

# SENIOR MILLAGE ALLOCATION COMMITTEE (SMAC)

Friday, December 2, 2022

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

Marshall County Building, Garden Level Conference Room

315 W. Green Street, Marshall, MI 49068

## MINUTES

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### 1. Call to Order/Roll Call at 8:01am

**Attending:** Tom Hunsdorfer, Tom Tarkiewicz, Diane Peters, Willie Tabb, Michelle Hill, Bob Lyng, Isabell Nazar, Jim Powers (8:06 am)

**Excused:** Dominic Oo, Commissioner Gary Tompkins, Commissioner Jake Smith, Bobbie Smith

**Not excused:** Shirley Tuggle

### 2. Approval of Agenda and November 4, 2022, Minutes

**Action: Voice Vote**

a) Motion to accept agenda and minutes

**Motion by Hill & Support by Lyng. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried 8-0 with four excused.**

### 3. Introductions and Citizen's Comments

a) **Staff:** Manager Helen Guzzo, Specialist Rebecca de Finta, Administrative Assistant Teri Zadigian

b) **Introductions:** Anne Clarke, Senior Health Partner; Luann Sommers, Forks Senior Center; Stacy Wines, CEO CareWell Services; Mo Marshall, Fountain Clinic; Mary Jo Byrne, Fountain Clinic; Jim Dyer, Calhoun County (8:54am)

c) **Citizen's Comments:** Luann Sommers shared that she was appreciative of the double doors that were installed at the Forks Senior Center. Luann stated that Helen & Teri were able to see the double doors that were installed while Helen was introducing Teri to the staff at Forks Senior Center. Luann wanted to remind everyone that there is a craft fair at Heritage Commons on December 10<sup>th</sup>, 2022. Also, there is a shared dance between Heritage Commons and Forks Senior Center on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2022. You must be a member at either facility or be a guest of a member to attend the dance. There is discussion of shared memberships between Heritage Commons and Forks Senior Center.

### 4. Special Presentation – Update on CareWell Services

#### **Stacy Wines, Chief Executive Officer, CareWell Services**

Chief Executive Officer, Stacy Wines, shared that in 2017 the previous CEO was tired of people not being able to say the name of Region 3B Area Agency on Aging, so they decided to change their name to CareWell Services Southwest. This is doing business as and their legal name is still Region

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3B Area Agency on Aging. In 1965 Congress passed Older Americans Act to assist older adults and then in 1973 under the Comprehension Services Amendments, Congress created the requirement for every area of the nation to be covered by an Area Agency on Aging. In Michigan there are 16 areas of Area Agencies that cover all 83 Counties. CareWell has Advisory Council which provides advocacy for services to older adults and approved contracts that are related to services in the community that CareWell services funds. CareWell Services are mandated under Older Americans Act to have focal points for service delivery—these are the three Senior Centers, the Kool Family Community Center in Battle Creek, Heritage Commons in Marshall, and the Forks Senior Center in Albion. Calhoun County Senior Services in Marshall is not considered a focal point because people are not coming into the office for services. CareWell Service’s 800 number (800-626-6719, or 269-441-0930) is much like 211, Shannon Lundberg, the lead resource navigator and community health worker, answers in-coming inquiries. CareWell Services’ main objective is to keep people living independently in their homes. CareWell Services has care manager program in addition to the Waiver program that can determine needs of individuals by working one on one. Care Management currently has a wait list of 50 people.

Programs of the agency are: Innovative Pets Program, Lunch & Learn Events, Battling Social Isolation, Preventing Scams & Fraud, Preventing Abuse & Neglect, Senior Nutrition & Project Fresh, Home Safety for Seniors, Emergency Preparedness. Evidence Based Programs consist of Matter of Balance, Strong Bones, and WERQ (cardio dance workout). Other programs consist of OBIE (projection games) and Move Well sessions. CareWell provides health coaching, options counseling and in-home visits, Elder Abuse case coordination, support, education, and assistance. Telephone reassurance program is on pause currently. Caregiver Dementia support groups are also offered. Assessment and Intervention provides one-on-one and telephone support from a community health worker to help seniors manage their chronic conditions more effectively. Elder Abuse Prevention is on hold, having fallen apart during COVID, the Coalition will relaunch in the spring. CareWell Services partners with Milestone Senior Services Michigan to support congregate and home delivered meals at various locations throughout Calhoun County. Senior Millage funds the meals program, Personal emergency response pendants (PERS) for homebound, at-risk seniors, benefits counseling, and the HearWell and SeeWell programs. My Choice Waiver – 18 and older, low income, Medicaid eligible individual who are medically frail and nursing home eligible which provide services to keep people in their home, funded by the State. MMAP Navigators, help with solving Medicare/Medicaid issues.

## 5. Budget & Managers Report

**Helen Guzzo**

Manager Helen Guzzo shared that we have spent \$3,398,563 as of November 30, 2022, and have raised in taxes and other payments, \$3,324,124 so we are now deficit spending and using fund balance, (\$74,439) as of November 30, 2022. So Senior Millage is strategically spending down our fund balance. Our goal is to not return any unspent money to our fund balance. We have increased

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all our supplemental funding to spend down our fund balance. In May, Personal Property Tax received from the State was \$377,389 and in December, Finance reports \$186,994.54 will be deposited, the most we have ever received (\$564,384). We are being responsible and prudent with budgeting our supplemental dollars. Marian Burch and Transportation program have not spent their contracted amounts, which will return funds to our balance. We have overspent in some contracts where the demand is high, like minor home repair. By doing supplemental spending and increasing the income limit to 250% of poverty from 200%, we are attempting to serve the most we can with the dollars we are entrusted in stewarding. Senior Millage has used all but \$310 in mini grants. Helen wants to talk about creating funding for a senior center in Battle Creek, currently Senior Millage funds \$50,000 to the senior centers in Albion and Marshall.

## 6. New Business

### Action: Roll Call Votes

#### a) Fountain Clinic Dental Program 2022 Supplemental Request: \$20,000

Request for the outstanding amounts for the next two months. Director, Mary Jo Byrne shared that they projected that they would need at least \$20,000 for the remainder of the year. Seniors start out in Dental program and then the Fountain Clinic doesn't see the bill until all services have been completed. As of December, they have \$1,000 left from the \$375,000 – 2022 contract that Senior Millage has entrusted them with. Costs have also increased, and dentists are charging more for dentures. As of October 31, 2022, 272 seniors have received dental care through the program.

**Motion by Lyng & Support by Tarkiewicz. Roll call vote taken. Motion carried, 8-0 with four excused.**

#### b) Adult Day Care new unit rate: \$120 per day

An ask to increase the daily rate from \$95 a day to \$120, so we need to do a contract amendment approving the rate increase of \$120 per day for the remainder of the contract. They anticipate the partial opening January 1, 2023. This contract amendment will go to the Board of Commission on December 15, 2022.

**Motion by Nazar & Support by Lyng. Voice vote taken. Motion carried, 8-0 with four excused.**

#### c) Form a Bylaw Review Committee

Lyng, Peters, Tabb will be in a new sub-committee to review the by-laws. There have been some questions regarding attendance and how to apply limits in the bylaws. Poor attendance at SMAC meetings have made having quorum difficult. A discussion regarding the commissioners missing consistently and it was posed to Calhoun County Attorney Jim Dyer about whether the appointed commissioners are required to show up. Attorney Dyer said they do not. There was also a discussion regarding some of the members who have missed due to medical issues and leaving during the winter months. There was also some discussion regarding a vote to excuse those that have indicated they cannot attend.

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## **7. For Discussion**

### **a) 2023 Request for Proposals (RFP) and the need to extend some contracts**

Tabled until the January 2023 meeting

### **b) Discuss the new member nomination process**

Senior Services has placed an ad in the local papers and on Facebook to seek new members. Applicants then apply through the County website and the applications are reviewed by SMAC committee. There has been some uncomfortableness on how the voting process is executed because applicants are present during voting at SMAC meetings. There has been some discussion about having a sub-committee to review the applicants and advise members. Members expressed not agreeing with using a subcommittee due to wanting to have a voice and have SMAC members make the decision together. Will return to the discussion at the January 2023 meeting.

## **8. SMAC Member comments**

Tom Tarkiewicz suggested that Helen do a presentation about Senior Millage and SMAC to the What's Brewing monthly meeting in Marshall and at the Albion Eggs & Issues monthly meeting in 2023.

## **9. Next SMAC Meeting: Friday, January 6, 2023, 8am-9:30am, Marshall County Building**

## **10. Adjourned at 9:48**

Respectfully submitted, Teri Zadigian.

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