

Monroe County Commission on Aging

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Terri L. Hamad, Director

Vicky L. Terrasi, Administrative Assistant

Monroe County Commission on Aging
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2006
Catholic Charities of Monroe County

Chairman Martin Kaufman called the meeting to order at 1:14 p.m.

Member's present: Noel Dentner, Nancy Hamman, Paul Iacoangeli, Martin Kaufman, Michael Pasko, Paul Simonton and Loyd Sype.

Member's excused: Aleta Jackson

Chairman Martin Kaufman led the Pledge of Allegiance and silent prayer.

Approval of the Agenda:

Michael Pasko motioned to approve the January 11, 2006 agenda as presented. Supported by Nancy Hamman. **Motion carried.**

Guests Present: Nancy Young, Director, and Debbie Labato, In-take Coordinator, Faith In Action for Monroe County, Janet Crego, Home Care Director, Monroe County Opportunity Program, Sharon Williams, President/CEO, and Pat Sheets, Services Coordinator, Caring Alternatives, Inc., Cheri Boron, Executive Secretary, Living Independence for Everyone, Larry VanWasshenova, Executive Director, Monroe County Senior Legal Services, Aaron Simonton, Executive Director, Monroe Senior Center, Joyce Weipert, Interim Director, Catholic Charities of Monroe County, Gerilyn Powers, Regional Supervisor, Area Agency on Aging 1-B, Floreine Mentel, Area Agency on Aging 1-B Board of Directors/County Commissioner, and Janette Stark, Senior Citizen

Public Time/Catholic Charities of Monroe County:

Joyce Weipert, Interim Director, thanked the commission for allowing Catholic Charities to host the meeting.

Approval of the Regular Commission Meeting Minutes of December 14, 2005.

Motion made by Loyd Sype, supported by Noel Dentner to approve the regular commission minutes of December 14, 2005 as corrected. **Motion carried.**

Approval of the Financial:

The financial reports were presented for acceptance and placed on file. Motion to accept and place on file by Noel Dentner. Supported by Paul Simonton. **Motion carried.**

Ms. Hamad requested the commissions' approval to transfer \$159.10 from the Board Per Deim line item into the Board Travel line item to cover the line item shortage.

Michael Pasko motioned to approve the line item transfer of \$159.10 from the Board Per Deim line item into the Board Travel line item to cover the line item shortage. Supported by Noel Dentner.

Roll call:

Michael Pasko – Yes

Noel Dentner – Yes

Loyd Sype – Yes

Paul Iacoangeli – Yes

Paul Simonton – Yes

Nancy Hamman – Yes

Martin Kaufman – Yes
Motion carried.

Noel Dentner would like to have the staff breakout the difference that the commission will gain for receiving the full .5 mill for fiscal year 2006 only. With that broken out the commission will be able to track the balance not budgeted for fiscal year 2006.

Commission Members Report:

Lloyd Sype reported that there are individuals recording a baby's cry to lure and abduct women.

Michael Pasko thanked Catholic Charities of Monroe County for supplying the snacks and refreshments for the meeting.

Martin Kaufman commented on an article he read that said that older men opposed to older women are more often isolated do to the lack some of the social skills and skills needed to run their own home that most women posses. In addition, they are often too proud to ask for assistance when are in need of help.

Nancy Hamman announced that she would be speaking to approximately sixty people at Mount Carmel on February 7, 2006. This is her attempt to educate more people in South County on what the Commission on Aging provides and how they assist the seniors of Monroe County.

Paul Iacoangeli commented that with the high heating cost, he personally took steps to conserve not only the gas but also the cost of the gas and even though he did, his gas bill went up 100% from last year. Mr. Iacoangeli is concerned with those individuals living on fixed incomes on how are they going to pay for such an increase on their gas bills.

Noel Dentner suggested that since the commission has a fairly large fund balance and there is no infrastructure to take care at this time why doesn't the commission transfer some of that fund balance into an account designated to assist those people who need assistance paying their gas bills.

Ms. Hamad reported that the commission already funds an Emergency Fuel Assistance Program through the Monroe County Opportunity Programs to assist those seniors who need help paying their gas bill however the commission may want to look at increasing the \$500 year limit per household because of the increase in gas, fuel oil, and propane.

Correspondence:

The list of correspondence was read.

Directors Report:

There was nothing to report this month.

Unfinished Business:

A. Strategic Planning Committee Report of January 05, 2006

Terri reported that e-mails went out to all the agencies reminding them of the January 25, 2006 Board Basics Workshop training that would be held at the Frenchtown Senior Center from 5-8 p.m. with a nominal fee of \$5.00 to cover the cost of the food and beverages. In addition, Ms. Hamad mentioned that she is looking to schedule the Grant Writing Training in February in South County just to move the trainings throughout the county.

Martin Kaufman commented that since Mr. Springstead is no longer a member of the commission and the Strategic Planning Committee and with all the other areas of the policy handbook needing review, i.e., cost sharing, and grant writing, conflict of interest, districting issues, and possibly a political disclaimer regarding religious insignia and with the Strategic Planning Committee considering to also act as the policy committee that would review these policies and look at the bylaws for the changes that need to be made that there is a great need to have a fifth member on the committee.

B. Agency Reporting Mechanisms Discussion

From the board's discussion that took place at the December 14, 2005 Commission on Aging meeting, Paul Iacoangeli put together a final version of the Noncompliance Policy regarding the submission of the monthly/quarterly and year-end reports to the commission. Today, after the commission reviewed and discussed the final version they decided to make the following changes to the final Noncompliance Policy submitted by Mr. Iacoangeli.

The members requested these included; the 5th **and further instance**, and added chairman **or designated board member**.

They also discussed the 25th, as the date reports were due in the office, we could either add it as a new number 20 or simply modify number 2 to reflect it.

Programs and services receiving County Millage Funding **must** submit **monthly/quarterly and year-end reports** showing how millage money is spent. **These reports need to be received by the COA no later than the 25th of the month in which they are due.**

Or

20. Monthly/quarterly and year-end reports showing how millage money is spent need to be received by the COA no later than the 25th of the month in which they are due.

Noncompliance with funding allocation rules and regulations reads as follows with the changes highlighted:

The failure of an agency to comply with any funding allocation rule or regulation during the budget year shall result in withholding a percentage of an agencies monthly allocation according to the following;

1st instance - ten (10) percent

2nd instance - twenty (20) percent

3rd instance - fifty (50) percent

4th instance - seventy five (75) percent

5th or further instance - one hundred (100) percent

Once compliance has been successfully obtained COA staff will recommend to the Commission, at their next regular scheduled meeting, for approval to release funds to those agencies whose funding has been withheld. Unless appealed, twenty five (25) percent of withheld funds shall be returned to the COA General Fund.

Appeal Process

In the event of **extenuating circumstances** an agency may appeal the withholding of funds within sixty (60) days of when the funds were withheld at any regularly scheduled meeting of the COA, provided the agency meets the following conditions;

- 1) Appeal request must be in writing
- 2) Documentation to support circumstances leading to appeal provided to the COA no later than 5 business days prior to the meeting when appeal will be heard.
- 3) The agency director or designated representative, in addition to the board of director's chairman or **designated board member** shall be present when the appeal is heard.

Upon a successful appeal the COA may return up to one hundred (100) percent of withheld funds, any withheld funds not returned shall be returned to the COA General Fund.

Paul Simonton commented that it is a minority of the agencies that are not complying and by not enforcing this policy the commission is actually penalizing the agencies that are in compliance, who are spending time and money to get these reports to the commission in a timely manor and that it is the commissions' obligation to correct this situation.

Noel Dentner motioned to implement the Noncompliance Policy regarding the submission of the monthly/quarterly and year-end reports to the commission as amended. Supported by Nancy Hamman. **Motion carried.**

Paul Iacoangeli will update the policy and send it to the Commission on Aging staff to be sent out to the agencies.

C. Strategic Planning Committee Appointment

The Strategic Planning Committee will also act as the policy committee and is looking to recruit a member of the board to sit on this committee.

Loyd Sype moved to nominate Noel Dentner to sit on the Strategic Planning Committee. Supported by Paul Simonton. **Motion carried.**

New Business:

A. Presentation by Aaron Simonton-White House Conference on Aging Delegate

Aaron Simonton reported on a few of the topics from the conference:

- There are 40,000 persons over 50 years of age
- Long term Care is the biggest issue noted at the conference
- There were fewer delegates there this year (1200)
- Delegates were not allowed to debate any resolutions only to prioritize fabricated resolutions
- There was a call for scraping of the Medicare Part D and Social Security Privatization
- Transportation and health care issues topped the lists of needs
- Technological advances are able to keep people in their homes longer
- The possibility of Therapy in senior centers
- May issues centering around prescriptions and transportation are plaguing all age groups not just seniors

B. 2006 Election of Officers

Chairman, Martin Kaufman, opened nominations for Chairman, Vice-Chair, and Secretary for calendar year 2006.

Michael Pasko moved to nominate Martin Kaufman to remain as Chairman for calendar year 2006. Supported by Loyd Sype. Are there any other nominations for Chairman? Are there any other nominations for Chairman? Are there any other nominations for Chairman? Michael Pasko moved that nominations be closed for Chairman. Supported by Paul Simonton. Nancy Hamman motioned to cast a unanimous ballot. Supported by Paul Iacoangeli. **Motion carried.**

Nancy Hamman moved to nominate Paul Iacoangeli as Vice-Chairman for calendar year 2006. Supported by Noel Dentner. Are there any other nominations for Vice-Chair? Are there any other nominations for Vice-Chair? Are there any other nominations for Vice-Chair? Michael Pasko moved that nominations be closed for Vice-Chairman. Supported by Noel Dentner. Nancy Hamman would like the Secretary to cast a unanimous ballot. **Motion carried.**

Nancy Hamman moved to nominate Michael Pasko to remain as Secretary for calendar year 2006. Supported by Paul Simonton. Are there any other nominations for Secretary? Are there any other nominations for Secretary? Are there any other nominations for Secretary? Paul Iacoangeli moved that nominations for Secretary be closed. Supported by Nancy Hamman. **Motion carried.**

Public Time:

Commissioner Mentel commented that there are a few seniors concerned that when they call Living Independence for Everyone about the meal that is being served that they are not being listened to.

Gerilyn Powers announced that they are taking 100 more waiver client referrals this budget year.

Aaron Simonton commented on that the issue with elderly men is very serious in the Monroe County area. In addition, he commented that Medicare Part D is going better than he anticipated.

Nancy Young thanked the commission for their support in fiscal year 2005.

Cheri Boron thanked Ms. Hamad and her family for helping to deliver meals on Christmas and New Years.

Commissioner Mentel announced that the federal government does not provide monies for the special meals that Living Independence for Everyone delivers on the holidays it is the donations made to Area Agency on Aging 1-B for holiday meals.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Noel Dentner, supported by Michael Pasko. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 08, 2006 at 1:00 p.m. at the Monroe Senior Citizen Center, 15275 South Dixie Hwy, Monroe, MI 48161

Vicky L. Terrasi

Vicky L. Terrasi, Recording Secretary