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Vernon County Unit on Aging

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The Vernon County Unit on Aging Committee met 7-12-2010 at 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, Karen Dahl, Kevin Larson, Sherman Erlandson, Pat Peterson; Director, and Nancy O'Connor; Secretary/Bookkeeper, Herb Cornell, Pam Eitland and John Schnabl. Todd Overbo was absent.

Affirmation of public notice was given. Motion by: Sherman Erlandson, seconded by Karen Dahl, to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2010 Aging Committee with changes regarding radio show participation. Motion carried.

Pat gave the Financial report. Motion by: Karen Dahl, seconded by Kevin Larson to approve the payment of the June vouchers. Motion carried.

In Nutrition, Pat shared with the committee the monthly report on attendance and donations at the mealsites. We are seeing a gradual increase at the Westby dining site. A DVD produced by the Vernon County Bar Association on Guardianship was shown at the Westby Dining Site, which prompted great discussion.

In Transportation Pat reported that 33 Express is on the road. WKBT aired an interview with Lynda Wilke, Pat Peterson, La Crosse Aging Unit representatives, the First Transit manager and driver, and the manager of the Scenic Bluff Clinic in Cashton.

There was no Elderly Benefit Report.

There were no public comments.

In new business, John Schnabl from GWAAR gave an overview of the options for structure and organization of the Unit on Aging. There is no mandated option and counties need to keep best interests of senior citizens in mind. There was also discussion on the possibility of the Elderly Benefit Position being leased to the ADRC.

There will be a Statewide Aging Conference in WI Dells on Thursday, September 30 and Friday, October 1. This training will include a wide variety of topics directed at Professionals in the field of Aging and includes Board training.

Pat reminded the Committee of the “Seniors of Distinction” Banquet on Sunday September 12th. We are actively seeking nominations for Senior Citizens to be recognized as “Seniors of Distinction”.

On July 28th, from 8-4, the local Bar Association will bring professionals together to do a one-day training on Elder Abuse to be held at the Viroqua Medical Facility. In potential Vernon County Elder Abuse is referred to Human Services. They in turn work with local law enforcement to make any referrals that need to happen.

“A Care Package” training about dementia and Alzheimer’s Disease is under way, with about twenty in attendance at the first of three sessions happening on July 12th, 19th, and the 26th.

Farmers Market Vouchers for \$25.00 each have been distributed to many Senior Citizens in Vernon County.

In advocacy, Karen Dahl continues her “Breakfast for the Brain” activities. She also advertised the “Care Package” and the Farmers Market program on her radio show. Pat and Karen are writing a letter to Senator Herb Kohl about issues regarding Vernon County Senior Citizens.

The next Unit on Aging Meeting will be August 9th, at 12:30p.m.
Motion by: Sherman Erlandson, seconded by Karen Dahl to adjourn. Motion carried.

Pat Peterson, Director

Leo Verbsky, President

PP/LV/no