

Monroe County Commission on Aging

29 Washington Street, (Stoner-Kemmerling Building) Monroe, MI 48161

Telephone: 734.240.7363 * 734.240.7364 * Toll Free: 1.888.354.5500 ext. 7364 * Fax 734.240.7360

E-Mail: terri_hamad@monroemi.org * vicki_terrasi@monroemi.org

Visit Our Website: www.co.monroe.mi.us

Terri L. Hamad, Director
Vicky L. Terrasi, Administrative Assistant

Monroe County Commission on Aging
Regular Board Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2005
Dundee Senior Citizens Center

Chairman Martin Kaufman called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

Member's present: Noel Dentner, Nancy Hamman, Paul Iacoangeli, Aleta Jackson, Martin Kaufman, Mike Pasko, and Loyd Sype.

Member excused: Richard Springstead

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

Approval of the Agenda:

Michael Pasko motioned to approve the April 13, 2005 agenda as presented. Supported by Aleta Jackson. **Motion carried.**

Guests Present: Sherm Timmins, Executive Director, Monroe County Opportunity Program, Sharon Williams, CEO, and Pat Sheets, Services Coordinator, Caring Alternatives, Inc., Amber Totten, Regional Supervisor, Area Agency on Aging 1-B, County Commissioner Floreine Mentel, James Seegert, Interested Citizen, Henry Lievens, County Commissioner, Nancy Young, Director, Faith In Action for Monroe County, Bob Clark, Executive Director, Barbara Berie, Lillian Hoag, and Juanita Ruehs, Dundee Senior Citizens Center.

Public Time/Time for Dundee Senior Citizen Center:

Commissioner Mentel reported that at the April 12, 2005, County Board of Commissioners meeting, the Grant Resolution opposing the elimination of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) went through. They are still waiting for the Michigan Association of County's (MAC) to make a decision as to whether they are going to support the State or not. Area Agency on Aging 1-B (AAA 1-B) Board of Directors, Southeast Michigan Council of Governments (SEMCOG), and the Governors office are also opposing the elimination of the CDBG. The Monroe County Opportunity Program relies extensively on the CDBG funds to provide help to individuals for heating and rent. On April 15, 2005, there is a luncheon with Congressman Dingell at the Grafton Hall in Carleton. Commissioner Mentel has spoken with State Representatives Kathy Angerer and Herb Kehrl to support the elimination of the grant.

Bob Clark welcomed that commission and visitors to the center, and thanked those board members of the center for attending to support the Dundee Center.

Juanita Ruehs commented on the excellent job and improvements Mr. Clark has made to the center since he has taken over as director.

Approval of the Regular Commission Meeting Minutes of March 09, 2005.

Motion made by Loyd Sype, supported by Noel Dentner to approve the regular commission minutes of March 09, 2005 with corrections. **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 Paul Iacoangeli. Supported by Noel Dentner. **Motion carried.**

Commission Members Report:

Nancy Hamman announced that on May 1, 2005, the Bedford and Monroe RSVP Appreciation Dinner would take place at Dusseau's Reception Center in Temperance. At this time, they present the "Joe Green" award, to the volunteer of the year. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. and ticket are \$15.00. In addition, the new Bedford Library's Used Book Sale is on April 14, 2005.

Loyd Sype reported that tanning beds are far worse than the sun and the young people are ending up with skin cancer.

Michael Pasko announced that the Bedford Library is having a "Lost Art Day" on May 14, 2005. They are inviting anyone who has a craft to come to the library to show your craft. The showing is between 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Contact Diane Carol at 850-6042 or Lois White at the Bedford Library.

Michael Pasko announced that the Relay for Life on May 20, 2005 at the Bedford Community Stadium is having themes this year by the hour such as Crazy Hat Hour, "Walk Backwards Hour, and Wooden Shoe Hour. In addition, there will be entertainment and a moonwalk for the children. The event begins Saturday at 9:00 a.m. and closes Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

Noel Dentner commented that he is appreciative of the time he spent with Terri and Vicky last week to give him a through update on all the operations of the commission. In addition, he had a marvelous lunch at the center today and became a member of the center at the same time.

Correspondence:

The list of correspondence was read.

Directors Report:

For complete report, please see attached.

Unfinished Business:**A. Strategic Planning Committee Report of March 22, 2005**

Paul Iacoangeli commented that it seems that the agency's directors are going to facilitate the "Blue Print" or strategic plan instead of this Strategic Planning Committee. In addition, the Senior Legal Service Conflict Policy on Service to Clients has not yet been completed and has been going on for longer than the committee has anticipated.

B. Monroe County Senior Legal Services Proposed Policy on Service to Clients Update-No Report.

No report to update since Mr. VanWasshenova is at the Monroe Senior Center providing information to seniors on Advance Directives.

New Business:**A. AAA 1-B Match Letters**

Terri Hamad reported that the Area Agency on Aging 1-B grants are due June 3, 2005. Ms. Hamad requested approval from the commission to allow her to write letters that the commission is continuing to support the 20% match. The following are the agency's requesting match letters:

- Faith In Action for Monroe County
- Home Injury Control
- Senior Legal Services
- Catholic Charities of Monroe County
- Chore
- Resource Advocacy
- Frenchtown Adult Day Care
- Elder Abuse Program

Motion by Michael Pasko to allow the Ms. Hamad to go forward and provide the commissions' co-funded agencies the 20% match letter. Supported by Nancy Hamman. **Motion carried.**

B. CDBG/CSBG Resolution Support

Ms. Hamad reported that the two block grants are both federal funded pots of money that Community Action Agencies receive across the State and the United States. As far as the State, impact goes, we are looking at one hundred and forty-seven million dollars across the state. With respect to MCOP, we are looking at a loss of approximately \$625,000 or 22% of their budget. The block grants currently are under the Housing and Urban Development Department and what the president would like to do is move them into the Department of Commerce and redirect the funds to the states for economic development and tax credits. Not only is the redirection a serious issue but they also want to decrease the money. The Commission on Aging has been asked to support the resolution opposing the elimination of the Community Development Block Grant. The County Board of Commissioners, MCOP Board of Directors, and several other local groups that have a vested interest in the grant have all voted to oppose the elimination of the grant.

Ms. Hamad requested that the commission pass this resolution with the Chairman Kaufman's signature and allow her to send the letter out to the federal legislators and state legislators that the Commission on Aging of Monroe County does not support the elimination of these block grant funds.

Motion by Noel Dentner to pass the resolution and send the letter to the Federal and State Legislators that the Commission on Aging of Monroe County does not support the elimination of these block grant funds. Supported by Paul Iacoangeli. **Motion carried.**

C. Home Care Worker Training Collaboration Report

Sharon Williams reported that this was a collaborative project that was funded by Lay-Z- Boy, Community Foundation of Monroe, and the Commission on Aging. The intent of the project was to have the products, get them to the agencies, and train trainers at the agencies that then would take the materials and the knowledge and go back and duplicate the training, not only to their own staff but also to caregiver families. A nine-module product that was simple to follow and understand in the way that it would help the common ordinary caregiver maintain someone at home over a long period. Seventeen agencies participated in the training with 19 individuals who became certified leaders with the Monroe County Red Cross. Twenty training videos and workbooks were distributed to the agencies for the purpose of training their staff, teaching family caregivers, loaning materials to caregiver support groups, and offering the program to the community via community education programs associated with the public schools. They anticipated generating \$200 in program income for the project to help sustain future trainings, however they fell short of their goal and received a \$100 donation that is being carried over in seed money and the group is looking at on going areas where training is needed.

Martin Kaufman commented that this kind of effort which is using grant money and using it effectively to reach people who would actually benefit from the training.

Nancy Hamman commented on the evaluation Ms. Williams presented that shows the good effort that was put into the training.

Operational Budget Letter Review

Ms. Hamad presented a letter to Charles Londo, Administrator/CFO regarding the reduction of the Commission on Aging operational budget. Discussion took place regarding the letter and the commission approved the letter as presented.

Motion by Loyd Sype to accept and forward the letter to Charles Londo, Administrator/CFO as presented. Supported by Nancy Hamman. **Motion carried.**

D. Color Printer Purchase

Ms. Hamad requested the commissions' approval to purchase a Color Laser Printer by using the money received from MCOP who is purchasing for \$300 the old computer that was replace earlier in the year. The IT Department has offered a special on laser printers if they are purchased in pairs costing \$295 each. The Monroe County Treasurers Department is looking at the same offer and would like to take advantage of this offer with the Commission on Aging.

Motion by Noel Dentner to approve the purchase of a Dell Color Laser Printer for \$295. Supported by Aleta Jackson.

Roll call:

Paul Iacoangeli – Yes
Michael Pasko – Yes
Aleta Jackson – Yes

Nancy Hamman – Yes
Noel Dentner – Yes

Loyd Sype – Yes
Martin Kaufman – Yes

Motion carried,

Public Time:

Nancy Young announced that her Vista person is leaving on April 20, 2005 because her term with the Vista project is ending. The good news is that the Community Foundation of Southeast Michigan has awarded Faith in Action for Monroe County a \$10,000 grant that will be used to hire someone a couple days per week to help in the office. In addition, the Caregiver Fair is Saturday, May 14, 2005 between 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Monroe County Community College.

Martin Kaufman pointed out that one year ago Faith in Action was held to the grindstone regarding money and one year later, they have gotten a \$10,000 grant and that is major progress.

Sharon Williams announced that the Assistant Services Coordinator, Jan Mara took another job elsewhere and in her place she promoted Cindy MacCovain that has a back ground in marketing.

Dr. Sherm Timmins commented that at MCOP they are going through changes throughout the staff. He has recently hired a Director of Grant writing and Marketing.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn by Michael Pasko, supported by Noel Dentner. **Motion carried.** Meeting adjourned at 2:39 p.m.

The next regular board meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 11, 2005 at 1:00 p.m. at the Bedford Senior Citizens Center, Temperance, MI.

Vicky L. Terrasi

Vicky L. Terrasi, Recording Secretary