

Portage Senior Citizens Advisory Board

MINUTES: November 16, 2016

ATTENDANCE: Gloria Padilla-Carlson, Art Roberts, Mary Lou Petruccio, Ann Perkins, Larry Smith, Albert Steffens, Trudy Riker, Geana Goorhouse, Jean Wenz, Sharon White

Absent Excused: Bill Wieringa

Absent Un-excused: N/A

Guests: Monifa Jumanne

Staff: Kim Phillips

Call to order time: 2:30PM

Corrections to previous minutes: Ann was absent at the previous meeting. Next meeting date needs to be changed.

Approved with corrections – motion made by Albert, seconded by Larry.

Meeting chaired by Gloria, since Bill was absent.

Programs, Gloria Padilla-Carlson:

(Gloria has just returned from Cuba.) Discussion on email program updates to members that goes out every two weeks, which goes out to over 1,000 email addresses. Kim clarified what the biweekly email update is and who can receive them. Severe weather policy was reviewed. Aging Mastery Program is a ten week program and is going great. Gloria did a talk about hydration for this program and was impressed with the participation and the way the program has been organized. Kim reviewed what the AMP program is and how it is funded and licensed.

Don't forget the December 15 Holiday Lunch is coming up!

Travel Program, Trudy Riker:

Three trips are currently sold out and one of those is being duplicated because it is so popular. This is very early in the year to have sell outs, so the trip office has hit on some very popular trips.

Friends of PSC Board Update, Trudy Riker:

Election of officers was held for the Friends, with Kimberly Middleton stepping down from the position of the Chair, replaced by Bill McCarty. They reviewed by-laws which will stand unchanged.

All Friends members signed a conflict of interest statement. The Treasury report was tabled because of a change in bank ownership and subsequent delays in reporting.

An architect has been hired to look over the possibilities for Senior Center expansion.

The Friends had a table at the Holiday Bazaar but it didn't attract much interest. Discussion took place on what to do to improve

Unity in Diversity event is upcoming and will be held before the Traditional Holiday Tree Lighting.

The Friends Annual Appeal went out in a blanket mailing – the biggest in history.

January 17 from 8-noon is scheduled for a Friends Retreat. The location is to be determined. Members of the Advisory Board may be able to attend this retreat and coordinate calendars so the Advisory Board can work on attending and supporting the Friends.

Trudy introduced eScrip to the Advisory Board and described the process as a fund raiser for the Friends.

The board is also considering a donor event that might tie in with the architectural vision.

Legislative Updates, Kim Phillips:

Kim suggested Art Roberts take on this portion of the Advisory Board reporting, and Art agreed. Kim can step in when Art cannot attend the KCASI meeting. We need to continue to push to keep senior programs, Medicare and Medicaid etc. in the forefront. KASCI will be rolling out a new website. They have a Facebook page, but the Kalamazoo County had a KASCI page on the county website they recently took down. KCASI is working to put their own website up.

Managers' Report, Kim Phillips:

Kim distributed managers' report for November to all board members. In terms of promoting the Senior Center, the report has been transformed away from descriptors to statistics and numbers which make a more powerful impact in reporting.

Jean Wenz asked if it were mandated to list the ethnicity. Kim explained that the information is requested in grant reporting.

It is interesting to note that sexual education and health is at the forefront of current concerns for seniors.

Strategic planning on an 18 month cycle is being constructed as a result of the Accreditation process – putting things on a large calendar to review overall will aid in all programming efforts.

Heritage Dinner Series has been well received, third Tuesday of every month at 5:00 for anyone interested... December's meal may be prime rib at \$10 per plate! Mr. Magic and the Watermelon band is a regular performer and very good Jazz players.

Aging Mastery feedback is excellent. This will soon be certified as an evidence based program. Dec 8 at 9:00 a.m. is the next New Member breakfast, all Advisory Board members are invited. This is a more open event for new members to learn about the center and make connections.

The engineering evaluation by the architectural firm went well, they were extremely thorough in going through the building. The concept and the price tag they will provide will help us in our efforts to move forward. We are asking the firm if we should look at expansion of the current building or a new building – their job is to assess the needs of the Center and find the best solutions for moving forward. The MSC provided statistical data for the architectures regarding foot traffic, parking, membership numbers, participation, etc. The funding is expected to be a public/private venture.

The Holiday Bazaar and Bake sale had 580 customers counted attending \$1,300 made on the bake sale, about \$350 on soup and sandwich café which was a break even and about \$360 on table vendor fees. It was the best Bazaar we've had so far. The customers were buying more than normal this year as well, per Larry Smith.

An indoor version of the Farmers Market is taking place the second Sunday of every month, 10-2:00 PM, through April of 2017. This indoor event is bringing in a few new members every month.

Old Business:

Secretarial position needs to be assigned/accepted. Geana was nominated for and accepted the position of secretary for the Advisory Board.

New Business:

There was no new business presented.

ACTIVITIES REMINDERS:

Moving forward, Ted Talks and Prof Talks are going to complement each other. Ted Talks are brief and to the point taped presentations by experts in the field. Some of the presentations are inspirations and motivating. Prof Talks (funded by Wisner & Associates) are presented by WMU professors who come in to talk about topics within their area of expertise.

December 3 is the Unity in Diversity program.

Kwanzaa is coming up, Monifa will talk about that program.

Advisory Board Comments:

Art – talked about having a December “party” instead of the regular meeting December 21 with a potluck treat. Kim will provide punch and paper goods. Please plan to address some business at this meeting, but yes, let's have a party. Plan on enough for twelve board members. Salty sweet, anything finger foods was agreed upon.

Citizen comment:

Monifa Jumanne: Pleased to be there, glad to see everyone, congratulations to the new secretary and greetings to all. This will be the third Kwanzaa presentation held at the PSC, and it has grown each year. Monifa had a sign in sheet and flyer, and distributed personal invitations to take part in this event. Sharon and Art are on the committee, but the invitation for service is open to all. The Senior Center is paying for the food, and it is in the budget. Monifa expected costs to be around \$150. Monifa gave a brief history of Kwanzaa for the Advisory Board. Kwanzaa is not a substitute for Christmas.

Time Adjourned: 3:35PM

Next meeting: December 21, 2016