

Benzie Senior Resources
Board of Directors
May 20, 2020
4:30pm

Meeting conducted by using Conference Call Unlimited due to the continuation of Governor Whitmer's Executive Stay Home Order.

Call to Order: Ron Dykstra, Vice-President called the meeting to order at 4:30pm

Prayer of Invocation: Lead by Al Amstutz

Pledge of Allegiance: All

Roll Call: Present: Ron Dykstra, Nancy Mullen Call, Rosemary Russell, Deb Rogers, Al Amstutz, Leo Hughes, Ingrid and Paul Turner. Absent and Excused: Bev Holbrook and Denise Favreau. Also present is Douglas Durand and Sherry Taylor, County Board of Commissioner Liaison. No public present.

Approval of agenda: Motion was made by Nancy Mullen-Call and seconded by Al Amstutz. Ayes: Dykstra, Mullen-Call, Russell, Rogers, Amstutz, Hughes, I. Turner & P. Turner. Nays: None. Absent: Holbrook & Favreau. Motion Passed.

Motion to approve the minutes from April 15, 2020 was made by Rosemary Russell and seconded by Deb Rogers. Ayes: Dykstra, Mullen-Call, Russell, Rogers, Amstutz, Hughes, I. Turner & P. Turner. Nays: None. Absent: Holbrook & Favreau. Motion Passed.

Finance Committee Update was given by Deb and Doug. We reviewed the financial statements.

Revenues came in higher (+8,215/5.2%) than forecasted for April 2020. And Up by 1% year to date. Our expenses were decreased by 25% due decreased in contractual costs, salaries due to four employees temporarily laid off.

A motion to approve the Financial report was made by Ron Dykstra and seconded by Al Amstutz. Ayes: Dykstra, Mullen-Call, Russell, Rogers, Amstutz, Hughes, I. Turner & P. Turner. Nays: None. Absent: Holbrook & Favreau. Motion Passed.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

Directors/ Program Reports were submitted to the board by Doug with several updates including:

1. Cancellation of the October New Orleans trip.
2. Received and distributed 35 Quarantine Food Boxes from the National Food Council. These boxes were targeted to non-HDM clients. Each box weighed over 26 lbs. and contained enough shelf-stable foods for 20 meals.
3. Working on getting price quotes for plexiglass barriers at for the desks at both locations.
4. Fresh Produce Boxes for the USDA is expected to arrive in 1-2 weeks for distribution to seniors in Benzie County.
5. The Gathering Place Senior Center and Administration Office continues to be closed to the public through June 30, 2020. Based on the MI Safe Start Plan, The Gathering Place Senior Center may have to be closed until we reach Phase 6.

6. Doug is currently working on trying to compile opening plans for The Gathering Place when that time comes. Doug is looking at the several different plans. Re-opening Restaurants, Senior Centers and keeping safe the high-risk older adult.
7. Doug will be looking at a delivery time/mileage study for routes on Thursday, our busiest day. Based on the information from the study, we may have to temporarily increase to 6 routes based on the significant increase in home delivered meals.
8. We will have information in the following Township Summer Newsletters: Colfax, Benzonia, Homestead and Crystal Lake. June and July will be busy times for presentations as the townships meetings that could occur once the Stay Home Orders end.
9. Billboard: June of 2020 there will be a donated billboard from the Jamie Gray Group that will promote our 45th Anniversary.
10. Doug has participated in many Zoom Meetings and Webinars regarding Senior Isolation, especially now related to the COVID-19 Pandemic Crisis. Having staff and a few volunteers calling clients is very important for the well-being of our homebound seniors.

Sherry Taylor presented the Commissioners Report:

1. Government and Courts are using social distancing, zoom, and other forms of communication at this time.
2. Broad band is needed now more than ever, and funds will be made available for the county.
3. People may receive free internet in the HS parking lot as well as the library.
4. Employees are wearing masks and following CDC guidelines.

ACTION ITEMS:

Doug reviewed the proposed COVID-19 Essential Workers Supplemental Pay Increase (Temporary). Michigan Department of Health & Human Services is mandating a \$2.00 an hour increase for Essential Direct Care Workers during the COVID-19 Pandemic. For BSR, that would be our Home Healthcare Aides who provide care for Medicaid Waiver clients assigned through AAANM. We will receive reimbursement from MDHHS through our contract with AAANM for the period of April 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020. However, the care provided to these Medicaid Waiver Clients is no different that the care provided to the sliding scale fee and private pay clients. In order to make this fair across the board of all employees, it is proposed to increase this temporary wage for 3 months as MDHHS has mandated. The funds for the other staff would be come from the Payroll Protection Plan Loan. All the staff has been classified as essential service workers. When other agencies either reduced their services or halted their services, BSR has maintained the essential services as outlined by MDHHS and the Executive Orders.

A motion was made by Leo Hughes and seconded by Nancy Mullen-Call to increase all essential employees' wages by \$2.00 per hour during the time period of April 1, 2020 through June 30, 2020.

Roll Call: Ron Dykstra yes, Nancy Mullen Call yes, Rosemary Russell yes, Deb Rogers yes, Al Amstutz yes, Leo Hughes yes, Ingrid Turner yes; and Paul Turner yes. Absent: Holbrook & Favreau. Motion Passes.

NEW BUSINESS: Differ to Director and Program report sections.

OLD BUSINESS:

Cancelled all the fundraisers, walk a thon, etc.

1. Letters to families/ donors Nancy and Deb propose that we use the database and send a heartfelt letter with appreciation for our donors, community, state and federal as well as asking for their support by continuing to vote for our millage. We should send it just prior to the vote. We should also let them know how we stepped up our efforts during Covid-19 crisis.
2. Doug and Dawn are working on a letter Doug will get the letter to the Fund Development Committee members for review.

Public Input:

Sherry Taylor asked how we ensure that our seniors are registered to vote and that they have filled out the census. Doug Stated he would ensure that it is placed in the newsletter, on the fb page with forms and instructions.

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Nancy Mullen-Call and seconded by Deb Rogers Meeting adjourned at 5:42pm. .

Next Board of Directors meeting scheduled for June 17, 2020 at 4:30pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Rosemary Russell
Board Member.