

**City of Marshfield Committee on Aging
City Hall Plaza – Room #108
Meeting Minutes - March 4, 2010**

The monthly meeting of the Committee on Aging was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Mike Feirer.

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

GUESTS PRESENT: Judy Carlson, Kelly Cassidy, Pat Apple and Alderperson Tom Buttke

MINUTES: There was a motion made by John See and seconded by Gerri Steinwagner to approve the minutes from the February 4, 2010 meeting. Motion carried.

CITIZEN'S COMMENTS: Marvin Spletter asked for information/clarification on the library expansion and possibly losing the Senior Center. Mike Feirer responded:

- Project is being called “Blue Sky”, a term that means the expansion/renovation could mean anything at this point.
- The community will NOT lose what we have now [senior center] until something new is available.
- Plans are in the CIP – very preliminary drawings are being done.
- The project will be privately funded in some way.
- City has purchased some land at the current sight for the project and a house across the street was bought to potentially allow for additional parking.
- There will be some meetings scheduled this spring by the Library & Library Foundation—a great opportunity to hear information first-hand.
- Citizen input is very important at this point since every idea will be considered as to what to include in this project.
- Project may possibly be modeled after the Centralia Center in Wisconsin Rapids.
- It has been suggested that ADRCC may be housed there which would allow senior services to be housed under one roof.

Kelly Cassidy added that the new facility [library and senior center] will be more user-friendly for the entire community, with possibly the seniors using it during the day, teens on Saturday evenings, scheduling other community meetings, etc. Alderman Buttke encouraged everyone to call the library directly for information rather than put faith into what is read and rumored.

Marvin Spletter asked how to get more people from Cedar Rail and Parkview interested in attending Senior Center functions such as playing cards, square dancing and bingo. Judy Carlson said if residents from those two facilities are truly interested in going to the

Center there is transportation available. It was noted that several of the apartments offer many activities to their residents so they don't even have to leave their buildings.

A bingo-playing discussion followed. Becky Huebner-Leu will check to see if bingo is still being offered at Three Oaks on the third Wednesday of the month. Becky will also check into Wisconsin Bingo Commission regulations and the cost of obtaining a bingo license. Mike will add this as an **agenda item** to the April meeting.

AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER OF CENTRAL WISCONSIN UPDATE:

- Pat Apple reported a very aggressive, ambitious timeline has been created to meet the November 1, 2020 deadline for the Lincoln and Langlade Counties merger. Lessons learned from past mergers are very helpful. In order to cut down on staff traveling expense the current use of video-conferencing (and future use of web casts) is being utilized.
- Judy Carlson said she had attended a transportation meeting yesterday. She commented that Connie has done a good job getting veterans to their appointments in Tomah and Madison. She and Connie are planning another "Car Care, Car Fit" tentatively scheduled for June in Marshfield and another in Rapids in September. Car Fit participants will be evaluated on their sitting position in their vehicle, how to use mirrors, reach appropriate pedals, where the lights are and how to move the seat. Their vehicle is also checked by mechanic and a physical therapist is available to check their mobility.
- Judy said a "55 Alive" driving class will be offered soon in Wisconsin Rapids.

OLD BUSINESS:

- John See asked for an update on Center Rail. There has been no news as to when a new director will be hired. Both agree that this person should have a true passion for the elderly and their needs, be willing to listen to them and be an advocate for them. They further commented...the residents at CDA housing should be able to trust this person and know he/she will do the right thing [for them.] Even when a new Director is in place, it will take time for him/her to gain residents' trust and it will also take time for the wounds of the past to heal. At this point the Mayor needs everyone's input and comments as to what should be expected of the CDA board, what its structure should look like and what should be expected of the new Director; e.g., to start over, to do what's right and to establish trust. It was noted that the City Council approves CDA board members' appointments.
- Kelly Cassidy reported that tax preparation at the Senior Center has been going well. There is a \$56,000 income limit in order for seniors to receive the free tax preparation assistance. Kelly suggested that in 2011 a place with more private

surroundings be found. Options included the mall, the American Legion or H & R Block's old location.

- Experience Works has been approved to have an office at the Senior Center and the recommendation goes to the Council on Tuesday, March 9. The phone and computer is still an issue. Kelly recommended the new director be invited to one of our meetings to update the Committee on the services they offer. Experience Works places older adults into the workforce at non-profit organizations. Kelly will have this added as an **agenda item**.
- Kelly is working on getting computer training offered at the Senior Center.
- Gerri Steinwagner reminded everyone of the "Parliamentary Procedure" training that is being offered by the City on May 10th.
- Everyone was reminded that Daylight Savings Time goes into effect March 13.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mike Feirer suggested a thank you be sent to the Disabled American Veterans (DAV) for the van purchased to take veterans to Tomah and Madison.
- Marvin announced that a brunch will be held at the Senior Center at 9 a.m. on March 12 and will include waffles, strawberries, sausage, coffee and everyone over age 50 is welcome to attend for a small fee. Following the brunch, Fire Chief Jim Schmidt will speak on fall prevention and give an update on the new fire station. Bingo will be played after Chief Schmidt's presentation.
- Becky reviewed the different regulations and licenses required for RAC's, adult in-home care (up to four people) and CBRF's.

FUTURE MEETING DATE: (NOTE: quorum is needed at all meetings in order to discuss/approve actions.) Due to a conflict in scheduling, **THE NEXT MEETING HAS BEEN CHANGED TO WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7 AT 9:30** at City Hall Plaza, room #108.

Motion to adjourn at 10:32 a.m. made by John See and seconded by Marvin Spletter.

MOTION CARRIED

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Doty
Committee on Aging Secretary