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Vernon County Unit on Aging

318 Fairlane Dr., Suite 219, Viroqua, WI 54665

Phone # (608) 637-5201 -- Fax phone # (608) 637-5501-- [www.vernoncounty .org](http://www.vernoncounty.org)

The Vernon County Unit on Aging Committee met on 3-14-2011 in the 2nd Floor Conference Room at the Erlandson Office Building.

Leo Verbsky called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m. Members present included Sherman Erlandson, Karen Dahl, Kevin Larson, Karen Mack, Jack Robinson, Pat Peterson; Director; and Nancy O'Connor, Secretary/Bookkeeper. Cade Cary, Peggy Pasker and Orvis Primmer were absent. Odean Robson, member of the public was also in attendance.

Affirmation of public notice was given.

Motion by Karen Dahl: seconded by: Sherman Erlandson to approve the February 14, 2011 minutes as written. Motion carried.

Pat gave the financial report. She gave an overview of where our budget is for 2011 with 17% of the year gone. She also shared the revisions to our GWAAR Budget. She then gave an overview of the voucher summary, explaining the donation to the Senior Edition Newspaper of \$1500.00, which is used to market our programming. Motion by Karen Dahl; seconded by; Kevin Larson to make the donation. Motion by: Karen Dahl, seconded by: Kevin Larson to pay the other February vouchers. Motion carried.

In Nutrition Pat shared with the committee the number of meals served in February, and the average donations. There were a number of days that meals were not served due to the weather. She also gave an update that the Mealsite in Ontario will remain open at the Garden Street Cafe this time.

Pat reported that the AARP Tax volunteers have helped over 100 clients with their State & Federal Tax Returns, as well as Homestead Tax returns. Another day was added to the original schedule to serve more people. Pat will be doing any Homestead Tax Forms after April 15 for those who cannot get to the AARP site.

Pat gave the Volunteer Driver Report sharing there were 120 one-way trips serving 28 people. The 33 Express Route has had some regular riders.

In the Mini bus report Pat shared with the committee that our handicap accessible bus lease is ending May 1, 2011. The committee suggested that we put in a request for Ho-Chunk money to be used to purchase a new handicapped accessible bus. Weather was also a factor in the number of days the mini bus was on the road in February.

Pat gave the Elderly Benefit Report sharing that \$95,000.00 worth of benefits was gained for Vernon County Seniors in February. She also reported that a possible change to the Senior Care Program included in the proposed State Budget would require seniors to also choose a Medicare Part D Plan resulting in more work for the EBS.

In Health and Caregiving Pat shared that the Memory Walk will be at the Vernon County Fairgrounds on May 24, with proceeds from that event funding Alzheimer's Research. We will have a team from our office, and she encouraged others to participate. The MMIS Grant needs to be spent by the end of May. Motion by: Karen Dahl, seconded by: Sherman Erlandson to hire a Temporary Employee to continue the work that was formerly done by our Experience Works Employee.

In public comments Odean Robson spoke on behalf of the Viroqua Senior Center, with concerns of needing a more suitable space to meet and the difficulty in maintaining membership since the mealsite is no longer located at the senior center.

In New Business, Pat shared our Three Year Plan which goes through 2012 with what has been accomplished, and what is needed to be accomplished to fulfill that plan. Motion by: Karen Dahl, seconded by: Kevin Larson to approve the Three Year Plan activities and progress report as written.

Pat shared her concerns with the WI Budget Repair Bill and proposed State Budget, as to the adverse affects on Senior Citizens, as well as possible adverse effects on funding to some of our programming.

In old business Kevin Larson reported that the three main needs of the Senior Building at the Fairgrounds are paint, doors, and the floor. Sheldon's asphalt has been asked for a estimate on the floor. Jack Robinson will get an estimate on cement. Volunteers will do the painting.

The next Unit on Aging Committee Meeting will be on April 18, 2011 at 12:30 p.m.

Motion by: Karen Dahl: seconded by: Sherman Erlandson to Adjourn. Motion carried.

Pat Peterson, Director

Leo Verbsky, Chairman
