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Vernon County Unit on Aging

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The Vernon County Unit on Aging Committee met on 2-15-2016 at the Erlandson Building.

Jim Servais called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. Additional members present included: Gail Muller, Lorn Goede and Mary Bringe. Also present were, Pat Peterson, Director, and Laura Groom, Nutrition Program Manager. Guest this month was Phil Hewitt, Building and Grounds Manager.

Affirmation of public notice was given.

Review and Approval of previous Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Lorn Goede and seconded by Gail Muller to approve the Minutes from the 1-18-2016 meeting. Motion passed.

Building and grounds update- Motion was made by Lorn Geode and seconded by Gail Muller to move up the agenda and let Phil Hewitt give us his update. All were in favor and the motion passed. Phil shared that he will be working very closely with Department Heads to utilize space well and create a comfortable work environment for employees. He will be replacing some windows and possibly remodeling the Erlandson Building heating and cooling system.

Financial Report: Pat presented the vouchers for January for discussion. Motion by: Mary Bringe, seconded by Gail Muller to approve paying the January vouchers. Motion passed. Pat gave the financial update including the percentages of revenue and expenditures in each program account. Laura Groom shared that she is on the work group that is advising the Clerk's office evaluating various department financial needs and the capacity of the Clerk's software to meet these needs. The work group has representation from many departments and has the unified goal of finding software that supports efficiency and accuracy for all financial roles county wide. It may take some time to complete the process.

Public Comments: There were no Public comments.

Programmatic:

Nutrition -Laura shared the January report. Laura shared that there are several special events at dining centers countywide. The Vernon Ambassador group has been a great support to these events and so far the events have been very well attended and enjoyed by many.

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. The committee discussed riding the SMRT bus/ mini bus for our April meeting.

Elder Benefit Specialist –Pat gave the EBS monthly report for January 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. The Bader Grant that we received in 2015 will carry over into February and we will re-apply for a new one this year. Unfortunately we will not know until the middle of this year as to outcome of that request. Therefore Shelley will cut her hours to 30 hours a week beginning February first. There is a goal to increase her hours to full time during open enrollment of Medicare Part D.

Unit on Aging 2016 Event Calendar- Pat shared 2016 event calendar. She asked the committee for their support for the projects planned. Motion was made by Mary Bringe and seconded by Lorn Goede to accept the 2016 event calendar as written. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Discussion Advocacy-Lorn shared that he has been asking residents of this county, both young and old, about the importance of the Home Delivered Meal program. All say that the program is very important.

Pat shared that Ron Kind hosted a listening session at the American Legion. Pat requested that Ron Kind supported the reauthorization of the NOAA funding.

Jim Servais posted promotional materials for senior dining centers and events.

Gail Muller shared that she has had recent opportunity to see the difference the Home Delivered Meals make in the life of a close friend.

Announcements- Pat shared the opportunity for new members in the Ambassador and the Nutrition Advisory committee. Each Committee member received a copy of our Unit on Aging 2016 Event Calendar.

Committee Dvaluation of a County Employee- Gail Muller made the motion to go into closed session, Lorn Goede seconded and the motion passed. Motion was made to reconvene to open session by Mary Bringe and seconded by Lorn Goede, the motion passed.

Our next meeting will be held on March 11, 2016 at 1:00 pm at the Erlandson Building

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

Pat Peterson, Director

Jim Servais, Chairman
