

**Senior Millage Allocation Committee  
June 3, 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, Art Kale, Eusebio Solis, Jill Booth, Ralph Moore

**Members not Present:** Joanne Konkle, Jennie Hoffmann

**Staff Present:** Carl Gibson, Rodna Stealy

**Approval of the Agenda:**

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

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

**Reports**

Booth made a motion to approve the reports. Camp supported. ***Motion Carried.***

**Directors Report**

Re: Manager's Report for June 3, 2011

This information is provided as background to the June 3rd SMAC meeting.

**1. RFP Process for FY 2012**

. This next round will continue to be a one-year contract period, until more focused priorities are determined for Millage funds. RFPs should be published near the end of July.

**2. Events and meetings of Note:**

- Senior Health Partner's *Aging Well* senior fair at Burnham Brook was held May 24 with a large attendance, presentations, and outdoor fitness for older adults. Joanne Konkle joined in at our exhibit to talk with guests.
- Gibson spoke to the Albion Rotary Club on May 26 for their noon meeting.
- Gibson attended the MI Direction of Senior Agencies in Alma on May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Members represent other counties, many of which have their own Millage funds. Updates on state budgets were given by Office of Services to Aging staff. Discussion of pending legislation that would require licensing of Home Health Agencies, hopefully to better control standards of services.
- Rod Auton and Carl Gibson attended the AAA May 16 public hearing on the Annual Implementation Plan. Jim Haadsma attended as a member of AAA board.

### 3. Meetings Pending:

- To reschedule Community Action, AAA 3-B, and Albion officials concerning consolidating congregate meal sites in Albion to a neutral location. Also potential closure of Homer or Tekonsha congregate sites.
- To reschedule Albion meeting concerning transportation issues: working with religious community for assisting with in-community riders, not limited to Seniors.
- Concensus on food services from Community Action not resolved yet. CA still proposing 3-days delivery each week of frozen meals. Unsure of Branch County assessment last week of service capacity issues.
- A follow-up mtg on potential for Senior Center in Marshall to be scheduled by Administrator's office.
- Rodna Stealy and Carl Gibson to attend, a ½ day training at Burnham Brook, June 9<sup>th</sup>, for Elder Abuse training as it will be rolled out to over 100 law enforcement officers in the near future. This is the result of a major grant through the state for training legal officials in elder abuse prevention, assessment, and prosecution if warranted.
- Rodna Stealy has been attending meetings in support of the Alzheimer's Association fundraiser walk for September.
- Will be meeting soon with Sherii Sherban of Senior Times and Karla Fales to better organize and support Senior Day at the County Fair in August.
- Springfield Health Fair/Market on June 25<sup>th</sup>.

### 4. Strategic Planning Consultation:

Rod Auton, Joanne Konkle and I met with Larry Herman of Centerboard Assoc. to discuss strategic planning needs, on May 4. A proposal has been received. Rod and I met with Jim Marshall of Humanergy right after the May SMAC meeting and a proposal was just received. A recommendation is expected at the June 3 meeting. **ACTION:** Approval for consultant and propose dates for future meetings.

### Recap Other Pending Short-term Activity

5. **A copy of the 2010 Annual Report will be distributed at the SMAC meeting.** ACTION to adopt it and submit to the Board of Commissioners. The SMAC has the option to review it first and adopt it at the next month.
6. **PROJECTS WITH A LIFE OF THEIR OWN FOR 2011** (these will continue until assigned to sub-committees; appoint sub-committee chairs)

**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.

**BY-LAWS REVIEW:** Assign to a sub-committee, or this can wait until after strategic planning is started.

## **DISCUSSION OF STORM/DISASTER PROCEDURES**

A number of issues came to the forefront: (a strong point is that people everywhere came together in support of each other in their times of stress to provide food, shelter, cleanup)

- Community Action suffered damage to all of its buildings in Battle Creek Main campus. Power, phones, and internet are crucial for scheduling, preparation and delivery. Transportation was not available until Thursday June 2, after their vans were vandalized 2 days earlier.
- Food preparation and delivery was problematic; seniors were being called the first day to determine their status, if they had phone service. The 3<sup>rd</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> days they deliver sack lunches (shelf stable) since a number of homes without power unable to prep frozen meals. Hot meals start Monday; congregate sites were open Thursday.
- AAA was instrumental in coordinating some short term assistance with rides, and assisting some individuals with health problems staying at the Lakeview Schools Red Cross shelter site. With such a widespread power outage, some living centers had problems of seniors being able to navigate stairs of high rises, and without A/C. 2-1-1 was a referral point for accessing many services but it was often hard to get through to a person on the phone.
- There is need to have a better plan of preparedness for senior related services in the county, including any living centers that may require resident transfers. Communication via phone and internet and computer databases all can be lost in a short time. Additionally, there needs to be mutual aid agreements among some agencies for backup of transportation and some equipment.

## **TRIPS TO KALAMAZOO SENIOR SERVICES, INC.**

On 2 occasions representative from this office visited Senior Services, Inc in Kalamazoo. One trip was Carl Gibson, Rodna Stealy and Ralph Moore to visit their food preparation operations on May 23<sup>rd</sup>. Rod Auton and Carl Gibson then visited them on May 26<sup>th</sup> for the delivery of their Annual Report to their stakeholders and community.

### **New Business:**

Gibson discussed guidelines for membership recruitment from 1999 to present, and members discussed procedures for recruiting new members to this committee. Carl explained that in the past people were often recruited according to their geographic location in the county. Members felt that there are other factors to be considered and they someone who truly has senior issues as a concern should not be turned down because we already have representation from their geographical location within the county. Members agreed that they would not have a problem with having another member from the Albion area.

Gibson explained that Tiana Cannon had given her resignation verbally, and had stated she would provide a written resignation. It has been several weeks and we have not received a written resignation from her. Kale made a motion to declare her position on the Senior Millage Allocation

Committee “vacant”. Bolton supported the motion. ***Motion Carried.***

Gibson asked for sub-committee discussion on the Prescription discount card currently provided through the Office of Senior Services. Instead of sending this to sub-committee, members discussed the options available to seniors for prescriptions and the availability of the Calhoun County Discount card that is available to all Calhoun County Residents who do not have Prescription Insurance. It is a \$25,000 expense to Senior Millage and requires significant staff time to annually renew the approximately 525 clients. The average savings is approximately \$48. Many clients never use it and some save quite a bit but not necessarily more than with other cards. The intent is to shift as many eligible individuals onto Medicare Part D as possible. Booth made a motion to drop the Senior Prescription discount currently provided through the Office of Senior Services and transition those subscribers over to the County discount card. Bolton supported the motion. ***Motion Carried***

Gibson noted that he would like to discuss income guidelines for some services as well as some issues regarding Minor Home repair, concerning determination of what are minor home repairs. These things can be discussed after strategic planning, but are important topics to address.

Gibson noted that there has been some question from Fountain Clinic about paying for narcotics, (such as Vicadin and Oxycontin) through the Prescription Voucher program. Fountain Clinic has a policy that their Doctors do not prescribe narcotics and they do not pay for them. They are seeing prescriptions for narcotics and have asked us to determine what our policy will be on the subject. Members asked Gibson to review and report on this at the July meeting.

#### Strategic Planning Report

Rod Auton reported on activities toward obtaining a facilitator for strategic planning. Theresa Durham (consultant), Rod Auton, Joanne Konkle, and Carl Gibson met with several possible candidates for this task, and reviewed their proposals. This committee has recommended a Company called TSI Consulting Partners, INC at a cost of up to \$4500. Moore made a motion to accept the proposal from TSI. Solis supported the motion. ***Motion Carried***

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

**Next Meeting: July 1, 2011 8:00 a.m.**

