

Portage Senior Citizens Advisory Board

MINUTES: February 15, 2017

**ATTENDANCE:** Arthur Roberts, Ann Perkins, Trudy Riker, Geana Goorhouse, Sharon White, and Jean Wenz, Cortney Chow

Absent Excused: Bill Wieringa, Albert Steffens, Mary Lou Petrulio Gloria Padilla Carlson, and Larry Smith

Un-excused: N/A

**Guest**

Catherine (Aetna MI health link program), Kimberly Middleton (Friends of the Portage Senior Center)

**Staff:** Kim Phillips

Call to order time: 2:30 PM

Advisory meeting chaired by Ann Perkins as Bill Wieringa had an excused absence

Additions and Corrections to previous minutes: Tabled until next Portage Senior Citizens Advisory Board

Approved to table minutes- motion made by Art

**Travel Program, Trudy Riker:**

Trudy reported two trips last month one to the Civic to see the play "Sylvia" and to the Park Club. The trips and the Mystery dinner at the Senior Center was well attended and enjoyed by all. The next meeting for the travel committee is meeting is this Monday February 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Friends, Trudy Riker:**

No report as the Friends has not met yet this month

**Legislature Arthur Roberts**

May 17<sup>th</sup> Michiganian day in Lansing. Bus may not be available due to the amount of people that attend. A van is trying to be procured for this event.

**Health and Wellness, Geana Goorhouse**

Due to the amount of board members who were excused from this meeting, it has been decided to table the Health and Wellness until next PSC meeting.

**Old Business, Kim Phillips:**

Architecture update: The City Administration requested that a concept and a budget if PSC was to build on Brown street. The building would face Center street, but the entrance would be on Brown street. This would give the PSC better visibility if it should face Center Street.

Closing policy presently: If the schools are closed PSC is closed. Proposed policy change: If the schools are closed the van will not be running. However, if people want to come then people will be able to come into the building to participate. The concern is people calling to see if the PSC is open or not. Per

Kim, people call anyway as people wonder if events, classes are open. However, once the new closing process is communicated and via the scrolling banner on the TV, cell phone alerts, etc. the public will begin to understand when PSC will be closed to the public due to weather. The advisory board feedback will be taken into consideration. This decision will be tabled until the next PSC Advisory meeting.

### **New Business Ann Perkins**

There is a need for transportation within the PSC. Often it is difficult to procure adequate transportation to various events hosted by PSC, Friends, etc. Therefore, the need for transportation/bus should be brought to the attention of City Council. The lack of transportation creates some challenges for participants of the PSC programs that are offered to the community to attend events. Metro van can be used, however there are restrictions, including seating and the Metro van can only be taken within the Kalamazoo area. Church vans/bus could be used, but these also are restricted. The best transportation would include a w/c assessable van that could accommodate 15-20 passengers. Ann Perkins suggested that Trudy Riker and Art talk to Bill Wieringa to talk about the need for a transportation van as he is chair. The idea will be addressed at the trip committee meeting. A list of needs should be drawn up regarding what the transportation van may look like including seating, accessibility.

### **Manager's Report Kim Phillips:**

MMAP (Medicare Medicaid Assistance Program) will be available at the Portage Senior Center to assist those in need of assistance with signing up for Medicaid or Medicare on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday once a month from 1-4 pm by appointment.

Over 90 people attended the Murder Mystery. The staff is continuing to working on a 18<sup>th</sup> month program planning calendar. Some things that will be coming up are walking program launch a spring into summer walking program. Kim is working on the details with more to come.

There will be a book presentation, "1000 letters from home" Thursday June 22<sup>nd</sup>. This book is based on letters Theresa Irish's father wrote home during war time deployment. There will be a ticketed event that will include lunch and a second event that will be free to the public. This will be a good way to connect with veterans and others to come into the Senior Center. Kim reports that PSC may want to move the presentation to a large venue if need be. However, since tickets will be sold for the luncheon a head count would help facilitate the need for a change of venue.

Application to show "Age of Love" documentary at Celebration Cinema. This documentation focus on a senior community that held a speed dating event. This documentary follows the speed dating event and how people need to be in community and a relationship. As a result, speed dating may be brought to PSC as many relationships are developed at PSC.

PSC came in 3<sup>rd</sup> nationally for the flu shot challenge. The "prize" was \$2000. Kim would like to see a commercial popcorn machine for movies and other events.

Kendall Klingelsmith, Director of Parks and Recreation, has tendered his resignation, last day March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Still unsure of how the transition will go.

There is a panel available currently in the center of the bulletin board that is dedicated to special events, holidays etc. to keep people engaged and informed as to what is coming up and available at PSC

Any opinions regarding goals and objectives of the PSC staff. It was recommended that the values should be posted for all to see including having the values posted in a more aesthetic way.

**ACTIVITIES REMINDERS:**

Valentine Lunch 5.00 on the 16<sup>th</sup> of February

Ted Talks will continue February 16 and March 16 1-2 PM

Aging Mastery Program to begin on Fridays 9:30-11:30 a.m. beginning March 3rd

Heritage dinner February 21 shrimp Jambalaya, corn bread

Special Movie Screening of "A time for Justice: America's Civil Rights Movement", February 27 at 1 PM

St. Patrick's Day Lunch Thursday March 16 11:30 AM entertainment 11:45 lunch, \$5 lunch reservation

New Member meet and eat Thursday March 9 from 9-10:30 AM

Spring Carnival 4-7:30 PM

May 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Golf Scramble

**Youth Advisory Committee, Cortney Chow**

Saturday February 18 beginning at 8:30 AM to 12:30 PM Diversity event at WMU Fetzer Center. Cortney will be speaking about her experiences relating to diversity and the challenges she faces as a minority.

**Citizen comment:**

None this session

Time Adjourned: 3:30PM

Next meeting March 15 2017 at 2:30 PM

