

Add **LIFE**SM to your Years

Vernon County Unit on Aging

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The Vernon County Unit on Aging Committee met on 1-18-2016 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 (By Phone). Also present were, Pat Peterson, Director, and Laura Groom, Nutrition Program Manager.

Affirmation of public notice was given.

Review and Approval of previous Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Adrian Amelse and seconded by Gail Muller to approve the Minutes from the 12-14-2015 meeting. Motion passed.

Financial Report: Pat presented the vouchers for December for discussion. Motion by: Gail Muller, seconded by Lorn Goede to approve paying the December vouchers. Motion passed.

Public Comments: There were no Public comments.

Programmatic:

Nutrition - Laura shared the December report. There was some discussion on providing more education on the value of the meal in hopes of increasing donations. The committee requested that we provide them with a demographic on income level for our home delivered patrons. Laura will bring those numbers to our next meeting.

Mini Bus/ Volunteer Driver -Pat gave the update on the Mini Bus and Volunteer Driver programs. Pat shared reports that gave the committee a comprehensive picture of the ridership of the bus.

Elder Benefit Specialist -Pat gave the EBS monthly report for December identifying the levels of service within the report. Pat also shared that Shelley has moved her work location back to the Unit on Aging and is now occupying room #219.

Care Transitions- Currently the Affordable Care Act has led to community interest in developing more support for people transitioning from a hospital to nursing home or to their own homes. The goal is to decrease the number of re-admissions to hospitals, and to support an increase in general health success of the individual. This group has a large focus on linking health services with community resources and a smaller target group is focused on nutrition. Pat and Laura have been involved primarily with the nutrition group. One result of the group meeting is that Crawford County received a grant for \$2,500 from Walmart to help people returning home from the hospital with free home delivered meals and groceries. The Care Transitions Group will be meeting soon to determine criteria for recipients.

AARP Volunteer Tax Aid- Pat shared that we are hosting this for a group of volunteer tax preparers. They will be filing taxes for primarily low income seniors. The schedule is filing quickly on Thursdays February through March.

Care Coalition- Pat provided an overview of the program benefits for caregivers. The Unit on Aging offers the Powerful Tools for caregivers, monthly support group, A Lighten Up event for caregivers in November and we are exploring the option of setting up some classes on Alzheimer's. In addition to these events the Unit on Aging provides resources, counseling and information.

Discussion Advocacy-

Pat shared that Ron Kind will be hosting a listening session this week at the American Legion. Adrian Amelse shared that he is dedicated to promoting efficiency and challenging Department Heads to run their programs efficiently.

Announcements- Pat shared the opportunity for new members in the Ambassador and the Nutrition Advisory committees.

Our next meeting will be held on February 15, 2016 at 1:00 pm at the Erlandson Building

Adrian Amelse made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Lorn Goede. Motion passed.

Pat Peterson, Director

Jim Servais, Chairman
