

Portage Senior Citizens Advisory Board Meeting

Minutes

January 21, 2015

Board Present: Monifa A. Jumanne, Ruth Ann Meyer, Gloria Padilla-Carlson, Ann Perkins, Mary Lou Petruccio, Trudy Riker, Art Roberts, Bill Wieringa

Absent Excused: Pat Berninger, Mary Maisto, Michael E. Martin

Absent with Notice: Simran Singh

Staff: Kimberly Phillips, Senior Services Manager

Guests: William Deming, Director, Parks, Recreation & Public Services; Gail Ahleman

Call to Order: Chair Ann Perkins called the meeting to order at 2:25 PM.

Art moved and Ruth Ann seconded the motion to approve the November minutes. The minutes were unanimously approved with one correction: a meeting date of January 17 should have read January 21.

Items for Information

- **Manager's Report I – November** (Kim)

Total event sign-ins: 1,956.

Active memberships: 1,277, with 14 new members and 30 membership renewals.

Volunteer hours: Total of 2,025, representing the work of 173 volunteers valued at over \$44,000.

NOVEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

- Seventy-eight members enjoyed a Thanksgiving holiday lunch;
- The Holiday Bazaar raised \$2,102.70, a 20% increase in revenue over the 2013 total;
- Members collected and delivered to the Portage Community Center's "Make Life Better" program, **12 large boxes** of edible gifts for families during the holiday season;
- Staff continues information sessions with local service providers, the latest: Loaves & Fishes.

Manager's Report II - December (Kim)

Total event sign-ins: 2,112.

Active memberships: 1,283, with 14 new members and 52 membership renewals.

Volunteer hours: Total of 1,706, representing the work of 171 volunteers valued at over \$37,166.

DECEMBER HIGHLIGHTS

- PSC offered "Countdown to Kwanzaa: A Celebration of Family, Culture, and Community." The spontaneous camaraderie of this group made it quite memorable. Kim commended Dr. J on a "great job," and said the presentation received "great reviews";
 - The PSC Needlers knitted, crocheted, and delivered more than 1,000 sets of mittens, gloves, scarves, and hats to the Gospel Mission, Salvation Army, and Portage Community Center;
 - Sixty-three members enjoyed the PSC Holiday lunch.
 - Travel Program: A day trip to Frankenmuth, Lake Zurich, IL, and an extended trip to Branson.
- Other Highlights: PSC members adopted a family and shared a carload of Christmas presents.
Income: \$3,791, including rentals, transportation donations, memberships and fundraising.

- **Wellness Initiative** (Gloria)

PSC will sponsor a tour of Sawall Health Foods in Portage, Wednesday, March 18, 3PM. The tour is open to non-members. Gloria will attend the KCASI meeting, Monday, February 16, 1:15PM.

Trip Committee(Trudy, Art)

A December trip, “A Branson Christmas,” went very well; “More Local Treasures” is March 31; Kim will travel to Four Winds Casino in New Buffalo as an experiment. The Trip Preview/Sign-Up is 4/20.

- **Friends of the PSC** (Trudy)

Friends held a day-long retreat on January 20, for Board members only.

- **Legislative Updates** (Ruth Ann)

Ruth Ann will attend the next KCASI meeting, February 16, 2015, Senior Services Coover Center, Kalamazoo. Congressman Fred Upton is expected to speak. Topics include transportation issues and ballot proposals, such as a sales tax increase in order to fund roads.

Old Business

- **Accreditation 2015**– Subcommittee chairs have been selected. PSC is “...ahead of the game.”
- **Review of Board Roster** – Kim circulated an updated Advisory Board roster (1/14/15).
- **PSC Facebook Page** – Kim encouraged everyone to check out PSC's Facebook page.

New Business

- **Welcome, New Members!** - Chair Ann introduced Bill Wieringa, new alternate on the Advisory Board, and Gail Ahleman, visitor and possible Board candidate.
- **Review Complaint Policy** - Chair Ann provided a copy of the Complaint Resolution and Appeal Procedure, dated 11/24/2013, for each person to review.
- **Sylvania Senior Center** – Plans are being discussed for a visit to Sylvania Senior Center.

Activities Reminder

- **Coffee with a Cop** – 2/12; **Purse Sale** – 4/18; **Golf Outing** – 5/18

Advisory Board Comments

Trudy – (1) Michigan's Senior Olympics (MSO) Winter Games run Feb. 7-12. Volunteers are needed to assist with the games at Rochester Athletic Club; (2) MSO Summer Games, August 7-16, 2015.

Monifa thanked the Kwanzaa Committee, staff and volunteers, for offering our members and community such an enjoyable cultural experience.

Citizen Comments

Gail said she was “delighted to be here.” Bill Deming will retire February 13. He shared memories of early PSC, bid the Board a fond farewell, and left us with this: “I'll be around.”

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 PM.

The next Advisory Board meeting will be February 18 at 2:30 PM at the Senior Center.

Monifa A. Jumanne, Secretary