

**City of Marshfield Committee on Aging
Council Chambers
Meeting Minutes
September 3, 2009**

The monthly meeting of the Committee on Aging was called to order at 9:32 a.m. by Mike Feirer at the Marshfield City Hall. (Due to the number of guests present the meeting was moved from the Executive Conference Room to Council Chambers.)

MEMBERS PRESENT: Mike Feirer, John See, Pat Forman, Becky Huebner-Leu, Jean Doty; Gerri Steinwagner and Marvin Spletter

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

GUESTS: Judy Carlson, Kelly Cassidy, Pat Apple, Liz Welter, Alderpersons Dave LaFontaine, Gordie Earl, Tom Buttke, Mayor Chris Meyer and numerous citizens

[Due to the number of citizens present, Chairperson Feirer modified the agenda in order to start with item #6 "Citizen's Concerns – issues at Cedar Rail and Parkview Apartments."]

INTRODUCTIONS: Members of the Committee on Aging introduced themselves to those present.

COMMITTEE ON AGING MEMBERS COMMENTS:

- Committee members have been receiving comments from Cedar Rail and Parkview apartment residents about their concerns. The Committee thanked everyone for taking the time to attend today's meeting to take advantage of this forum to voice their concerns with regard to recent changes made at Cedar Rail and Parkview Apartments. Some of those comments included staffing changes (RN, Activity Director, Hair Stylist and hiring two new positions) and parking (no room for residents and/or guests to park their cars).
- Chairperson Mike Feirer – received four phone calls re: concerns at the apartments. He reviewed the Municipal Code for committee members as it relates to the Community Development Authority, adding that it is very appropriate for the Committee on Aging to hear about all issues as they relate to seniors in Marshfield.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS:

- Several residents and friends and family members of residents from Cedar Rail, addressed the Committee. Topics included breach of lease/rental agreement; harassment; breach of confidentiality; entering apartments without permission; intimidation; fearful to voice complaints fearing retaliation; purchase of TV for

office; nurse no longer available to assist with taking blood pressure, etc.; dress code; store remodeled with one-way mirror; petition signing after recent article was in the newspaper; lack of parking; lack of resident representation on Community Development Authority (CDA) board; removal of chandelier and other lobby furniture; and, increase in cost of washing/drying clothes.

MAYOR CHRIS MEYER'S COMMENTS:

- The CDA was formed 25 years ago and the Mayor appoints a CDA board member (with council approval) who then serves for a term of five years. "Residents are the people who can do something about this. Changes can't happen overnight, but this is something we do want to resolve. Please call me. I do want to hear from you. If you call and say you don't want your name mentioned, I will respect this. No one has to live in a facility where they are afraid."

ALDERPERSON'S COMMENTS:

- Both Tom Buttke and Dave LaFontaine stated that residents should feel free to call them with their concerns.
- It was noted that the CDA board meets alternatively at Cedar Rail or Parkview at 7:30 a.m. on the first Thursday of the month. The next meeting will be October 1, 2009.

[NOTE: All citizens, Mayor Meyer, News-Herald reporter Liz Welter and Alderpersons Dave LaFontaine and Gordie Earl left the meeting at 10:50.]

Minutes from the August 6, 2009 meeting were approved.

OLD BUSINESS – None

AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER UPDATE – Pat Apple

- The three-year plan has been submitted with three goals, including: transportation, emergency plan and caregiver program. It was noted that "coalition building" and "volunteerism" were added to the three-year plan as additional items to be addressed.

SENIOR HEALTH/INFORMATION FAIR – Kelly Cassidy

- Kelly and Becky will continue to promote the fair throughout the community. Becky said "Chef Todd" from the Golden Living Center – Three Oaks will provide an oriental salad for the fair. Nine vendors have signed up, and more are expected to make a reservation before the deadline next week.

- Discussion followed re: topics of “credit freezing” and “reverse mortgages” and the possibility of having a local banking institution attend the Senior Fair as a vendor to provide information about these items.
- A recumbent bike has been purchased for the Senior Community Center exercise room from grant monies. Suggestions as to how remaining grant funds should be spent included a Wii console, PA system for the center and perhaps a projector and screen for the center.

NEW BUSINESS

- Discussed potential questions for October 1 meeting as they relate to concerns voiced today by apartment residents and their friends/families. (NOTE: CDA Director and/or Board Chair will be invited to this meeting in addition to Mayor Chris Meyer, City Administrator Mike Brehm and Alderpersons/CDA board members Dave LaFontaine and Peter Hendler.)
- Alderman Buttke thanked the Committee for looking out for the residents of these [CDA] developments and giving them the opportunity to voice their concerns.

FUTURE MEETING DATE: (NOTE: quorum is needed at all meetings to discuss/approve actions.)

- October 1, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. at City Hall

Motion to adjourn at 11:42 a.m. made by Becky Huebner-Leu and seconded by John See.
MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Doty, Secretary