

Portage Senior Citizens Advisory Board

MINUTES

July 20, 2016

ATTENDANCE: Ruth Ann Meyer, Gloria Padilla-Carlson, Ann Perkins, Mary Lou Petruccio, Trudy Riker, Art Roberts, Jean Wenz, Sharon White, Bill Wieringa, Cortney Chow

Absent Excused: N/A

Guest: N/A

Staff: Kim Phillips, PSC Manager

Call to order time: 2:35pm

Corrections to previous minutes:

The Friends of the PSC Golf outing netted \$10,000 - on page 2 – Kim will correct the wording on this statement. With that correction, the minutes were approved.

Programs (Gloria):

Sonya resigned, no report.

Travel Program (Art & Trudy):

Recent trips:

Palmer House and Comerica were canceled due to low sign ups.

Starting Over, Jewel of Joliet, and Baseball and Bingo were all well attended. Trudy encouraged people to help broadcast the message that signing up early is imperative.

Friends of PSC Board Update:

The Friends approved the budget for 2016-17. There was quite a bit of debate for upcoming budget including the question of the expenses of marketing generating adequate income. Shifting funds to cover various expenses was discussed. The PSC has been recommended for reaccreditation with one of the recommendations from the on-site peer reviewer being to open scholarships for more opportunity to participate. Discussion also took place as to how to use scholarship income through the Friends. Harding's Escarp is no longer user friendly but requires computer use and type in codes at the checkout. Donor recognition venues are being explored. Gull Lake is secured for the 2017 golf scramble. The \$521 cost for Accreditation is being split with Friends. Friends also wrote a \$20,000 check to supplement operating costs. Audits of the Friends Board were explored and are cost prohibitive. Other methods for audits are being explored.

Legislative Update (Ruth Ann):

Election for Aug 2nd is a primary, please vote. November 8th is the general election. Voters guides are usually available in the PSC lobby. Send letters to our representatives who have supported the Older Americans Act.

Management (Kim):

Our portion of the City's budget is showing the PSC to within the goal of 60-70% self-sufficient. When all the figures are in, those numbers may show a variance, but preliminary numbers look good. Sonya Evans has resigned after six months with the Senior Center. Sonya is moving out of state to be closer to family. The position was posted, Kim has been interviewing and will be making a recommendation for hire soon.

Welcome to Courtney, youth representative.

The Aging Mastery Program is moving forward to launch in October. AAA III has approached Kim to be part of a four county roll-out.

New Member breakfasts are being well received.

There were 80 in attendance at the Volunteer Recognition.

The Farmers Market is not quite as successful as hoped but spacing and vendor turn out has been good. The market will end at the close of October. This Market is run by People's Food Coop.

Old Business:

Resignation was received from Monifa Jumanne due to a conflict with her work as a paid consultant for the City of Portage.

New Business:

Accreditation recommendations by Christine-director of Madison, Wisconsin's Senior Center whose recommendations included:

Change of the Center's mission and value statements as well as changes in the membership form to provide space for interests and talents.

Space, parking and staffing could be added to. Volunteer hours are the equivalent of eleven full time employees.

Improved financial reporting for the trip department.

Look at programs to increase friendliness to the LGBT community. Low income housing with seniors, LGBT, we can get them here but is our environment welcoming?

Strategic planning will be forthcoming. A celebration will be held in National Senior Center Month. We are going to do a celebration of the accreditation with the national senior center celebration. The subcommittee members will be invited in for a luncheon followed by an open to the public celebration. Invites to follow.

The question of a possible name change has been ongoing. Kim met with Jim Firman of the NCOA who is a proponent of the *Longevity* word in lieu of Senior. Next step is for strategic planning and focus groups

regarding reaccreditation recommendations. The number of programs the PSC offers is adequate for regional possibilities, such as the Portage Regional Senior Center

ACTIVITIES REMINDER:

The July 19 dinner and entertainment had 24 attendees. Although this evening event has not proved as popular as hoped, it is attended by a consistent 20 – 30 individuals. The meal is always great.

Ted Talks is monthly.

The Art-U collaboration with PDL offers the PSC to host an ice cream social and the PSC Band is playing.

A 9-Hole golf scramble is held annually for PSC members who prefer not to participate in the 19-Hole Friends Scramble.

Kim has established a partnership with WMU in the form of afternoon “Prof Talks,” two in the fall and two in winter/spring, offering random topics of interest through a sponsorship.

Discussion took place regarding products available at the Sunday Market.

Advisory Board Comments: NONE

Citizen comments: None

Courtney announced the community night coming up – premier of Star Wars at Celery Flats on August 5th. She will send out emails with details, which were in the Portager.

Time Adjourned: 3:30 PM.

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 17, 2:30PM