

## CITY OF PORTAGE HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Minutes of Meeting, October 6, 2011

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:30 p.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Angela Manahan Ilori, Raymond LaPoint, Elma (Pat) Maye, Marc Meulman, Nadeem Mirza, Cory Puterbaugh, Sandra Sheppard, and Kyle Huitt (Youth Advisory Committee Liaison)

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Diane Durian

**STAFF PRESENT:** Elizabeth Money, Neighborhood Program Specialist

**RESIGNATION:** Mirza moved and Sheppard seconded a motion to accept the resignation of Pamela Gilchrist. Upon vote, motion passed 7-0.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mirza moved and Sheppard seconded a motion to approve the August 4, 2011 minutes as submitted. Upon vote, motion passed 7-0.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

1. Human/Public Services Public Education – Community Forum – Board discussion: Meulman summarized the presentation by Peggy Gagen, Associate Director of the Community Investment, Greater Kalamazoo United Way from the September 2011 meeting. In conclusion, Meulman suggested a refocus of efforts from a human service fair to increasing awareness and educating Portage service providers regarding the United Way forums and other information already available. Additional Board suggestions included use of the city website for information, articles in the Portager, and mailings. Mirza agreed with refocus but added there was a considerable amount of material to disseminate and it was ideal to engage key individuals. Discussion ensued on the United Way forums, their locations, the need to get persons to these forums for education on the programs available, and the number of people who attend these forums. Huitt expressed a concern over the inclusion of Planned Parenthood materials and references to abortion. Board discussion followed including the overall focus of Planned Parenthood and that the Board was not responsible for editing information provided by service agencies. After further discussion on disseminating information, Sheppard made a motion to support the refocusing of efforts and for Meulman to provide a memo to Council saying such. Mirza seconded. Upon vote, motion passed 7-0. Board discussed assembling mailing list, which staff would assist with, and about collecting contact information from key individuals in the community.
2. Red Ribbon Week: Maye made a motion to accept as written the National Red Ribbon Proclamation. Ilori seconded. Upon vote, motion passed 7-0. Maye and Meulman would work out what school would participate and if school children were available to read the proclamation.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Metro Transit ADA Advisory Committee–Member report: Meulman did not attend the September meeting and had no updates to provide.

**STATEMENT OF CITIZENS:** Doug Huitt lent support earlier comments by Kyle Huitt regarding Planned Parenthood.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Elizabeth Money, Neighborhood Program Specialist