

**Portage Senior Center
Advisory Board Meeting
February 18, 2009**

Present: Patricia Berninger, David Crawshaw, Dorothy Hazard, Gordon Heikkila, James Hoppe, Ruth Ann Meyer, Nic Oprescu, Ann Perkins, Art Roberts, and Larry Smith.

Excused: Youth participant member: Stephanie Oprescu and Diane Durian

Staff: Jason Horan, PSC Manager

Director: William Deming, Director of Parks & Recreation Department

Larry Smith, Chair, called the PSC Advisory Board meeting to order at 2:30 PM. January minutes were read. It was moved by James Hoppe and seconded by Art Roberts to approve the minutes as distributed. Motion passed.

I) Directors Report –highlights from Director’s Monthly Report – Jason Horan

A) Attendance and Activities

1. Participation for January totaled 5,281.
2. A retirement party held for Jo Arnold was attended by over 150 PSC members, colleagues and community members.

B) Membership

Since July 1 Membership stands at 2,019.

C) Room Utilization

PSC rooms were rented 19 times during the month of January. The PSC was open 8 evenings for senior activities and two Saturdays.

Strength training classes continue at the PPS administration building.

D) Fundraising

Total revenues for January came to \$8,811. This includes memberships, donations, grants, trips, etc.

Edward Jones will again be a sponsor for the Celery Showcase event.

E) Volunteer hours for January were 2,239 hours.

F) Health Promotion

A new “Transitions” support group began in January and attendance fairly good despite the weather conditions.

G) Facilities

Jason explained that weather provided some roof leaks in the kitchen area. A solution has been made. Also there are two new front doors.

II) Trip Committee - Art Roberts

Some trips were cancelled. Openings for March 12 (Chicago) and April 22 (Grand Rapids)

III) Fundraising idea – Sandy Nicholson, Trip coordinator

Sandy presented an idea for fund raising that the Richland area community center shared with her. PSC members were impressed and suggested that she discuss with Jim Hoppe and Friends of the Portage Senior Center has to possibilities for use. Also members would encourage the PSC staff to utilize this idea where and when appropriate. We thanked Sandy for the hands on experience. Larry noted the Advisory Board does not fund raise.

IV) Friends of the Portage Senior Center - Jim Hoppe

The Friends of the PSC Endowment Fund had 33 donors contributed \$2,715. Scheduled fund raising events – May 11, golf scramble and July 17 – pig roast. Also a legacy event is being planned. Some members attended a non-profit training conference.

V) PCOC - Art Roberts

No report

VI) Old Business, Larry Smith

Larry explained the demographics from “The 2008 Portage community survey” related to the question about the Senior Center. There were 46.6 % at the age of 60 or more (p. 5). Survey question #12 (p. 15) was considered quite general in nature and indicated satisfaction with the services provided.

Larry distributed the “Portage 2025 Human Services summary” from the Portage 2025 report. He pointed out the need for partnering with other community groups to maximize resources. Also the report indicates the need to increase senior center facilities and programs. Discussion followed.

VII) New Business

Jason brought the need for the rate increase for Sunday rental fees. It was noted that the janitorial services increased for Sunday. Jason would like to raise the rental fee to \$35 to cover the extra cost. [It was noted that in April 2008 the rental fees were passed.] It was moved by Art Roberts and seconded by Patricia Berninger that the “cleaning fee” of \$35 be added to the existing rental rate. Motion carried.

VIII) Comments from citizens and board members - None

Meeting adjourned at 3:25 p.m.

Next meeting Wednesday, March 18, 2009, 2:30 PM to be held at the Portage Senior Center.

Submitted by Ruth Ann Meyer, secretary.