

CHISAGO COUNTY BOARD ON AGING MEETING
November 16, 2023

The Chisago County Board on Aging was called to order on November 16, 2023, at 9:34am by President, Carol Gilquist. Those present included officers Gilquist, Carol Stradinger, Todd Fisk and Judy Nelson; directors Betty Schlipp, Joe Kolb, Pam Schultz, Marge Scheele, Gwendolyn Swenson, Connie Kaiser and Jon Ekstrom. Gary Fladland did not provide a reason for his absence. Guests were Connie Jaques and Cathy Buda, who were both elected as directors at the annual meeting in October to begin two year terms in January, 2024.

A motion was made by Connie K and seconded by Betty to accept the secretary's report as presented. The motion passed.

A motion was made by Carol S and seconded by Pam to accept the treasurer's report as presented. The motion passed

OLD BUSINESS

Pam presented information on several commercial vacuums. After discussion, a motion was made by Todd and seconded by Marge to have Pam purchase one of the models with the cost not to exceed \$1,000. The motion passed.

Jon has been looking into the light for over the sink in the strip kitchen and he will purchase and install it next week.

President Carol G reviewed the Fall Craft Fair, which netted the Senior Center approximately \$800. Many vendors did OK, but there was less foot traffic. She would recommend not scheduling a craft fair on MEA weekend in the future.

The Age Well Expo booth resulted in a page of names of people interested in receiving our newsletters. Judy reported that she and Bonnie Holte were able to generate a lot of interest in the Chisago County Senior Center activities by having a booth at the event.

NEW BUSINESS

Our membership in the Chamber of Commerce was discussed. Costs have gone up to \$395 and we no longer trade the use of our rooms for chamber events for our membership.

Carol G will attend the next C of C meeting next Tuesday. Decision tabled to next month.

The kitchen contract with Catholic Charities was discussed. They sent a proposal and the board recommended keeping the rental cost at \$800 despite increase costs to us.

Rental policies and guidelines were discussed. We charge a “holding fee” for rental and not a damage deposit. Those not following the guidelines will be notified and further infractions will be handled on a case to case basis.

COMMITTEES

Tables Around Town: Carol G reported that she and Teri Nelson have a planning meeting next month

ACTIVITIES

Potluck: Carol S reported there were 35 participants plus \$85 was donated. Pete Carlson and Carol S served. They could use more help for this event.

Exercise: Connie K is back in action as leader 3 times a week. It is going very well and some participants have said their doctors prescribed the class for them.

Games: 500, cribbage, hand and foot, bingo and dominos are all well attended.

Music: Carol G states that music is going fine. One group is leaving for the Winter.

Jammin' with Joe support group has ended. Thanks to Joe Kolb for his capable leadership.

OFFICE REPORT

Carol S brought up the topic of the AARP free tax preparation that has been an annual event at the Center. After discussion, the Board decided not to make appointments for the North Branch and Cambridge sites and not to host them at the Center.

The Board directed the office to be closed on holidays when Catholic Charities will not be serving meals. For example, the Friday after Thanksgiving we will be closed. Recommendation was made to put dates closed in the newsletter.

Jenny Thyng will provide music at the CCSC in December.

MEDIA SPECIALIST

Carol G would like to decrease the costs of printing and sending the free newsletter now that we print over 400 issues per month. Ideas generated included a note to businesses asking if they would like to receive the newsletter by email in the future and asking recipients to indicate whether they wish to continue receiving the newsletter this year or they will be dropped. We are charged a fee for undeliverable items.

COMMENTS/CONCERNS

The old stove in the commercial kitchen provided by the Lions 10 years ago needs cleaning/ repair/replacement. The kitchen smells of gas as the pilot lights don't stay lit. Jon will contact the Lions about our need for a new commercial stove. Cost may be \$12,000-13,000.

We will have a new cook in the Catholic Charities kitchen, Mert.

Todd directed Carol S to get a debit card for \$100 to use for purchase of reception area treats.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Connie K and seconded by Carol S to adjourn the meeting at 11:15am. The motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Judy Nelson, Secretary