

**Portage Senior Citizen Services
Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2014 – 2:30-3:30 PM**

Board Members Present: Patricia Berninger, Monifa A. Jumanne, Mary Maisto, Ruth Ann Meyer, Ann Perkins, Mary Lou Petrulio, Trudy Riker, Helen Tubbs

Absent Excused: Art Roberts, Jim Hoppe, Kyle Huitt (Youth Participant)

Management: None (Ann presented the Management Report)

I. Call to Order

Chairperson Ann Perkins called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM.

II. Approval of February Minutes

After Board members read February's minutes, Trudy moved that the minutes be accepted as read. Helen seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

III. Items for Information

- **A. Manager's Report - February** (Provided by Tricia Keala; presented by Ann Perkins)
 - Total event sign-ins: **1,709** (January: 1,382)
 - Active memberships: **1,314** (January: 1,337)
 - Volunteer hours: **>1,287**, representing the work of **127 volunteers** valued at a total of over **\$26,999** (January: 1,542).
 - **14** new members, **59** membership renewals (January: 9 new/36 renewals).

February Program Highlights: Valentine's Day Luncheon (11); Healthy Beginnings (20); AARP Smart Driver Program (27). The San Antonio trip went well (February 12-19).

- **B. Wellness** (Helen) – A speaker from The Senior Brigade is confirmed for May 19, with the notation that, because of each organization's existing commitments, the Golf Outing Fundraiser will be held that same day. The Senior Brigade program is called “Protect Yourself, Protect Your Future.”
- **C. PATH and Matter of Balance** (Helen) - Two Personal Action Toward Health (PATH) sessions and a new session of “Matter of Balance” are being scheduled for September or October. Pat has PATH materials, which she will give to Helen.
- **D. Trip Committee** (Trudy) – It's official: sixteen travelers went on the Florida trip and, despite Michigan's double-digit snowfalls and single-digit temperatures, sixteen travelers returned! The Spring Trip Preview is April 21 at 1:30 PM. Upcoming Day-Trip Outings include “Boogie-Woogie Swingtime,” April 21, Marshall and “Magnificent M and Ms,” April 28, Grand Rapids. It was noted that Detroit Tigers baseball games are popular and that people sign up early.

Old Business

- **Farewell Get-Together for Jill Hess** - Ann thanked Ruth Ann and other Board members for organizing and attending the informal get-together for former deputy director, Jill Hess.

- **Complaint Resolution Procedure** - The revised PSC Complaint Resolution policy will be included in the new PSC Member Handbook, which is currently being reviewed for final approval.

New Business

- **Kalamazoo County Advocates for Senior Issues (KCASI)** – Ruth Ann, Ann and Helen attended KCASI's March 17 meeting. The next meeting, Monday, April 21, will feature a panel discussion on exploitation prevention in Kalamazoo County. Helen will attend the meeting as PSC Advisory Board representative.
- **“Older Michigan Day”** - This activity reminds Advisory Board members to be aware of issues important to seniors, one of which is SB 636 - Landline Deletion - through which the FCC will authorize AT &T and other telephone companies to shut down landlines in Michigan, starting in 2017. Many seniors consider land lines, “life lines.”

Trudy provided information from the Area Agencies on Aging Association, which noted that seniors opposed to the bill can call AARP @ 1-888-232-6829, to urge the Governor to veto the bill.

- **Friends of the Portage Senior Center** – *Friends* is making membership fee scholarship information available.
- **Senior Center Manager** – The field of candidates has been narrowed to two. A final decision is imminent.
- **Golf Outing** organizers are courting new businesses for sponsorship of this year's event, and would welcome referrals.

2013-2014 Goals - Ann led a discussion of goals for the Senior Center, in order to update the current document, which is due to be submitted to the city. Discussion centered on clarifying the Board's role in achieving each goal. Revised goals will be finalized and distributed.

Ruth Ann moved to accept the Portage Senior Center 2014-15 Advisory Board Goals, as amended. Trudy seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Ann will forward the amended goals.

Advisory Board Comments

- Denita Demler – Volunteer and Program Coordinator, suffered a fall that resulted in a broken ankle. Denita underwent successful ankle surgery and is expected back in office in late March. Get well cards for Denita have been signed and sent to her.
- A question arose about PSC policy regarding faith-based activities.
- Monifa distributed copies of a recent newsletter from the Attorney General's office.

Citizen Comments: None

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:55 PM. The next Advisory Board meeting will be held April 16, 2014, 2:30 PM, at the Senior Center.

Respectfully,
Monifa A. Jumanne, Secretary