

Portage Senior Citizens Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

June 18, 2014 – 2:30 -3:30 PM

Board Present: Jim Hoppe, Monifa A. Jumanne, Mary Maisto, Ruth Ann Meyer, Mary Lou Petruccio, Trudy Riker, Art Roberts, Helen Tubbs, and Karen Warner

Absent Excused: Ann Perkins, Pat Berninger

Staff: Kim Phillips, Senior Citizen Services Manager

Guests: None

Vice-Chair Jim Hoppe called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM.

No changes were suggested to the May 21, 2014 minutes. Mary moved that the minutes be approved as read and Art seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved as read.

Items for Information

- **Management Report for May (Kim)**
 - Attendance and Activities: Total event sign-ins: 2,327
 - Membership: 1,445, with 21 new members and 151 renewals
 - Volunteerism: 2,347, representing 163 volunteers' work and valued at over \$51,145.
 - Program Highlights: Ongoing collaboration with Schram's Greenhouses; "Mothers and Fathers Day" luncheon; "Something to Sing About" luncheon (featuring the PSC Choir); Friends of the PSC Golf Scramble; and "All About Bacon," a cooking demonstration.
 - Travel: Mystery Treasure Hunt, "A Delicious Drive," and Fernwood Botanical Garden.

Kim reports that PSC is closing out the former season of comparing apples to oranges. With the new fiscal year on July 1, PSC has entered the season of comparing apples to apples. Comparative data for member participation, as well as the first year of the MySeniorCenter© kiosk (MSC), are now available. Kim presented two sample data summaries, one of member participation and one of volunteer hours. A brief discussion ensued regarding which hours to record, which activities to record, and which data would be most helpful to collect for PSC purposes. The system offers many options for collecting and using the data. Jim encouraged Board members not only to use the kiosk consistently, but also to "gently coach" our peers to use the kiosk each time they visit the Center.

Goal Review: Kim reported progress toward the target goal includes the following: added insulation for the building, exterior woodwork repairs, repaired or replaced gutters, and re-sealing the parking lot.

- **Wellness (Helen)** – Helen announced that she is resigning from the Board. She is moving to Scotts, MI. She left materials for special wellness events and copies of handouts: "Nursing Home Checklist," "Home Health Agency Checklist," and "Planning for Emergencies."

The president of the Michigan Parkinson's Foundation will be speaking here in August, in cooperation with Bronson Hospital and the Kalamazoo Area Parkinson's Support Group.

- **Trip Committee** (Trudy, Art) – Trudy noted that recently, 5 out of 6 events have had to be canceled due to low registration. The committee encourages members and guests not to wait until the last minute to register for an event, but to commit to a trip opportunity as early as possible. The earlier people register (pay), the greater the chance that the trip will go forward as planned. The June 3-4 trip, “Fireside Theater and Lake Geneva” went very well.
- **Friends Update** (Trudy) – Friends recently contributed \$25,000 to support PSC programs and activities. This amount reflects Friends' generous annual contribution. The redesigned Friends' Web site is up and running. Friends welcomes our feedback on its redesigned Web site.
- **Youth Advisory Board Representative** – The Board expects a new youth representative in the Fall. It was suggested that Ann contact the appropriate person(s) to discuss the new candidate.
- **Current Legislation Regarding Seniors** (Ruth Ann) – Current issues for seniors include: 1) the impact of the Legislature's vote to eliminate land lines in Michigan, beginning in 2017. 2) A persistent concern that seniors will not come out to vote and that people 60+ won't show up at the polls. It is very important that seniors stay abreast of issues that affect seniors, such as the merits of a countywide transportation system.

Old Business

- Accreditation Update (Jim) – The Accreditation Committee met May 21 and is up-to-date. An upcoming task will be seeking individuals to chair or serve on the various committees.

New Business

- RE: Board and Staff Roles – Kim asked that if a Board member needs a PSC staff member to complete a task, he or she should direct the request to Kim, not to the staff member.
- Each person received a copy of the revised and approved PSC Membership Manual.

Activities Reminder

- PSC will be closed Friday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day.

Advisory Board Comments

- The Board thanked Helen for her dedication to PSC activities, particularly those related to health and wellness, and wished her well as she moves to Scotts, Michigan.
- Kim suggested that for next time, we might discuss funding trends and funding priorities of, e.g., the Kalamazoo Community Foundation, in response to a projected 87% increase in senior service needs over the next ten years. What is the city's or county's plan for generating a corresponding increase in operating funds to meet those needs?

Citizen Comments: None.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 PM. The next Advisory Board meeting will be July 16, 2:30 PM, at the Portage Senior Center. Reminder: If you are unable to attend an Advisory Board meeting, please call the chair, Ann Perkins, @ 269-329-1162, or e-mail aperkins@jaquarealtors.com.

Respectfully submitted,