

Portage Senior Citizens Advisory Board

MINUTES

April 19, 2016

ATTENDANCE: Monifa A. Jumanne, Ruth Ann Meyer, Kathy Mishler, Gloria Padilla-Carlson, Ann Perkins, Trudy Riker, Art Roberts, Sharon White, Bill Wieringa, Ali Arif

Absent Excused: Mary Lou Petrulio and Jean Wenz

Guest: none

Staff: Kim Phillips, PSC Manager

Call to order time: 2:36 PM

Corrections to previous minutes: none

Motion to approve the minutes by Ruth Ann Meyer, seconded by Ann Perkins.

Management (Kim):

Month of April was very busy, highlights include St Patrick's Day lunch sponsored by MediLodge, with 40 attendees.

Two busloads went to the casino in March, a popular excursion offered once each quarter.

The first New Member *Meet and Eat* took place with 41 participants. This revised version of New Member Orientation allows for more interaction and engagement. New Member Orientations as they had been presented are being phased out in favor of a more social version with a focus on establishing new members as active participants. Several new members attended the trip preview.

The rest rooms have been remodeled and are now fresh and bright. The funds were donated by the Friends of the PSC compliments of a \$6,000 donation that Kim was directed to spend down. Yet to come are automatic flushers and stainless countertops in the kitchen. The front doors have been painted.

More fully using MSC Database, all staff members are committed to using less paper and doing all possible transactions electronically. MSC was used for the Trip Preview and it went very well, saving staff and volunteers much labor and stress.

Representative Brent Iden came in and spent time with seniors in the lobby.

Programs Development and Research

Kim Phillips: the plan is to get Sonya up to speed and bringing some new programming on site which targets the Boomer generation. Sonya has been in Travel Boot Camp, and has not had much time to dedicate to programming as yet.

Travel Program (Art & Trudy):

Upcoming trips:

Art Roberts: Pick up a copy of the new travel book before you leave and check out the new trips. There were 148 participants for the preview and lots of excitement about the new travel opportunity roll out. Tanzania, and a Southern Caribbean Cruise at an incredible price both seem to be big draws.

Trudy Riker: The preview theme was Explore Your Wild Side, with staff participating in costume. There were more sign ups at the time of the preview than ever before (taking sign-ups electronically during the preview.)

Kim Phillips: The PSC had a substantial waiting list for the Travel Preview this spring, and as people left, those in the lobby went in, open house style. There is also an Ireland/Scotland tour drawing interest.

Friends of PSC Board Update:

Trudy Riker: Quite a bit of discussion took place regarding existing funds and investments and how to best position the dollars. There were some ideas/suggestions about a rotating table for left-over purses sale, but there are other options for the left over purses. Marketing discussion took place as well, with a focus on the website and the golf scramble being held at the Gull Lake Country Club on May 16. Visit FriendsPSC.org to obtain sign up forms for the scramble. The Spring Appeal (no date confirmed) was discussed. A \$3,000 donation from Alice Noecker's Trust was discussed, and the prevailing thought by the board was to use some of the money for a memorial plaque and/or a donor reception.

Ann Perkins: Could the Advisory Board assist in any way? Trudy encouraged members of the Advisory Board to volunteer on these projects because the Friends Board consists of individuals who are working full time in professional capacities and have families.

Legislative Update (Ruth Ann):

Ruth Ann Meyer: Remind people to register to vote. For the November election, you must register by October 11. Fred Upton should be thanked regarding the supporting the renewal of the Older American's act. House passed the Older American's Act reauthorization which supports Area Agency on Aging and agencies that assist older Americans.

State Representative, Margaret O'Brien, put a senate bill #352 Michigan Care Act trying to ensure that Americans have common sense solutions to provide better care for loved ones as they transition from hospital to facilities or back home.

Ruth Ann will provide more information regarding these bills, what they mean, and who should be thanked for supporting them at next month's meeting.

The biggest thing Ruth Ann wanted to leave with the group was Older Michiganian's Day on May 11. Transportation is by bus, and departs from Kalamazoo County Health on Miller Road 8:30 AM and return approximately 5:00. There were a few seats available.

Old Business:

Ann Perkins requested a wrap up on the Purse Sale.

Kim: Over 200 attendees bought purses, bags and accessories with the Friends netting approximately \$2,500. This was slightly less than last year, however it was expected because last year the event was a novelty and this year the competition was stiff from other community events. Thanks go out to all those who helped with the project, including Gloria Padilla-Carlson who spent many hours assisting with preparation. One of the May Farmer's Markets will feature an impromptu purse sale of the left-overs.

New Business:

Kim Phillips: Distributed MSC generated reports of overall participation numbers to the board showing fiscal year comparisons. The report showed a marked increase in travel numbers. Looking at the numbers across the bottom of the report it shows the trend of an increase in unduplicated participations, which means more individuals are using the Center less frequently. For instance, ten people are coming once, instead of one person coming ten times. This proves out what is known of the Boomer generation, which is looking for meaningful interaction rather than daily/weekly card games. New programming will be focused on targeting the next generation's needs. The report also shows a 15% increase in traffic from last fiscal year to this. Staff is programming for three generations, and needs to be aware of the needs of each.

Kim also noted that non-member participation is on a sharp increase due to evening meals, entertainment, travel and after hours offerings.

Orienting new members to the MSC kiosk is happening on a regular basis. The screen changes from time to time as it is updated, and these updates can be the source of some confusion. The touch screen itself is sensitive, and people have been observed stabbing it with key fobs and acrylic nails, but overall are becoming more comfortable with the process.

Gloria asked if there had been any more discussion regarding refiguring the reception desk. Kim answered yes, if the current budget gets approved, an architect will come in to evaluate how we are using the existing space and what improvements could be made.

Kim Phillips: The Teen Tech Tuesday program has been successful. The kids do great with the seniors, and the seniors are eating up the information on an individual, one-on-one interactive experience. This program takes place every Tuesday from 3:30 – 4:30 PM.

Advisory Board Goals: An update on the Advisory Board goals were requested by the City Clerk's office, and it was suggested that the goal regarding re-accreditation be updated with supporting the Aging Mastery Program discussed at previous meetings. Ruth Ann moved to accept goal five change and Ann Perkins seconded. Monifa Jumanne questioned the language of the goals and asked if the board wrote them. Chair, Bill Wieringa confirmed this and added they are carried forward from year to year. Monifa called attention to the difference between a goal and an objective, and requested that the board consider changing the language to include a measurable outcome. The suggestion does not change the goal, but word it differently. Monifa will provide the board with a suggestion and submit it to board members for review via email. There was concern that changes would not be made in time to meet the deadline set by the City Clerk. Bill tabled the acceptance of the updated goals and will visit the City Clerk's Office to obtain an accurate deadline for submission.

ACTIVITES REMINDER:

Kim: Lunches by MediLodge at \$5 per person, sometimes with entertainment. Grocery Bingo is next week, Oil & Vinegar Tasting on May 2nd by Pantry on Tap, May 5 at 9:00 AM there will be a public hearing for the Area Agency on Aging in regards to future funding.

Farmers' Market starts May 1st and runs every Sunday from May to October, Noon to 4:00 PM. This is run by People's Food Co-op.

The third Tuesday in May is another evening meal, with chicken cordon bleu by the culinary team at Heritage, complete with a Jazz Quartet from Portage Northern as entertainment.

Monifa Jumanne asked if there were vegetarian selections available, which Kim will ask Chef about.

Advisory Board Comments:

Art Roberts: Rocco will be at the PSC (K-9 Officer) during Coffee With the Cops, May 19th, 1:30 PM. Also the Central Ohio State Choir performance was excellent. Monifa Jumanne expressed thanks to those Advisory Board members who attended the concert.

Citizen comments: None

Time Adjourned: 3:40 PM

Next meeting: Wednesday, May 18, 2016

2:30 PM, Portage Senior Center