

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

## Vernon County Unit on Aging

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### **The Vernon County Unit on Aging Committee met on 10-12-2015 at the Erlandson Building.**

Jim Servais called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Additional members present included: Gail Muller, Adrian Amelse, Lorn Goede and Mary Bringe. Also present were, Pat Peterson, Director, Kathy Turben, Transportation Manager, Shelley Matson, Elder Benefit Specialist, and Laura Groom, Nutrition Program Manager.

### **Affirmation of public notice was given.**

**Review and Approval of previous Meeting Minutes:** Motion made by Gail Muller and seconded by Mary Bringe to approve the Minutes from the 9-14-2015 meeting. Motion passed.

**Financial Report:** Pat presented the vouchers for September for discussion. Motion by: Adrian Amelse, seconded by Mary Bringe to approve paying the September vouchers. Motion passed. Pat shared the 2015 financial update.

### **Public Comments: There were no Public comments.**

### **Programmatic:**

**Nutrition** - Laura shared the September report and also an impact report on how the nutrition program has enriched three patron's lives. Pat added that we have had some recent challenges due to three individuals affected with dementia.

**Mini Bus/ Volunteer Driver** -Kathy gave the update on the Mini Bus and Volunteer Driver programs. She also shared an impact report for individuals who have used both services. Kathy shared that all the riders on the bus for September were either a senior or disabled persons. There was discussion on the ridership levels and planning for the 2016 85.21 grant which funds the mini bus. The committee wants to increase the ridership. Pat provided a handout regarding history of the minibus service/other Vernon County transportation resources and answered questions. This included the cost allocation for the bus use YTD. Adrian Amelse made a motion to have Pat and Kathy meet with Dan Meyer to see if the services provided by both of the departments can increase efficiency through coordination. Second was made by Lorn Goede and the motion passed. Pat will follow up with Dan before the next committee meeting.

**Elder Benefit Specialist** -Shelley Matson, EBS gave the EBS monthly report for September identifying the levels of service within the report. She also shared a participant impact story.

**Health and Caregiving-** The Alzheimer's walk was on 10-06-2015. Pat shared that the walk this year raised over \$6,000. Our "Lighten Up for the Holidays", caregiver event, will be held 11-05-2015. All are invited to come. Pat also shared that she has applied to do a CAARN project on falls prevention and medication management to prevent falls. This research study coordinates with UW-Madison and will begin in June 2016 if funded.

**Update on Ambassador Program** – Pat announced that the Vernon Ambassadors plan to hold their planning meetings at different dining centers starting with Ontario on Oct 15. There will be a "Power Up" training for Ambassadors & staff at Stevens Point on November 13.

**Fair and Tea Review-** Positive feedback was received from committee members who attended the Tea and Senior Building at the Vernon County Fair. Pat thanked the committee for their participation. Overall evaluation of the events by staff and participants was good and planning for next year begins immediately. These events are a big department outreach and important recognition opportunity.

**Discussion Advocacy-**Pat shared an Older American Act Advocacy handout and invited committee members to hear Bob Kellerman talk about the 50 years of the Older Americans Act at the Regional Nutrition staff training we are hosting October 13. There was some discussion on Ho Chunk requests for next year. Adrian Amelse made a motion, it was seconded by Mary Bringe and third was given by Lorn Goede to put in a Ho Chunk request to cover gaps in our funding for the Home delivered meals and Caregiving programs. All were in favor and the motion passed.

**Announcements-** Jim has a Dairy Promotion event planned soon. Laura participated in the Chaseburg Cancer Walk and Gail participated in the La Farge Angel Walk.

**Our next meeting will be held on November 16, 2015 at 1:00 pm at the Erlandson Building**

Mary Bringe made the Motion to adjourn our meeting, seconded by Gail Muller. Motion passed.

Pat Peterson, Director

Jim Servais, Chairman

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