

**Senior Millage Allocation Committee
May 6, 2011 8:00 a.m.
Calhoun County Building
Lower Level Conference Room**

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 a.m. by Chair, Jim Haadsma.

Members Present: Rod Auton, Arlene Bolton, Julie Camp, Shirley Clutter, Jim Haadsma, Jennie Hoffmann, Art Kale, Joanne Konkle, Eusebio Solis,

Members not Present: Jill Booth, Ralph Moore,

Staff Present: Carl Gibson, Rodna Stealy, Brad Wilcox

Approval of the Agenda:

Camp made a motion to approve the Agenda, Solis supported. ***Motion Carried.***

Approval of Minutes: Konkle made a motion to approve the minutes from April 1, 2011. Auton supported the motion. ***Motion Carried.***

Reports

Hoffman questioned the number of clients served for Hearing Services. The report shows only one client served year to date. They are working with Lifespan and starting to work with Marshall Ear Nose and Throat services through Oaklawn and they haven't actually delivered hearing aids to others yet.

Bolton made a motion to approve the reports. Clutter supported. ***Motion Carried.***

Directors Report

This information is provided as background to the May 6th SMAC meeting.

Gibson discussed the following items with committee members:

1. RFP Process for FY 2012

A revised timeline, drafted by Purchasing, is attached to end of this report.

2. 2011 Health Fair in Marshall

The Health Fair was a big success with approximately 250 participants. It came through well because of a committed planning team from Family Health Ctr, Fountain Clinic, Forks Senior Ctr, Oaklawn Hospital, Marshall House Apts, Maplewood of Marshall, Monarch Bank, Ad-Visor/Chronicle, and individuals. It was helpful to have Jennie Hoffmann and Joanne Konkle assist with setup and onsite services.

Items to probably not repeat is the focus on legislator talks (except next year will be an election year and they may want to be present). The scheduled educational presentations were not well attended, partly due to location within the building. With 57 vendor tables, the site was able to accommodate large numbers and still provide space for personal conversations with guests. All guest comments were very positive.

We will again be scheduling next year's event during school Spring Break: Thur April 5, 2012 at the Marshall Middle School, possibly shifting the exhibits into the gymnasium and changing the name/focus to more Senior Expo and not just Health Fair. Our planning team is committed to working on this for next year and starting earlier; excellent ideas were presented at a debriefing.

3. Policy/Practice Decisions Made this Month:

- Statement in March for Minor Home Repairs that purchase under terms of a Land Contract meets the requirement of home ownership for application-eligibility purposes. (Do Questions Still Remain on this Issue?)
- Statement in April for Minor Home Repairs to include mobile homes as long as a title to the structure could be produced—not a rental—for application-eligibility purposes; and some assurance the structure is otherwise sound.
- BOC, at its May 5th meeting, is expected to approve an agreement with St. Joseph County to approve that county's transportation service to enter Calhoun County for purposes of completing a trip to the Veteran's Medical Center; this is common practice to avoid any conflict of jurisdictions for services that receive some support from the state.

4. Meetings Pending:

- May 4th with Community Action and AAA 3-B concerning the large budget tightening that are pending due to CSBG funds being cut, food and gas prices going up.

ACTION: Meet jointly with AAA and CA on May 4th, 10:30AM at Panera's on Capitol, BC; Joanne Konkle will be attending. (NOTE: Amanda Schmidt of CA will be attending the SMAC at 8:30AM to discuss changes with our committee.)

- May 4th with Community Action and AAA 3-B concerning transportation issues: group trips, relations between AAA and CA, prioritization of ridership, services in Albion, and backup equipment.

ACTION: Meet jointly with AAA and CA on Burnham Brook (Karla's Office) on May 4th 1:30PM; Joanne Konkle attending.

- Carl will be attending the quarterly mtg of the MI Dir of Services to Aging in Ithaca on May 3rd.
- Carl and Rodna expect to share attendance at the MI AAA Assoc conf in Lansing on May 25/26.
- Expectations for a follow-up mtg on potential Senior Center in Marshall to be held soon.

5. Strategic Planning Consultation:

ACTION: Carl to meet at Rod Auton's office with Larry Hermen on May 4th, 2:30+ at Burnham Brook to discuss options and requirements. (Joanne may be in attendance)

ACTION: Carl to meet with Rod Auton and Jim Marshall, of Humanergy, right at end of SMAC on May 6th, at Co. Building. (Any SMAC member is welcome to sit in).

- NOTE: I will not be able to participate in any SMAC Strategic Planning activity on Saturdays—May 21, 28 or June 4 due to prior teaching commitments.

Recap Other Pending Short-term Activity

- 6. pre-Draft of 2010 Annual Report for distribution at SMAC meeting.**

7. PROJECTS WITH A LIFE OF THEIR OWN FOR 2011 (these will continue until assigned to sub-committees)

INCOME ELIGIBILITY: Review Poverty Level Guidelines and impact on eligibility.

PRESCRIPTION DRUG CARD: review senior Millage discount card vs. the general benefit of the County Rx discount card.

PRESCRIPTION VOUCHERS: review practice of providing prescription vouchers for controlled substances, such as oxycontin & vicadin, etc.

MINOR HOME REPAIR: review the idea of freeing this money up for smaller projects serving a larger number of people and reduce numbers of furnaces and roof replacements.

2012 –draft from Purchasing– RFP Process Timeline

SENIOR MILLAGE SERVICES

RFP#1xx-11 DATELINE

Post on website Wednesday, July 20, 2011

Post public notices in buildings Wednesday, July 20, 2011

Issue RFP Wednesday, July 20, 2011

Questions due from potential bidders Wednesday, August 3, 2011; 5: 00 pm

Replies from County due bidders Friday, August 5, 2011; 5:00 pm

Proposals Due Date- Wednesday, August 17, 2011; 3:00 pm

(Remove public notices from buildings)

Evaluation Committee Meetings TBD

Recomm. to SMAC for award October 7, 2011 SMAC meeting

Apply Board agenda (Carl Gibson) Wednesday, October 26, 2011

Board of Commissioners Thursday, November 3, 2011

END DIRECTOR REPORT

Education

Amanda Schmidt (acting director) from Community Action Food and Nutrition, discussed funding cuts and the impact those cuts along with increased fuel costs, and increased food costs are forcing them to look at ways to cut expenses for Home Delivered and Congregate Meals.

- Closing the kitchen at Burnham Brooke Center to eliminate high rent costs
- Combining operations with Branch County where they own the kitchen
- Cutting back from 4 deliveries a week for Home Delivered Meals to 3 days a week
- Looking at possibly using frozen meals instead of hot delivered meals
- Looking at closing some congregate sites where attendance is low
- Combining some congregate sites

Auton asked for information on customer service surveys done recently. Clutter asked if members could go have a meal at a congregate site and if they could receive a Home Delivered meal to see just what clients are receiving. Several members agree that they would also like to sample the meals.

Camp asked if they could try to find another kitchen in Calhoun County where they could prepare meals, as she is concerned with the quality of the meals if they close the kitchen in BBC.

Kale, Konkle, Solis will be meeting to discuss and to investigate meal sites in Albion and what possibility there is to combine those sites. They will report back to this committee at the July meeting.

New Business:

Gibson reported that he attended a JONAH sponsored meeting on Transportation Service and that there are several issues to be dealt with in that area. Transportation across county lines for medical appointments is an issue, as well as the high cost of short rides with in small areas like Albion and in the city of Battle Creek. He suggested that it might be good to start looking for alternative ways to transport seniors to the grocery store or to appointments that are within close proximity of their homes. Possibly Battle Creek Transit for Battle Creek, and maybe local churches in Albion. Kale volunteered to meet with someone in Albion to see if there is an interest in providing this service.

Adjournment: Solis made a motion to adjourn. Clutter supported the motion. ***Motion Carried***
Adjourned 9:22 a.m.

Next Meeting: June 3, 2011 8:00 a.m.

