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Vernon County Unit on Aging

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Vernon County Aging Committee Minutes, 5-10-2010, 12:30p.m. in the 2nd floor Conference Room at the Erlandson Office Building.

Leo Verbsky called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. Those present included Leo Verbsky, Chairman; Kevin Larson, Vice Chairman; Karen Dahl, Sherman Erlandson Pat Peterson, Director; Nancy O'Connor, Secretary/Bookkeeper; Tom Spenner, County Board Chairman; Greg Lunde, Corporation Council; Beverly Morgan, David and Vanessa Mills, David and Elizabeth Veum, and Dorothy Jasperson-Robson.

Affirmation of public notice was given. Motion by: Karen Dahl, seconded by Sherman Erlandson to approve the minutes of the April 5, 2010 Aging Committee minutes as written. Motion carried.

Pat gave the financial report noting the donation of \$1200.00 to the Sr. Edition. She also gave an update on where we are in the budget at this time. Motion by: Karen Dahl, seconded by Kevin to approve the payment of the April vouchers, with the addition of \$226.88 to Bethel Home, and \$793.55 to River Valley Newspaper.

In Nutrition, the Ontario Senior citizen group sent us a check for \$1800.00 to offset the donation for the Ontario Volunteer meals. Greg Lunde noted that any donation over \$500.00 should be reported to the County Board. Pat will take this to next County Board meeting for approval. She also shared the new posters for the La Farge Mealsite.

In Transportation Pat reported more activity in both minibus and volunteer driver programs. The 33 Express is on hold until all parties involved have the contracts needed. Special trips in April included a visit to the Planetarium at UWL, and also to the Wellness Expo in Onalaska, which were both well attended.

The Elderly Benefit Specialist has proven to be a very important position, as Shelley helped one client find a Medicare Part D Plan that saved that person a great deal of money. She also helped a client recoup an Insurance payment denial of \$89,000.00.

In public comments, a group of concerned citizens from Westby attended with their wish for the Westby Mealsite to be located at Borgens Café from its present location at the Westby Community Center. Pat Peterson provided feedback from 5 current patrons who wish for the mealsite to stay at the community center. Motion by: Karen Dahl, seconded by Kevin Larson to change the location on June 1st, 2010, for a trial basis of six months, with the approval from GWAAR, and an understanding with the City of Westby, that we could move back to the Community Center if that move does not work out.

Pat and Leo will attend a meeting in Richland Center June 10 on the Reauthorization of the Older Americans Act. Pat gave an overview to the Committee on the history of the OAA.

The Unit on Aging is able to serve 173 eligible seniors with Farmers Market Vouchers again this year.

Pat shared that she has received clarification on the county's role in liability insurance for staff and volunteers who use their own vehicles doing county business. She plans to make sure all staff and volunteers understand this policy.

In advocacy, Pat shared with the committee that GWAAR is looking for a board member and that it would be good to have one from western Wisconsin. She also shared an event we are hosting called National Senior Fitness Day, where will have teams competing in a Wii bowling tournament. Karen Dahl is planning a "Breakfast for the Brain" class at Parkview Manor Thurs. May 13, at 1:00p.m. She will also host the Vernon County Bar Association on her Radio show with information on Elder Abuse.

Motion by: Sherman Erlandson, seconded by Kevin Larson to accept the appointments of Orvis Primmer, Jack Robinson, and Karen Mack to our Aging Advisory Committee.

The next Unit on Aging Meeting will be June 14th at 12:30p.m.

Motion by: Kevin Larson, seconded by Sherman Erlandson to adjourn.

Pat Peterson, Director

Leo Verbsky, President

PP/LV/no