

Portage Senior Citizens Advisory Board

MINUTES: January 18, 2016

ATTENDANCE: Gloria Padilla-Carlson, Arthur Roberts, Mary Lou Petruccio, Ann Perkins, Larry Smith, Albert Steffens, Trudy Riker, Geana Goorhouse, Sharon White, Bill Wieringa

Absent Excused: Jean Wenz, Sharon White

Absent Un-excused: N/A

Guests: Kimberly Middleton, Life EMS Ambulance & Friends of the Portage Senior Center

Staff: Kim Phillips

Call to order time: 2:30 PM

Corrections to previous minutes: Cortney's name was corrected to the proper spelling

Approved minutes- motion made by Art, seconded by Gloria Padilla-Carlson

Programs, Gloria Padilla-Carlson:

There is a Membership survey included in the renewal membership letter which asks the question, "how satisfied are you with the current communication relating to Portage Senior Center programs"? Gloria pointed out the importance of sharing information with others in our personal and professional circles, regarding the programs and services that Portage Senior Center offers. In this way, people in the community would be made aware of the many offerings at Portage Senior Center. This may include Church or other organizational announcements or placing pamphlets in other area in our community, stores, or other common areas in apartments or condominiums. Kim Phillips added that the Prof talks were successful because of word of mouth.

Kim and staff have planned a tentative calendar for the next 18 months. This calendar is outside of the regular planned events. The intention is to plan ahead for holidays or other events, to allow the staff to become more organized and aware of what events are approaching. Some of these events stay true to the Portage Senior Center Mission Statement. Any suggestions or questions will be appreciated. Kim will try to plan the marketing around this schedule to better facilitate the communication in the community relative to events at the senior center. This calendar will be for internal use only for those who are planning events at the Senior Center. Bill Wieringa suggested to place a copy in the 2017 accreditation file. Kim asks that the board help in ensuring that this tentative calendar is properly used to facilitate organization within Senior Center.

Travel Program, Arthur Roberts and Trudy Riker :

There is a Video on the West wall of the lobby relating to all the trips that are available through Portage Senior Center. There will be a trip review on April 17 from 2-6 so that the community will be able to attend and become informed on the trips coming up for the next 6 months. Trudy stated that she and the trip committee will be doing research and planning for trips from July – December. The fall trip review has been scheduled for September from October as the Senior expo takes place in October. The escorts are being encouraged to come in to the Portage Senior Center to be recorded on video talking

about the trips. Trudy and the Travel Committee would also like to plan a “super Saturday event” where the community again, will have an opportunity to learn about trips and sign up. Trudy would like to hear from anyone who has ideas about any trips that would like to be taken. Trudy was also discussing the need for a large van that could accommodate 15 or 25 people as this is enough people to take on a trip instead of having to get a big bus. Please let Dawn in the trip office know of any trip ideas. The Escorts are many and will be provided upon request.

Friends of PSC Board Update, Bill Wieringa:

Kimberly Middleton, the past Friends of PSC President and who attended the Friends retreat and Bill Wieringa discussed having a presence from a Friends’ board member to enhance the communication between Friends of PSC “and the Senior Advisory board. Kimberley states that the priority of Friends of PSC is to “raise funds for the senior center for operations and the like”. The collaboration between the Friends Senior and the Advisory Board will enhance the opportunities to raise the funds needed in the future. There will be a golf outing on May 22nd at the Gull Lake Country Club. The question was purposed to Kimberley Middleton, if the luncheon and silent auction may be opened for those who do not golf (with a purchase of a ticket). Also, those that volunteer to help at the golf outing will receive a free lunch. Anyone interested If you want to volunteer Bill McCarty or Kim Phillips will pass along the information to those in charge of finding volunteers for the golf outing. The Fall appeal yielded just under \$16,000.00 in donations which is ahead of last year. The Purse sale, which usually takes place on the first part of April, will now take place after Labor Day on the 8,9,10 of September. Men are invited to the purse sale as well. Trudy would continue to remain as a presence during the Friends of PSC Board meetings.

Legislative Updates, Art:

Governor Snyder grants veterans authorities in Grand Rapids and in Marquette Renovation of Veteran facilities and construction of new facilities. HB 5422, sponsored by state Rep. John Chirkun, expands the elements of fourth-degree vulnerable adult abuse to include an intentional act by a caregiver posing unreasonable risk of harm or injury regardless of whether physical harm resulted. It is now Public Act 480 of 2016

Health and Wellness, Geana Goorhouse

It has been decided that the Health and Wellness information, education will be discussed at the next board meeting by Kim Phillips. Bringing more people in to talk to the PSC Board, who are in the health care field, will give a better picture of the availability of health care providers in the community. Bob Litke, the CEO of Senior Services, is willing to speak to the PSC board. Every other month may be best to discuss health and wellness.

Manager’s Report, Kim Phillips:

Graduation of Aging mastery class has taken place, with some canceling due to the weather. There was a trip to Four Winds Casino, and all came home safely. The first Holiday diversity event went well. The meet and greet for new members was well done. The participants made friends and connections during this time. Kim dispersed to the board information relating to other agencies and how they handle closing their community centers during the time of area School closings. Bill states that: “we are here to serve the community and if you, (Kim Phillips) have to be here and the staff has to be here, why not stay

open? Kim: what if we state that the Senior Center van won't run and classes may be closed, depending on the instructor". Instructors do sometimes call and cancel a class and the PSC staff calls the participants and alerts them that the class has been canceled. The PSC Advisory board is open to having the closing policy changed and Kim will draft a proposal and bring it in next month. The policy will not change until spring or summer of 2017.

Old Business, Kim Phillips:

Architecture update: Nothing new until next month. By the end of March the architects will be back to discuss the new building plans

New Business, Kim Phillips:

In line with the long term program calendar the goals, objectives and action steps for the next twelve months have also been updated. The mission and vision have been placed on the front with the values, which are the city values centered around services. The staff set 9 goals based on the 9 standards of accreditation that should be worked on all the time. The objectives will continually adjust to meet the 9 goals set forth in accreditation. Kim states that this is an accountability thing to ensure the 9 standards are met. The staff wrote their individual goals and objectives based on the standards of accreditation. Therefore, all of the PSC staff had input into the document that will meet the goals and objectives in the coming year. This is a fluid document that will evolve and change. The staff set themselves to a higher standard when they put this document together. Suggestions are encouraged.

ACTIVITIES REMINDERS:

Ted talks January 19th from 1-2

WMU nutritional cooking presentation Friday February 6th at 1:00 p.m. that is free.

Special screening of Selma with free snacks to honor MLK day January 23rd

February 27 a time for Justice screening

ADVISORY BOARD COMMENTS:

No comments noted other than the comments in this transcript

Youth Advisory Committee, Cortney

The Youth Advisory is working on the social host ordinance making people accountable for adults who are hosting party's with underage kids and alcohol. Diversity event coming up, (details are forthcoming). The Youth Advisory Committee will talk about their experiences relating to diversity. The Youth Advisory Committee will present goal and objects at the Portage City Hall on the 24th of January. Winter fest is coming and planning "Greenathon" to celebrate earth day.

Citizen comment:

None this session

Time Adjourned: 3:30PM

Next meeting February 15 , 2017