

COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 7, 2021

Meeting held virtually via Zoom

Present: Cathy Christman, Lou Havlik, Barb Manson, Bob McGeever, Faith Schuck, Jeanne Schwass-Long, David Sharpe, Marcia Standard, David Thomas, Joyce Tikalsky, Susan Wollin

Staff Present: Cindy McGlynn, Hollee Camacho

Guest Present: Mayor Tim Swadley

Absent & Excused: Roz Gausman, Tim Onsager

Call to order: L. Havlik called the meeting to order at 11:04 AM.

November Minutes: Moved F. Schuck, B. McGeever seconded to approve; passed unanimously.

Comments by Director

- Cindy will be hosting a town hall meeting tomorrow at 9:30. She will be giving a recap on what we are doing and opening the floor for questions. Please join us. There will be donuts!
- We are now offering a ShopwithScrip fundraiser. We can earn a percentage when people purchase gift cards through us. There are over 700 vendors participating. People are encouraged to fill out a form at the front desk and pay with check or cash. You may see a full list of vendors at: shopwithscrip.com. We see this being an ongoing fundraising option and may be looking for a volunteer to help coordinate it as orders pick up.
- We are so grateful to have the parking lot back in use.
- The County's latest modified masking has been a little difficult. Staff are still wearing their masks while around groups of people. Since we don't have the staff availability to check vaccine status as people enter the doors, we are continuing to require masking universally.
- We continue to increase our programming. We have a variety of musical events including piano during lunch, festive accordion music with John Beutel, Yahara Strummers Ukulele sing-a-long and a performance from the High School Madrigals singers.
- We were contacted by the WISE program, a senior employment program through the state of Wisconsin about us providing an employee with a 20 hour/week position. While there isn't a specific employee in mind at this time, we are considering submitting a position request to assist with improving the consistency of our reception and marketing tasks. We currently have wonderful volunteers assisting at the front desk on Thursday afternoons and Fridays, but we still have gaps. We would anticipate still needing volunteer help when staff take vacation or sick time.

Fundraising

- Cindy estimated we currently have about \$84,000 total in donations to support our \$200,000 costs to renovate the annex. We continue to get donation envelopes in the mail from the campaign we mailed in early September. It is very encouraging to be almost half-way to our goal before the end of the first year of fundraising!

- Cindy is working with the City Planning Department to get an architect to help figure out the development of the annex building's layout and construction needs and to get a more specific budget report for a grant application L. Havlik is writing.
- Cindy made a couple of presentations to local service groups, and is hopeful to hear back from them.
- We also look forward to opportunities for fundraising in our 50th anniversary celebration planning next year.
- F. Schuck inquired if we would be putting out a thermometer sign to display our fundraising goal progress. D. Sharpe inquired if this could be shown on our outdoor digital sign. Cindy replied that she hopes to be able to display this information in the beginning of next year when we have more specific news on the renovation plans. While our sign is unable to show larger graphics, we could add text like "Check out our thermometer progress.."

Committee Reports: No committees met.

Julia will soon be reaching out to Program Committee members to discuss current programming, ideas for the future space, and to begin reviewing current instructor agreements.

Legislative Update:

- The City's 2022 operational budget passed. Cindy emphasized our need to request additional staff hours in 2023. We have had a two to three week waiting list for new case management referrals, which is a good indication that additional case manager staff time is needed.
- Mayor Swadley shared that State Senator Agard introduced a bill giving local government eminent domain for the purposes of establishing trails, bike lanes or pedestrian ways. He is hopeful this bill will be supported to allow for the connection of the trail by Skaalen.

Final Remarks: We are grateful to Stoughton Health for providing Thanksgiving Day meals again this year. This year, 95 meals were delivered. Many thanks to the volunteers who signed up to deliver these meals on the holiday. We would not be able to do what we do without the service of volunteers. Beyond the pandemic, they have stepped up to help our Center and its participants time and time again.

Thanks also to B. McGeever for his role in the Rotary Garden's holiday light display.

L. Havlik also extended a warm thank you to all our COA members who have devoted their time to meeting with us each month and serving the Center. And, thanks to Cindy and Hollee for their organization with this wonderful Center. Wishing you all a Happy Holiday!

Meeting Adjourned: Moved by F. Schuck and seconded by B. McGeever to adjourn the meeting. Carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Next Meeting via Zoom: Tuesday, January 4, 2022 at 11:00 AM