

APRIL MEETING MINUTES

Merrill Enrichment Center Committee

Meeting was held on Wednesday April 12th, 2017 at 8:00 a.m.

Lower level of Merrill City Hall

Present: Art Lersch, S. Peggy Jackelen, Diane Goetsch, Rev. Kyle Carnes (Chair), Rose Akey, Gene Bebel, Erin Wells (ADRC Representative) Mary Ball (Alderperson)

Agenda

- 1. Opening**
 - a. Carnes called the meeting to order
- 2. Consent Items**
 - a. Motion made by Bebel, second by Ball to approve March minutes. Motion carried.
 - b. Motion made by Bebel, second by Akey to approve March vouchers. Motion carried.
- 3. Public Comment - none**
- 4. Discuss new Center fees**
 - a. Motion made by Bebel, second by Ball for activity fees to be \$3/day or \$42/month.
- 5. Identify Short Term Goals for Enrichment Center move**
 - a. This will be moved to the May or June meeting.
- 6. Discussion (8:50)**
 - a. Committee discussed more of a marketing push.
- 7. Adjournment (9:00)**

Next meeting will be held on May 24th at 8am.

Vouchers will be available for review 15 minutes prior to meeting time.

Respectfully submitted,

TMrachek

Tammie Mrachek

MACEC Director

Enrichment Center Mission Statement: Dedicated to Enhancing Lives and Bringing Generations Together

Merrill City Hall is handicapped accessible. Take the elevator to the basement level.

MERRILL ENRICHMENT CENTER

Notes from March committee meeting

Strengths

- City Support
- Staff
 - Competent
 - Energy
 - creative
- Programming
 - Variety, specific to needs
- Dedicated committee
- Eleven to plan ahead programming takes into account mission
- New facility
- Community Extension support
 - understanding impact of aging population; resources important.
- “Kind” place to come; culture created that was positive, safe place, sense of community, reflected in the mission.
- Strong referral, partner network
- Staying true to mission

Opportunities

- More partnerships; education on aging services.
- Interactions – more opportunities to interact with community.
- New facility.
- Interfaith; provide gap services; people who don't qualify for but still have needs; can center help foster this? Turn to Wausau for examples?
- Advocacy Program (eg. For doctors' appts; coaching on what questions to ask; how people can retain the information they hear, etc.)

- Center would find/coordinate the advocates; another set of ears; advocates would ask questions/clarify things; get responses in writing.
- Expand intergenerational programming.
- Meals on Wheels; refer people to Enrichment Center (but these people are homebound); active home visits; volunteers interact with clients (already being done); alert authorities of people in homes having difficulties.
- Expand into evening hours (new facility; this will happen).

Aspirations (in five years)

- Move primary programming even more toward intergenerational (oil painting, essential oils); Change the paradigm-“I am not old enough to come here.”
- More resources; outside funding.
- More extensive needs assessment with community.
- Everyone in the area in the next five years should know what the center is doing.
- “No wrong door system”; network with center included work together to serve all.
- Programs should be rotating out from the center. The center should be a catalyst for programming in other facilities/places.
- People who come to the center for services find opportunities to also contribute to the center.
- All five living generations are being served by the center.
- If lives are being improved in the Merrill area, the center should somehow be recognized as having something to do with that. (Within five years).