

# Add **LIFE**<sup>SM</sup> to your Years

## **Vernon County Unit on Aging**

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Vernon County Unit on Aging and Aging Advisory Committee's met on 12-13-2010, at 12:30 p.m. at the Viroqua Medical Building in Conference room A.

Leo Verbsky called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m. Those present included Leo Verbsky, Chairman; Sherman Erlandson, Kevin Larson, Karen Dahl, Cade Cary, Advisory members: Karen Mack, Orvis Primmer, and Jack Robinson, also present were: Pat Peterson, Director; and Nancy O'Connor, Secretary/Bookkeeper, Jean Miller, Transportation Coordinator, Lynda Wilke: Mobility Manager, Shelley Matson, Elderly Benefit Specialist, and Victoria Vikemyr, Experience Works employee.

Affirmation of public notice was given.

Motion by Karen Dahl: seconded by: Kevin Larson, to approve the November 15, 2010, minutes as written. Motion carried.

Due to bad weather the "all staff meeting" was postponed.

Pat Peterson gave the financial report, explaining some of our new vendors and gave an overview of the voucher summary. Motion by Karen Dahl, seconded by Kevin Larson, to approve the payment of the November vouchers presented, as well as the payment to St. Joseph's Hospital when the bill arrives. Motion carried.

In Nutrition, Nancy O'Connor shared with the committee the year-to-date report on attendance and donations at our mealsites. She commented that the move to Borgen's for the Westby Mealsite has been positive. Due to bad weather all of our mealsites were closed on Monday Dec. 13. All home-delivered meal patrons were called, to make sure they were all O.K.

Jean Miller gave the Mini-Bus report and also shared her year-to date data, as well as highlights of special trips taken during 2010. More marketing may help to insure that the bus runs on more Mondays. A change to the Mini bus program this year is that a fare is charged instead of asking for a donation, as the 85.21 Grant is the only funding source.

Lynda Wilke reported on the Volunteer Driver Program. The greatest use of her budget is people who need rides three times a week to dialysis. She updated the committee how the 33 Express route is progressing and also gave an overview of a new initiative called "Scenic Mississippi Regional Transit" which will serve the communities of: Prairie Du Chien, Eastman, Mt. Sterling, Gays Mills, Soldiers Grove, Readstown, Viroqua, Westby, Coon Valley, Genoa, Stoddard, and La Crosse.

Shelley Matson gave a monthly and year-to-date report of people age 60 and older that she has provided service to. Medicare Part D's open enrollment period is upon us, and proves to be a very busy time. The direct service Shelley has provided over the year has had a monetary impact so far of \$902,915.14 to citizens of Vernon County. MIPPA is a marketing tool which has helped make senior citizens aware of benefits at possibly a lower cost to them.

Pat gave an overview of other year-to-date activities provided by our department including: Senior Farmers Market vouchers; snow removal; Lighten up for the Holiday's; National Senior Fitness Day; AARP Tax volunteers; and the Vernon County Fair.

In new business: The committee discussed how the county's emergency plan can best serve senior citizens, should an emergency arise. Pat also updated the Committee on proposed changes in County Personnel policies.

In Advocacy: Pat shared that Carol Barlow is a member of a newly created advisory board for the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources.

The next Unit on Aging Committee Meeting will be on Monday January 17, 2011 at the Erlandson Office Building

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

Pat Peterson, Director

Leo Verbsky, President

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PP/LV/no