

Portage Senior Citizens Advisory Board

MONTH: July 19, 2017

ATTENDANCE:

Gloria Padilla-Carlson, Ann Perkins, T Mary Lou Petruccio, Trudy Riker, Art Roberts, Larry Smith, Albert Steffens, Jean Wenz, Sharon White, Bill Wieringa

Absent Excused:

Absent Un-excused:

Guests: None

Staff: Kim Phillips, PSC Manager

Call to order time: 2:30 PM

Corrections to previous minutes: Advisory Board comments, not Mary Lou but Ann Perkins

The minutes for July were approved with a motion by Al Steffens and seconded by Art Roberts.

Special Events, Gloria Padilla-Carlson:

Travelogue on Cuba went very well with many in attendance. Art Roberts and his wife Betty were there. Kim Phillips on Speed Dating; the first event was attended by 12 men and 12 women, Jac's decked out the private area of their restaurant with bistro tables and centerpieces. Participants enjoyed the event with 21 people enjoying the success of mutual selections which means they go on to exchanging contact information. This event is attracting non-members who have an opportunity to learn about the center. Greta is playing Cupid and enjoying her role very much. There is time after each event to socialize.

Gloria Padilla Carlson has joined a bike advisory board, asking for ideas and thoughts regarding what is good or needs improving regarding bicycling in the city of Portage. Trudy Riker commented that she appreciates the flags on the bicycles which help drivers notice bicyclists.

Travel Program, Trudy Riker:

Six trips, 170 passengers, *the King and I* trip was a wonderful experience, *Summer in Saugatuck* and *Memphis* were both recipients of excellent reviews. The Growlers lost, but the Tigers won. The trip to NW Indiana was cancelled.

Friends of PSC Board Update, Trudy Riker:

Reviewing donations from the Spring Appeal, an up to date total results in a larger sum than last year at this time. The Friends are having a donor appreciation event on August 9, from 4 to 6:00 PM, at the PSC.

Testimonials will be included during the event, as well as talks about the future of the PSC to be given by city

officials or Kim Phillips. There is a second type of donor event being extended to donors of larger dollar amounts, in which the donor is being taken to lunch at the Beacon Club.

An October fall kick-off at Schrier Park will be taking place 4-6:00 pm with a charge for the food – an appeal for funds. Check your newsletter for the date and details. Games to be on site at this kick-off were discussed. A scholarships refund at \$243 amount request was approved.

Weekly website updates will include upcoming events.

Discussion about podcasts, liquor licenses for a couple of upcoming events including the purse sale and Portage Cooks were approved. VIP Early Access with Mimosas by ticket price possible prior to the purse sale.

Legislative Update, Art Roberts:

Senior millage for Kalamazoo County – Kal County is one of only 10 opportunities w/o a millage to help support, and a senior millage is being considered. A senior millage is money to assist with critical services to older adults.

AAA and other agencies that provide in home care for seniors have significant wait lists of people who are in need of meals on wheels etc. and does not have the income to provide appropriate staffing to meet the needs. Home Care agencies and supplemental health care agencies are wait listed. Tax dollars would be allocated to agencies that provide services to seniors. People want to stay at home, but the issue is the need to get people the services they need to remain at home. Millage funds would be allocated to enable agencies to meet the needs. Kal county commission is considering whether or not to put it on the ballot. Kim may be passing info to the board (citizens) as needed.

August KASCI, 21st 1:15 at Senior Services on Jasper Street.

Health and Wellness:

Who would like to volunteer to be the board's representative for Health and Wellness and how issues relate to seniors and what the board should be advising on. The intention was to bring to the table any issues the PSC needs to program to. Does it need a representative, or does the board as a whole need to be aware of the health and wellness aspect of the senior community. Ann Perkins, two-fold subject – passing along education and information regarding H&W. Keep H&W as a placeholder on the agenda. Staff has been discussing the six areas of wellness and how programming fits in to that list, and where is the PSC the weakest. Ann Perkins commented that the board needs to be diligent regarding H&W as it has a strong emphasis in accreditation.

Managers Report:

The PSC is partnering with PDL on Sat Sept 9 for What's Cooking in Portage, a day-long event featuring presentations, demonstrations and workshops between the two buildings focused on food and beverage subjects. This event will cover various topics appealing to all age levels. This is meant to end with a progressive dinner, a ticketed event, at the PSC.

Any one listen to Podcasts? (No) Podcasts are available via websites story telling or audio book of short snippets health management, subscribe to different ones, one called The Moth, oral storytelling focus want to start doing recorded Podcasts meet with a different member or citizen regarding their story and how they connected to the PSC. Drawing in younger folks are very big on Podcasts and it should be easy to get them interested. This is planned to take place through the Friends of the PSC. There are such a wide variety of personalities at the center, and it would be nice to capture that.

Director of the Comparative Religions Department at WMU finalized talks for the upcoming semester at the PSC: Religion in of and around super hero comic books, Buddhist Roots of the American Mindfulness Movement, Pathways to Sustainability-the Greening of US Faith Based Communities, The connection between spirituality and Health. They are making some recommendations for some of the local religious institutions for possible tours and further educational opportunities.

Aging Mastery Program continues to be successful, classes in South County Vicksburg coming soon, wait lists are ongoing for the classes, Nat Council on Aging is looking at our model as a Best Practices structure. We will be trying the AMP course in five weeks as a “crash course.”

Old Business:

The Advisory Board has no secretary, nominations for the position: Ann Perkins suggested someone take the position that has not done this before. Kim suggested to wait until October when new board members come on board. This subject was tabled until October. Sharon White suggested that someone already familiar with the board might be a better candidate for secretary. Gloria, Mary Lou, Art, Courtney and the chair’s term are all over in October.

New Business:

Membership revocation policy: We had a situation where we had a member who got physical with another member. We do not have a clear process for revocation, so Kim had to make a judgment call on how to deal with inappropriate behavior. There is nothing in the policy or manual that delineates the method for revocation of membership. Is there anyone willing to review our manual or contact other centers for a process? This is last on our list of recommendations out of the accreditation process. Bill Wieringa volunteered to put together a framework to propose to the city administration. The complaint procedure states what is prohibited, but not what will be done should a person violate the list of offenses. Start with the membership manual and travel rules and move forward. Are there behaviors that result in immediate membership revocation? Bill will research this.

Gloria Padilla Carlson comment: could we as a board speak one at a time please? Advisory Board should have the travel committees list of how to conduct themselves at a meeting – rules of order.

Perkins – building plans are in process, nothing formal to present.

ACTIVITES REMINDERS:

The Farmers Market meets between 10-2:00 on Sundays, with moderate attendance that vendors would like to see improve.

Bronson COPD presentation July 20th.

Tom Sage, Neil Diamond impersonation free at Overlander Band Shell at 7:00 PM on the lawn

Coffee with Brent Iden, August 25

League of Women's Voters will organize and present a candidate forum at the PSC. The Senior Center will provide space for this event, but not facilitate it.

Advisory Board Comments:

There were no Advisory Board Comments

Citizen comment:

None.

Time Adjourned: 3:28 PM

Next meeting: Wednesday, August 16, 2:30PM