

Senior Millage Allocation Committee
June 7, 2013 8:00 am
Calhoun County Building
315 West Green Street, Marshall MI 49068

This meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m. by Chairman Jim Haadsma.

Members Present: Arlene Bolton, Shirley Clutter , Jill Booth, Kathy-Sue Dunn, Jane Chappell, Jim Haadsma, Art Kale, , and Willie Tabb.

Members Absent: Rod Auton, Ralph Moore

Staff Present: Brad Wilcox, Carl Gibson and Rodna Stealy

Approval of Agenda: Motion by Kale; Supported by Tabb– *Motion Carried*

Approval of Minutes: May 17, 2013 Meeting - Motion by Chappell; Supported by Bolton – *Motion Carried.*

Introductions: Joanne Konkle past board member, Beverly Bentley and Willy Kalnins – recently retired and looking at possible becoming a SMAC board member, Chris Sargent & Matt Lynn from Kalamazoo/Battle Creek United Way, Maureen Reed, Tom Holoway from Forks Senior Center.

Reports:

Contract Spending

YTD Balance Sheet

Discussion held about moving to quarterly report for Administrative Expenditures. Motion to approve by Booth; Supported by Chappell – *Motion Carried*

FSC. Holoway thanked the committee for it funding support of Forks Senior Center discussed issues with funding. He explained the changes in membership dues and in the staffing at FSC. FSC is requesting that Senior Millage continue to fund staffing and rent as FSC is an important contributor to Albion Seniors. Members expressed concern about Forks finding a way to sustain themselves. Every year they keep coming back for more funding to keep the center going. Members expressed that they do not want to see the Senior Center close as they realize it is very important to Albion Seniors. However several expressed concerns about them looking for an alternative site for the future as Albion Public Schools is struggling financially and that raised concerns about Forks being able to stay where they are.

Chris Sargent of Battle Creek United Way spoke about Hands on 211. He noted that United Way is now totally managing Hands on. He thanked the SMAC for supporting Hands-on for the past several years. Current funding from Senior Millage supports about 5% of calls. Sargent thanked SMAC for funding Hands-On and stated that they would be very thankful if SMAC would continue their funding. A little more than 10% of the calls received by 211 are from

Senior Citizens. Matt Lynn would be glad to answer questions his office phone number is 269-962-9538.

SMAC members discussed the importance of Forks Senior Center in Albion and the services they are providing to the senior citizens of Albion. Tabb and Kale will go to the next Forks Senior Center Board meeting and discuss issues that must be addressed. Members decided to wait to vote on funding FSC until the July 12 meeting, after Tabb and Kale have met with the FSC Board. Members discussed the risk involved in not funding if FSC board does not answer some specific questions. Haadsma suggested if changes are being made possibly the SMAC could approve continuing funding for 6 months.

Gibson asked for a volunteer from this committee to sit on a committee at Region 3-B AAA to help make a decision on food bids. Clutter nominated Chappell Powers supported. Chappell accepted nomination. *Motion Carried.*

New Business:

Director's Report: (Gibson)

Directors Report was sent via email. No questions.

Thomas B. Jankowski, Ph. D. of WSU Institute of Gerontology:

Needs Assessment Update from Survey

Jankowski updated members on information coming out of the Community Needs Assessment. He noted that there is some interesting information coming from the Focus Groups and from the Stakeholders who participated in the survey. It seems to be the 60 to 64 age groups that are in the most need of Health Services. He is looking for geographical patterns dividing the county into five Geographical groups: City of Battle Creek, City of Albion & Albion Township, City of Marshall & Marshall Township, Battle Creek Suburbs, Rural Townships.

Pattern that arise

- City of Battle Creek and City of Albion is where there is the most economic need and the most people
- Awareness seems to be universal in cities and rural areas
- Marshall seniors are very active-they talk to neighbors, belong to churches, and volunteer

Jankowski requests a longer meeting about 3 to 3 1/2 hours to review data and implications. This meeting will be off-site. Bolton offered to host this meeting at her lake house on July 9th from 5 to 8:30. Future details to come.

Discussions at next meeting should include

- Is it enough to fund these services?
- Do we need to partner with United Way for outreach?
- Making adjustments in services we fund.

Adjournment: 9:50 a.m. - Motion by Powers supported by Clutter

Next regular meeting – Friday, July 12, 2013 – County Building-Room S-700 (Admin Conf. Room), Marshall

