

COUNCIL ON AGING MEETING: Minutes
March 8, 2011

In attendance: Brian McLeod, Pat Clark, Rita Vail, John Shay, Ray Crowley, Becky Moriarty, Marq Culhane, Deanna Vermette, Karen Leger and Al Ouimet.
Absent: Kathy Foster (e)

Brian called the meeting to order at 8:30.

Secretary's report, Treasurer's report and Director's report were all accepted.

Pat Clark distributed a copy of an article that she considers to be inspiration for us to reprioritize long term goals for the Senior Center. She spoke about ideas for an addition to the building for an exercise room, and questioned transportation. Rita said she thinks the goals that were set in the 2009 review and goal setting survey are being implemented.

Pat agreed and said we need new goals. People are no longer coming out for entertainment. Dee agreed that the same thing is happening with the Historical Committee. Locally, the Lions Club seems to be the only group currently growing and involving more young people. Becky commented that the exercise and art programs are bringing more people and younger people to the senior center also. She is planning a weekend health fair that will accommodate working seniors and residents. Ray Crowley asked if we could have a survey available to people coming to these programs to find out what they would come to attend on a regular basis (ex. Pool). He indicated that the Commons shuttle program was under-utilized and mainly transportation to medical appointments are needed. Pat agreed with various comments and would like the members to review her paperwork and discuss new goals.

Outreach and Activities reporting included that Wendy had submitted an addendum to GSSSI however she will not be receiving a raise from them this year. Other programs including the brown bag program and food pantry are going well. We currently have 30 participants in the brown bag program and Wendy will be checking to see if that qualifies us as a drop point. The food pantry donations are great and we will need to find a storage unit to accommodate them.

The Friends had been approached about a credit card for purchasing necessities. They wanted to look into that more because of past issues with departmental usage of some type of card, authorization, and accountability. Rita offered to use her personal card to advance the Senior Center as long as such purchases were authorized to be reimbursed.

A new sprayer faucet and plumbing repair are to be scheduled at the same time to ease cleanup in the craft room and solve a leak issue in a storage area, respectively.

The secretary left 10 minutes early to volunteer for the AARP Tax Program.

Meeting adjourned at 9:03am.

Respectfully submitted,

Marq A. Culhane, filling in for the Secretary.