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Vernon County Unit on Aging

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The Vernon County Unit on Aging Committee met on 10-13-2014 at the Erlandson Building.

Jim Servais called the meeting to order at 1:05 a.m. Additional members present included: Adrian Amelse, Mary Bringe and Gail Muller. Also present were, Pat Peterson, Director, Laura Groom, Program Assistant, Michele Engh, County Grant Writer, and Ruth Olson, Guest.

Affirmation of public notice was given.

Review and Approval of previous Meeting: Motion made by Adrian Amelse and seconded by Gail Muller to accept the Minutes from the 9-15-2014 meeting. Motion passed.

Financial Report: Pat presented the vouchers for September for discussion. Motion by: Adrian Amelse, seconded by Mary Bringe to approve paying the September vouchers. Motion passed. Pat shared the 2014 financial update and percentage spent in each account for this year.

Public Comments: There were no Public Comments.

Programmatic:

Nutrition - Laura shared the August and September reports and answered questions. An ongoing concern is helping people understand the donation policy. Laura also shared that Vernon County UOA had hosted the Annual Regional Training for Mealsite Managers. There were ten counties represented and about 100 people in attendance.

Mini Bus/ Volunteer Driver - Pat shared the transportation reports for August.

Caregiving & Health Promotion- Pat shared that we will be hosting a caregiver's event on November 3, 2014 at the Church of Christ from 1-3pm. She invited the committee and asked them to promote the event. She is currently seeking volunteers to be trained as facilitators of the "Powerful Tools for Caregivers" and "Living Well with Chronic Conditions" evidenced-based workshops.

Elder Benefit Specialist -Pat gave the EBS monthly report. The Committee questioned one item on the EBS report and Laura called Shelley for clarification.

Ambassador Program and Colors Training- Pat shared an update of the September activities Kathleen Sullivan has done with the Mealsite Revitalization Project. She also announced that the Colors training will be held on the 19th of November at the Logan Mill in Westby. Pat invited our Committee to join us for the training. The Committee members who plan to attend the training are Jim Servais, Adrian Amelse and Mary Bringe.

Grant Writing- Michele Engh gave the committee a report on grant writing for the Unit on Aging including issues with some of the grant opportunities that she has encountered such as long-term sustainability. There was also committee discussion on a transportation grant opportunity and the 5310 grant application Michelle and Pat worked on together to benefit the Unit on Aging, Vernon Manor and Veteran Services.

Advocacy- Adrian Amelse asked for Jim Servais to provide some education about mealsites at the next county board meeting. He is hoping that board members will take some of that information back to their districts. He suggested educating the public in a newspaper editorial.

Pat Peterson shared that she had participated in the Alzheimer's walk. She said that the statistic that was a surprise to her was that 650 people in Vernon County currently suffer from Alzheimer's Disease.

Laura Groom shared her desire for committee and staff training on the income sources and rules of all the sources. We all would benefit from a greater understanding of what dollars run our programming. There was some committee discussion and it was decided to add this to our agendas monthly. She added that she participated in the recent Chaseburg Cancer Walk.

Announcements- We have selected an AmeriCorps Worker to begin the week of October 20, 2014. The cost of this position will come out of the Congregate and New Freedom Funds.

The 85.21 public hearing will be held on December 3.

Our next meeting will be held on November 17, 2014 at 1:00 pm at the Erlandson Building.

Mary Bringe made the Motion to close our meeting and the motion was seconded By Adrian Amelse. Motion Passed.

Pat Peterson, Director

Jim Servais, Chairman
