ST. JOSEPH COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

The March 16, 2022, meeting of the St. Joseph County Commission on Aging Advisory Board of Directors was held at Oaks Enrichment Center. The meeting was called to order by Kathy Pangle, at 1:34 pm. Roll call was taken by Steve Boland.

PRESENT: Sarah Apwisch (left at 2:30pm), Steve Boland, Britt Buscher, John Gelvin, Clayton Lyczynski II, Kathy Pangle, Jon Withers.

ABSENT: Pat Dane, Deb Davis, George Letts, Ed Stemen, Jon Withers.

AGENDA: A motion was made by Mr. Lyczynski with support from Ms. Apwisch to approve the agenda as presented. This motion was approved 6-0.

OTHERS PRESENT: Katie Hughes, Nutrition Manager; Ruth Mancina, Marketing Outreach Manager; Nicki Notestine, Residential Services Manager; Kris Butler, Finance Clerk; Michelle Patrick, Sturgis Journal Robert Tomlison, Three Rivers Commercial; Diane Wood, COA Member.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Diane Wood expressed her disappointment in the quarterly schedule for PAC Meetings. Request was made to revisit this decision and schedule these monthly at each location. Ms. Riley agreed to respond in writing to Ms. Wood’s request within a reasonable amount of time.

MINUTES

Minutes from January 2022 and February 2022 were reviewed, and a motion was made by Ms. Apwisch with support from Mr. Lyczynski to approve as presented. This motion passed 6-0.

FINANCE REPORT:

Ms. Butler presented the finance report from February 2022. Mr. Gelvin made a motion with support from Ms. Apwisch to approve the finance report. This motion passed 6-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

2022 COA Goals & Organizational Plan – Ms. Riley reviewed goals & plans for 2022. This was discussed and approved with a motion from Ms. Apwisch and support from Mr. Boland. This motion passed 6-0.

2020 Annual Report – The Annual Report was presented and reviewed. A motion was made by Mr. Gelvin with support from Ms. Apwisch to approve as presented. This motion passed 6-0.

PROGRAM REPORT:

Ms. Mancina discussed the resignation of Life Enrichment Coordinator/Receptionist Alex Kelley. This position has been advertised, and interviews will begin as soon as possible. A celebration for St. Patrick’s Day is including a presentation of the movie Belfast along with a Shamrock Shake. There are currently more than 30 members signed up for this activity. Easter baskets for Veterans receiving Home Delivered Meals will be put together in April. COA members will be donating items to fill the baskets and volunteers will be putting these together. Fitness classes are continuing in popularity and a SAIL class will now be offered in Sturgis as well as Three Rivers. The Sturgis evening exercise class is averaging 20 participants and growing. Ms. Mancina is working on scheduling evening and/or Saturday classes in Three Rivers soon.

Ms. Notestine shared news of full occupancy at Rivers Residence. There is currently a waitlist of 25 applicants of which 17 are for one-bedroom units. A Mardi Gras party was held in March which proved to be enjoyed by participating residents. There is currently a waitlist of less than 50 members for In-Home Services. 2 aides have increased their availability which has assisted in reducing the waitlist.

Ms. Hughes reported box lunches now being provided for upcoming trips. “Katie’s Korner” began today. This is a new monthly nutritional presentation to provide recipes and tips to members. Kitchen staff have been working together with maintenance worker, Gary Oberlander, to create a better flow in the kitchen area.

DIRECTOR’S REPORT:

Ms. Riley discussed conversation with CTE program directors to involve students over the age of 18 with respite and homemaking services. Younger students may be utilized as volunteer interns to help support their career goals and give them great experience for their future. Contact has also been made with the Director of Allied Health and the Associate Dean of Sciences at Glen Oaks for conversation regarding students in their programs to see how the COA can assist them in their career goals as well.

Further conversation with Mike Hughes from City of Sturgis has resulted in an addendum to the service road repairs to be completed. SJCCOA will be responsible for a smaller section of road than originally presented. Estimated costs of the swinging gates at the parking lot are being calculated. Installation will only be done if parking for COA activities and rentals become a challenge in the future.

The large wall in the assembly hall will be painted as the “Freedom Wall” decor will be relocated to the wall in the hallway.

Construction of the REC multi-purpose court is scheduled to begin in May. This project is expected to be complete late summer. This will include pickle ball as well as shuffleboard.

MEMBER’S TIME:

Mr. Gelvin thanked everyone for their condolences regarding the loss of his mother-in-law.

Mr. Gelvin requested another trip to Meijer Garden later in the spring to enjoy the garden in bloom.

Mr. Lyczynski invited everyone to the Three Rivers High School play this weekend.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by Mr. Gelvin with support from Ms. Apwisch to adjourn the meeting. This motion passed 6-0 and the meeting was adjourned at 2:47PM.