

Portage Senior Citizens (PSC) Advisory Board

Minutes: December 15, 2021

Call to order:

Chairperson Doug Gilchrist called the meeting to order at 2:35 PM.

In Attendance:

Doug Gilchrist (Chairperson)
Larry Smith (Vice Chairperson)
Joe Magalski (Secretary)
Trudy Riker
Art Roberts
Linda Zoeller
John Lobo
Bill Wieringa
Sharon White
Jean Balazs
Ashlyn Haigh - Youth Advisory Committee

Absent:

Linda Clampi - Excused
Genevieve Kim (Youth Advisory Committee) - Excused

Senior Center Staff Present:

Kim Phillips

The minutes for the Nov 17, 2021 meeting were approved with the following correction with Bill moving and Art seconding:

- Under Advisory Board comments, change Art's comment to indicate that the Kalamazoo community foundation is looking for new BOARD members.

Travel Program, Trudy:

- The punch cards are being discontinued as of Jan 1 and is being replaced by an online system.
- The April pre-trip review gathering is still on hold.
- The day trip to Turkeyville went well.
- There are still openings for the December trip to the casino.

Legislative Update, Art:

- Rep Julie Rogers will be hosting a coffee hour meeting.

Friends of PSC Board Update, Trudy:

- They haven't met yet in December.
- In January, their meeting will include a retreat.
- The fall appeal communication was sent out, the goal is \$10,000 and it is going well.
- They are looking for new board members.

Youth Advisory Board, Ashlyn:

- They are working on holiday baskets for those in need.

Managers Report, Kim:

- The needlers group collected mittens and gloves and then passed out over 2,000 items.
- United Health Care is in the process getting approval so it's members can receive Portage Senior Center members for free (as part of their health care).
- The PSC is looking into a culinary program partnership with KVCC.
- The Monthly Operations Report for November was provided.
- A "fitness sampler" event took place where members could learn more about the fitness classes offered. It went well with about 40 people attending.
- As part of the Accreditation program, improvements that were suggested are being evaluated.
- The PSC is looking into taking on more of a leadership role with the Kalamazoo Area on Agency programs like the holiday baskets.

Old Business, Kim:

- Update on current status of Senior Center
 - The library has opened up some parking spaces for the Senior Center to use while their construction continues.
- PSC Construction Update
 - Construction continues to go well on the new building.
 - The contractor continue to experience supply chain issues but "spring" is still the completion date.
 - The PSC is starting to discuss the grand opening and ribbon cutting.
 - Kim will be providing a tour this Friday to Sean McCann, Charles Zhang, and some others from the city of Portage.
 - The fundraising goal has been met but donations are still being accepted.
 - Kim mentioned that the outside lighting will be LED and the colors can be changed via a computer program.

New Business:

- PSC Fee Increases.

- City Council has approved increasing member fees. Kim noted that it has been over 15 years since membership fees have increased and that the fee increase is not directly related to the new building. The fees effective March 1, 2022 will be as follows:
 - Annual Membership, Resident, \$30 (formerly \$25)
 - Annual Membership, Non-Resident, \$40 (formerly \$35)
 - Lifetime Membership, \$300 (formerly \$250)

Activity Reminders

- Nothing to report

Citizen comments:

- N/A

Advisory Board Comments:

- Sharon - she is glad to be back after her recent illness. She provided some cheesecake desert after the meeting - thanks Sharon! She also wondered how we could help the Kentucky tornado victims - Kim was going to check with the Needler group to see if they had any items they could donate.
- Joe / Linda Z / Ashlyn / Doug / Larry - wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year
- Trudy - The Shepherd Center (contact info - 269-383-1122 or shepctrkal@sbcglobal.net) provides transportation to appointments for those in need. They are looking for volunteer drivers.
- Art - mentioned the Osher Life-Long Learning classes.
- Larry - thanked Dawn for all of her work on the Accreditation process.

Doug adjourned the meeting at 3:17 pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 19 at 2:30 PM.