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Vernon County Unit on Aging

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The Vernon County Unit on Aging Committee met on 6-16-2014 at the Erlandson Building.

Mary Bringe called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. Additional members present included: Adrian Amelse, and Gail Muller. Pat Peterson, Director, Laura Groom, Program Assistant, Bev Morgan and Kathleen Sullivan from the Revitalization Project, were also present. Jim Servais joined us soon after the meeting was in session.

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 5-12-2014 Meeting Minutes as written. Motion passed.

Financial Report: Pat presented the vouchers for May 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: Gail Muller, seconded by Adrian Amelse to approve paying the May vouchers. Motion passed.

Programmatic

ADRC Orientation- Jean Klousia gave a very informational orientation to the Aging and Disability Resources Center, ADRC, and the resources that they are connecting people to. She shared how the Unit on Aging and ADRC work together and avoid duplication of services.

Nutrition - Laura gave the Nutrition Report. She shared the amount of donations for the Mealsites and Home Delivered Meals for May.

Mini Bus/ Volunteer Driver – Pat shared that because of our vacant position we would not share transportation reports this month.

Elder Benefit Specialist -Pat gave the EBS monthly report.

Public Comments: Bev Morgan introduced herself and her interest in assisting with the Mealsite Revitalization efforts.

NEW BUSINESS

Update On staffing- Pat announced that the Unit on Aging has a few new faces. Our Transportation Program Manager position has been accepted by Kathleen Turben. Kathleen Sullivan has transferred from being an on-call utility player to the position of Outreach Coordinator in the Revitalization project. Shaynan Holen has been hired as an on-call utility player. Also we have filled the Meal Hauler position in La Farge, with the husband/wife team, Ken and Coreen Hofschulte.

Senior Farmer's Market Vouchers- Laura has been the manager of this program for this season. She shared an informational piece on the program, including the locations and number of vouchers already distributed for this season. There are three distribution dates remaining and then interested individuals can contact the office to request any remaining vouchers.

Mealsite Revitalization Pilot Project- Kathleen Sullivan shared her enthusiasm and some of the findings that she has obtained, so far visiting the Hillsboro, Readstown, Viroqua and Westby mealsites.

Dementia-Friendly Communities- Pat and Laura shared the information that they have just recently obtained at two different trainings. The Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources has a number of Alzheimer/Dementia-related priorities and initiatives. Pat experienced a dementia simulation and talked about Dementia Friendly Communities including the "purple angel" insignia that dementia friendly businesses can post. Laura discussed the Dementia Care Specialist pilot program that Jefferson County has had success with. While Vernon Co doesn't currently have a Dementia Care Specialist at the ADRC, some neighboring counties do.

OLD BUSINESS

Advocacy: Pat shared information about the new WAAN (Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network) and the current legislative issues that the group is advocating for. Also, the Wisconsin Counties Association is looking for Advisory Committee members and there is an opportunity to apply to participate in the Wisconsin Women's Policy Institute training.

Our next meeting will be held on July 14, 2014 at 1:00 pm at the Erlandson Building.

Jim Servais closed the meeting.

Pat Peterson, Director

Jim Servais, Chairman
