

**Merrill Area Community Enrichment Center
Committee on Aging
June 19, 2013**

Committee Members Present; Chairperson, Eugene Simon. Art Larch, Peggy Jackleg and Diane Goethe. Absent; Chris Malm and Jack Ader. ADRC, Erin Zastrow.

Meeting called to order at 8:00 am. Motion made by Jackelen, seconded by Lersch to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Motion carried.

Program updates;

Writers Club - A writers club was created with 6 active members meeting twice a month. Short stories have been created and will be in our Ageless Wisdom publication. A motion made by Lersch, second by Goetsch to approve Deau to attend a five workshop at Nicolet College in Rhinelander for writing. This class will assist with the publication Deau is working on. Motion carried.

Wisconsin Association Senior Center Accreditation process is underway. Kathy Olson and Deau will be bringing board members and volunteers to assist with the project. Hoping to have the accreditation team at the center sometime in August 2013.

Ageless Wisdom Update - Articles are coming in for the publication. Deau will bring the manuscript for the committee and a decision will be made as to how many books to publish. Cost will be a factor. Materials will be accepted through July 15.

GRABAAWR Rest Stop - The Merrill Area Community Enrichment Center will be hosting a rest stop for the bikers on Monday, June 24th at Stange's Kitchenette. Volunteers will assist with the day's activities at the park. This is our third year helping with the event. This gives the center a wonderful opportunity to welcome people to the Merrill Area.

ADRC Representative update - no report. Erin was not present.

Center staffing update - The center currently is open fulltime. If for health reasons the center has only one part-time staff person the center will be closed on Fridays. Currently Kathy Olson is off for the next 4-6 weeks. We currently have one Senior Aide and a number of volunteers helping at the center.

2014 Budget - Department Update; City Administrator Dave Johnson, Mayor Bialecki, Tom Hayden and Kathy Unertl were invited to attend our meeting in order to discuss the future of the center and budget for 2014. City Administrator Dave Johnson responded that he would attend at 8:30 am. There has been some discussion of potential staff/service cuts for 2014 and the committee felt that those making the decisions attend the meeting in hopes to get a handle as to what 2014 looks like. No other department was able to attend the meeting due to prior commitments. No other department was able to attend the meeting due to prior commitments. Deau discussed with the committee information that was shared with Personal and Finance at their May meeting. An organizational chart was shared for informational purposes only, but showed the MACEC under the responsibility of the Park and Recreation Department. The committee had a number of concerns that this was not brought to our community firsthand for discussion. Lersch shared his concerns that Lincoln County and its aging population, the need for those working directly in the aging field. The discussion was tabled until July's meeting due to City Administrator, Dave Johnson not attending the meeting. He will be asked to attend the July's meeting.

Motion was made by Jackelen, seconded by Lersch to approve the vouchers as presented. Motion carried.

No public comment.

Motion made by Goetsch, seconded by Simon to adjourn at 8:55 am. Motion carried.

Next meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2013 at 8:00 am

Minutes submitted by Jane A. Deau, Director