

Senior Services of Van Buren County
Board of Director's Meeting, April 19, 2023
8337 Hwy, South Haven, Michigan

1.Call to Order & Introductions: Chair Olney called the meeting to order at 4:02 pm.
Members present: Abshagen, Paul, Hoover, Tibbs, Brown, Olney, Muenzer, Curtis and Kiry
Members Absent: None
Also Present: Director Diane Rigozzi, Michelle Davis, Nate Bitely from Porter Township and Marilyn Rendell from Covert Township

2.Public Comments: None

3.Approval of Agenda/Additions/Deletions: Tibbs moved agenda be approved as presented and support was provided by Muenzer. The agreement was unanimous and the agenda was approved.

4. Chair Comments: None

5. Monthly Reports

- a. Acceptance of Finance Report:** Abshagen reviewed the financial report from March 2023 with the group. Curtis moved that the financial report be accepted. Brown provided the second. All in favor.
- b. Acceptance of Minutes:** Paul moved with support from Abshagen that the minutes from the March meeting be approved. All in unanimous agreement.

6. Old Business

a. Building Report: Roof is on schedule for being complete by the end of June or mid-July which is good since leaks keep developing. Lawn Boys is in the process of repairing the light they damaged in the parking lot. Rigozzi will check to see if a professional concrete business should assist them. Country House Furniture is gathering bids for the parking lot resurfacing as they will be sharing in the cost. The bid will be for a 5 year patching and sealing job that will last until there are enough funds to do a more extensive fix. Bids should be in by next month. Stripes are needed and it might be beneficial to do additional handicap spots. Spencer Hodgman (Lawn Boys owner) and his family are funding the parking lot island plants and providing upkeep for summer as a donation.

b. Porter and Gobles: Several possible locations to service the residents in these areas were discussed. Gobles Methodist church and the former Village Market building (owned by city) could be considered. A club house located in Porter township is still for sale. Asking price is \$490,000 and it sits on 8 acres. An inspection could be conducted in May with Bitely, a building inspector and contractors to gather more information. It has a sizable parking lot and is in a good location to serve Porter township and Decatur township residents.

c. Grant Writers: Grant writers still being sought. Dickerson-Baker are no longer being considered as they are cost prohibitive for now. Fund raising would also be something that whoever we acquire would need to pursue.

d. Property-South of Village-Update: Rigozzi reported meeting with South Haven City Manager Hosier and South Haven Mayor Smith regarding the property and the easement issue. South Haven township and South Haven City entered into a 425 Plan Agreement regarding the property in the past which is still in effect. It offers development incentives and the environmental study would be funded according to the terms of the agreement. Swapping easements with the business located at one end would result in giving access in a more beneficial manner to all interested parties. A map with dimensions will be provided in order to show how all is situated.

e. Scholarships: No vote by group is needed and scholarships may be given with discretion by Director.

7. New Business

a. Liquor License: On occasion it would be nice if alcohol could be served. Several dates were mentioned. Abshagen moved that the applications for these dates be sent in and Brown provided a second. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Olney, Abshagen, Paul, Hoover, Curtis, Tibbs, Kiry and Brown

Nays: Muenzer

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

8. Committee Reports

a. Director's Report: A list of site locations and days of operations was discussed. Tibbs suggested Hartford site have a "Closed" sign to help make it clearer when it is not open to the seniors. Director stated Covert township site sign will match the library as they are side by side and share a parking lot. Decatur township was requiring \$100 per use so a different site has been found. The New Hope Fellowship church with a kitchen and accessible parking lot will be perfect. May 3 will be the start date. Several fundraisers have had great results. The first annual Auction/Dance event brought in \$25,398, Culvers \$479 (3 nights) and The Lodge \$365 (1 day). Upcoming fundraisers include New Holland Distillery bartending classes, a golf event at Beeches, the Readers Theater and dances.

b. Executive Committee: Committee worked on updating By-laws and all have had an opportunity to study. Tibbs moved they be accepted as presented. Muenzer supported the motion. A roll call vote was taken.

Ayes: Olney, Abshagen, Paul, Hoover, Curtis, Muenzer, Tibbs, Kiry and Brown

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: None

Motion carried.

c. Finance Committee: Budget discussion earlier, nothing additional.

d. Fundraising Committee: Nice to see extra fundraising activities. Since there has been no Festival of Trees and Abshagen(committee chair) has leftover materials from that, he is thinking about decorating a tree to raffle or sell at the Christmas dance.

e. Personnel Committee: No report.

f. Program/Services Committee: Need to meet.

g. Nominating Committee: Interviews need to be scheduled and conducted with interested nominees. Bitely announced he is willing to be an official representative of Porter township eliciting cheers and clapping from board. Olney recapped all committees and proposed members. Hoover moved list of committees and members be approved as there has been no opposition to any of the suggestions. Curtis seconded the motion. All voted in the affirmative.

h. Transportation Committee: Curtis reported ridership increasing. Not too many from Covert township yet. Three to four new busses have been proposed with some being electric. A possible charging station at the South Haven Senior Service site was discussed.

9. Township Reports: There were twenty in attendance at the last luncheon in **Columbia Township**. This may increase as residents are returning to the area for the summer. **Decatur Township** discussed earlier in meeting. Nothing additional to add. No problems or concerns from **Geneva Township**. **Porter Township** has a new programmable sign that could be used for SSVBC announcements. **Bangor City** had 18 attend the last meal. **Bangor Township** was the site for the last food truck. **South Haven City** is pro SSVBC. **Porter Township** will be the site for the next meeting.

10. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Paul and supported by Kiry. All agreed. Meeting adjourned at 5:59 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Regina Hoover, Secretary

Clare Olney, Chair