

NOTICE OF REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

MACEC Committee on Aging

Wednesday February 18th, 2015

8:00 a.m.

Lower level of Merrill City Hall

Members Present: Art Lersch, Eugene Simon (Chairperson), S. Peggy Jackelen, Diane Goetsch, Chris Malm (Alderpersion), Erin Wells (ADRC Representative), Mary Ball

Minutes

1. Opening

- a. Meeting called to order by Simon

2. Consent Items

- a. Motion made by Ball, second by Malm to approve minutes from previous meeting as presented. Motion carried.
- b. Motion made by Lersch to approve vouchers, second by Malm. Motion carried.

3. Newsletters Update

- a. Returns from Jan newsletters were around 400 which did not include all locations.
- b. We will distribute around 500-600 newsletters via The Courier for the months of March, April, and May to see if we increase awareness and foot traffic. The Celebrating Life Yearly Directory will also be distributed at least one time during the summer for the same purpose as above.
- c. Requested topics to include in our newsletter were discussed. Director received questions from people attending the Center such as who we run under, if the County is involved in funding us, why we charge activity fees, etc. Committee came up with great suggestions; Mary Ball recommended having each committee member submit a brief bit of information to various questions on how we operate. Goetsch suggested comparison to other Centers whose cities are relatively the same size or smaller than ours. Director will email Committee members for help each month.

4. Program updates and results

- a. Craft Sales and Class collections reviewed. As of the beginning of the year, we collected a total of \$175.25 from rummage sale table items and \$149 from the exercise and painting groups. This is a result of keeping the \$2 activity fee consistent for all activities.

- b. Community Meal was discussed in great depth. Director informed the committee that the program will run 3-4 years if we break-even each week. If we continue to run in the red, as we have been for the past 2 months, the program will be complete in approximately 2 years.
 - i. After discussion on other profitable activities (see 'c' below) as well as space issue, agreement was made that it seems reasonably to run the meal 2-3 times a month versus each week. The Merrill community offers meals and food pantries so people have a place to go if we do not have the meal on any given week. We will list these in our newsletters.
- c. The last two parties we held at the Center brought in \$255 profit. Director asked Committee if this is an expectation for the Center to continue bringing in profit and if so, to balance these types of activities with providing the meal and produce giveaway.
- d. Added discussion was centered on our Mission Statement and how we need to look at balancing what we offer to fulfill our Mission. What percent of people coming to the meal also participate in other weekly activities as well as the other way around? Are we truly meeting expectations? We need to examine duplication of efforts with all that is offered in our community.

5. Strategic Plan

- a. Reviewed survey results. Determined that bus trips were the most requested activity. Need to focus on those who are not aware that the Center is under the City. Try to focus on providing more services that men would be interested in. Future discussion on the possibility of picking up people outside the city limits to participate in Center activities.

6. ADRC Representative update

- a. Distributed PALS flyers and Healthy Living Programs for March-April

7. Correspondence

- a. Throughout meeting – topics above

8. Public Comment

- a. Provided feedback on spreading the word to others regarding the meal

9. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn made by Malm, second by Goetsch. Motion carried.

*The next Committee meeting will be held on March 18th at 8am.
Vouchers will be available for review 15 minutes prior to meeting time.*

Respectfully submitted,

TMrachek

Tammie Mrachek
MACEC Director

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