Kellogg Arena

Rebecca de Finta

The Senior Expo planning group toured Kellogg Arena in April to finalize details. Volunteer signup sheets will be passed around for anyone interested in volunteering. Senior Services ordered new signs for the Senior Expo event. We currently have 99 vendors and expect to be at the capacity of 106 vendors. The Battle Jacks mascot will be there along with the Red Cross clowns. There will be a vaccination clinic as well as blood pressure and blood sugar checks. Homeward will be at the event with their mobile unit. Sherriff Hinkley, Dave Gilbert, United Healthcare will be giving presentations.

5. New Business

Action: Roll Call/Voice Vote

a) Mini-Grant Request: Raised Garden Beds, Gardening Supplies and Medication Cart - \$5,000.

Presentation by Mary Frisby, Director, Marian E. Burch Adult Day Care, Calhoun County Medical Care Facility.

Motion by Powers & support by Smith. Roll call vote. Motion carried, 13-0.

b) Revisions to the Dental Assistance Minimum Service Standards – allow serving older adults with limited dental insurance benefits instead of specifying that those assisted had to have no dental insurance benefits. Some Medicare Advantage plans now do offer limited dental insurance coverage, but older adults still need assistance with getting restorative work covered.

Motion by Nazer & support by Oo. Voice Vote. Motion carried, 13-0.

c) 2023 Senior Strategic Project Funding Recommendations: \$205,918 in total

1. Albion Health Care Alliance, *Intergenerational Partnership to Support Aging*: \$26,900
2. Community Action, *Side Entry Wheelchair Accessible Minivan*: \$70,000
3. Comprehensive Senior Care Corporation/P.A.C.E., *Grandpad Expansion*: \$85,000
4. Eastend Studio & Gallery, *Arts Education Classes at Heritage Commons*: \$ 11,250
5. Senior Services, Inc. DBA Milestone Senior Services, *Pet support for Seniors*: \$12,768

Diane Peters comment: Senior Strategic Project Minimum Service Standards requires a minimum of \$15,000 for funding. Eastend Studio & Gallery asked for less than this, can Eastend Studio & Gallery be contacted and increase their request to \$15,000. Helen Guzzo responded: No, not at this stage of the process.

Motion by Powers & support by Asher. Roll call vote. Motion carried, 12-0, with one excused.

d) Supplemental Funding Requests for contractual spending

1. Milestone Senior Services, Ramps Program: \$80,000
2. Community Action, Home Heating Assistance Program: \$50,000
3. Community Action, Minor Home Repair: \$200,000
4. CareWell Services, Meal Program: Needs increased funding in 2024

Discussion regarding the ability to fund the supplemental funding requests for contractual spending. The amount available for supplemental funding is not yet clear. These requests were tabled to be considered for action at the June 2, 2023, meeting.

6. SMAC Member comments

Mr. Tarkiewicz stated: He checked that Oaklawn does not have any surplus of medication carts to donate to the Adult Day Care program. He discovered through a discussion with an audiologist that hearing loss has been directly linked to dementia and that starting to use hearing aids as soon as possible after experiencing hearing loss is important in preventing dementia. Shirley Tuggle stated: Commission of Servicing to the Aging will be on the south lawn at the capitol building on May 17, 2023, at 11 am to push 5 advocacy points with the state legislature.

7. Next SMAC Meeting: Friday, June 2, 2023, 8am-9:30am, Marshall County Building

8. Adjourned at 9:31 am

Respectfully submitted, Teri Zadigian.