



**FITCHBURG COMMISSION ON AGING
THURSDAY, February 12, 2015**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Anne Scott, Nancy Foss, Dick Rydecki, Jim Sosnouski, Richard Bloomquist

ABSENT WITH EXCUSE: Sue Sheets

STAFF PRESENT: Jill McHone, Mandi Miller

CALL TO ORDER

- Chair Sosnouski called meeting to order at 4:05pm
- Approval of December 11 meeting minutes.
- Motion: Minutes of December 11, 2014 meeting be approved. Seconded, Passed.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- December saw a reduction in activities because of the Christmas holidays.
- AARP tax assistance will begin in March, Fridays only.
- Three UW students are volunteers for the cleaning of refrigerators coils. They are part of the Energy Taskforce. They will be available on Wednesdays, 11am – 1pm.
- Pickle Ball is going well on Tuesdays.
- Mandi Miller secured a grant from Subaru to assist the Meals on Wheels program. The program Sharing Sundays is designed to decrease isolation of seniors. Hy-Vee will be preparing the meals that will be served at the Senior Center.
- FSC's computer lab will be converted to a tech lab. The computers will be replaced with training on iPad and other personal information devices.
- United Way has awarded funds for medicine review. Hometown Pharmacy will be working with FSC.
- The Annual Report is being developed. The data base project contributes substantially to this effort. Mandi is working on this project.
- The acoustic tiles will be replaced in Oak Hall. Bids for the work have been received.
- Jill is working on transportation options. The shared route option appears to be the preferred option.
- Installation of signage is underway. The signs will be placed on the buildings in Phase 1.
- Donations were received for a bench in the name of a long time visitor to the senior center.
- Mandi is a practitioner of meditation. She has provided an overview of meditation. Two people have volunteered to assist in the sessions as teachers.
- Motion to amend the meeting agenda to include topics of the Fitchburg Senior Center Friends. Seconded. Passed.

FITCHBURG SENIOR CENTER FRIENDS (FSCF)

- The FSCF contributed \$10,475 to senior center related project, programs and equipment.
- Some of the things the FSCF helps with... golf cart rides, purchase of dining room chairs, meals for veterans on Veterans Day, Thanksgiving and Christmas meals at Independent Living, provision of gift cards to seniors in need of financial help, emergency meal options in case food delivery is cancelled.
- Pancake Breakfast is scheduled for Sunday, March 22, 8am to noon.

Making Fitchburg a Dementia Friendly Community – Mandi Miller

- The project will work to improve the quality of life of people with dementia and their caregivers. The aim of this work is to have a community that is supportive, welcoming and understanding.
- This program is getting exposure in Wisconsin with Watertown, Middleton and Eau Claire, and soon in Fitchburg.
- Fitchburg will be partnering with the Alzheimer's and Dementia Alliance.
- Statistics show women are more likely to develop memory issues than men (1 in 6 vs. 1 in 11)
- The purpose of the project is to increase awareness, decrease isolation and stigma, create community involvement and improve quality of life.
- The training is used to help business personnel identify persons with memory problems and their care givers and how to communicate with them respectfully.
- The focus of the training will not be only on businesses but also neighborhood associations and churches.
- Costs related to this project will be time of business staff for training, signage, city personnel time (Mandi and FACT).
- Other costs will have grant monies available.
- The Fitchburg city council will approve this program at the February 24 meeting.
- City of Fitchburg employees will be trained at end of March.
- Hometown Pharmacy will be a partner in this project.
- Future plans include introducing the Fitchburg Chamber of Commerce to the program with a plan to train ten Fitchburg businesses.
- Provide the opportunity for people of Fitchburg to see the movie "Still Alice" at Star Cinema and/or the Senior Center.

OLD BUSINESS

- The committee addressing room fees and contractor pay will be meeting on Thur, Feb 19.

NEW BUSINESS

- R-04-15 Expressing City of Fitchburg's Commitment toward becoming a Dementia Friendly Community. Motion to approve/accept document. Seconded. Passed.

ADJOURNMENT

- Motion to Adjourn. Seconded. Passed.
- Meeting adjourned at 5:15pm
- Next meeting is Thursday, April 9, 2015, 4pm.