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Vernon County Unit on Aging

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The Vernon County Unit on Aging Committee met on 7-14-2014 at the Erlandson Building.

Jim Servais called the meeting to order at 1:05 a.m. Additional members present included: Mary Bringe(Arriving early),Lorn Goede and Gail Muller. Pat Peterson, Director, Laura Groom, Program Assistant, Kathleen Sullivan from the Revitalization Project, and Kathy Turben, Transportation Manager were also present.

Affirmation of public notice was given.

Review and Approval of previous Meeting: Motion made by Mary Bringe and seconded by Gail Muller to accept the Minutes from the 6-16-2014 meeting. Motion passed.

Financial Report: Pat presented the vouchers for June for discussion. She also provided a list of each program, the approved 2014 budget and the funding sources to date, sharing that this changes as the year progresses. Motion by: Lorn Goede, seconded by Mary Bringe to approve paying the June vouchers. Motion passed.

Programmatic:

Nutrition - Laura gave the Nutrition Report. She shared that this year's caterers have been contacted regarding meal cost requests for 2015. The committee will decide at the August meeting whether to accept or put out a bid request. De Soto's mealsite attendance has been affected by the closure of Blackhawk Park due to high water.

Mini Bus/ Volunteer Driver – Pat shared the transportation reports for May and June. Kathy Turben is now managing both the minibus and volunteer driver programs. Some examples of types of ride requests were shared.

Elder Benefit Specialist -Pat gave the EBS monthly report.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

NEW BUSINESS:

DOT Section 5310 Application- Pat shared the need to apply for the 5310 DOT Grant to fund our Volunteer Driver/Mobility Manager Program and purchase new buses. Motion to give approval for Pat to apply for the DOT 5310 Grant, combining the requests for Aging, with the Veteran's Services and Vernon Manor, was made by Gail Muller and seconded by Mary Bringe. Motion passed.

Power up Volunteer Training - Kathleen Sullivan described that this training is geared towards empowering volunteers to be motivated and self-directed. She has two individuals signed up for the training.

STAR Award-Lynda Wilke, our former Mobility Manager applied and received the 2014 STAR Award for Quality from the National Volunteer Transportation Center. The award includes a cash prize of \$5,000 which will be used to promote or provide additional volunteer transportation services.

2015 Budget Preparation-Pat discussed some of the challenges of the budget, including the ever changing program revenues, increasing costs and flat funding. The Unit on Aging will submit a proposed budget to the committee at next month's meeting.

Fair and Banquet – Plans are underway for the "Seniors of Distinction" Banquet on September 7 and Senior Building activities at the Vernon County Fair Sept 11-14. This year's theme is "Across the Bridge". Committee members will be invited to the banquet and encouraged to participate in fair activities.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mealsite Revitalization Pilot Project- Kathleen Sullivan shared that she has visited all of the Mealsites. Her findings are that each has differing needs and desires. Her plans to grow each site may be specific to location. She is seeking volunteers to be Ambassadors for the Unit on Aging to assist with planning activities, marketing and fundraising.

Advocacy: Pat shared information about our caregiving challenges this week. Unfortunately, some services are not assessable to those in great need. We have seen some first-hand examples of the distress that lack of services can cause to the population we serve.

Senior Farmer's Market Vouchers- Laura shared the number of vouchers already distributed for this season.

Our next meeting will be held on August 18, 2014 at 1:00 pm at the Erlandson Building.

Lorn Goede made the Motion to close our meeting and the motion was seconded By Gail Muller. Motion Passed.

Pat Peterson, Director

Jim Servais, Chairman
