

Benzie Senior Resources
Board of Directors Meeting
July 21, 2021 Meeting Minutes
In-Person and Virtual (Zoom) Meeting

Call to Order: Chair Nancy Mullen Call called the meeting to order at 4:34 p.m.

Prayer of Invocation: Ron Dykstra

Pledge of Allegiance: Said by all present

Roll Call:

Present: Nancy Mullen Call; Ron Dykstra; Pam Howe-Perry; Leo Hughes; Linda Ringleka (via Zoom)

Excused: Deb Rogers

Absent: Rosemary Russell; Ingrid Turner; Paul Turner

Also Present:

Sabra Boyle, Dawn Bousamra (representing Doug Durand as he is on vacation) and Tim Markey, Benzie County Commissioner

Approval of the 7/21/2021 Agenda: Motion by Pam Howe-Perry to accept the Agenda as presented. Seconded by Linda Ringleka.

Roll Call – Mullen Call-Yes; Dykstra-Yes; Howe-Perry-Yes; Hughes Yes; Ringleka-Yes. Motion approved.

Approval of the 6/16/2021 Meeting Minutes – Motion by Pam Howe-Perry to accept the minutes as presented. Seconded by Linda Ringleka.

Roll Call – Mullen Call-Yes; Dykstra-Yes; Howe-Perry-Yes; Hughes Yes; Ringleka-Yes. Motion approved.

Public Input: None

Information Items

A. Executive Committee Report

Nancy Mullen-Call summarized the items discussed at the July 14, 2021, Executive Committee Meeting attended by Doug Durand, Nancy Mullen-Call, Ron Dykstra, Deb Rogers, and Leo Hughes. Topics discussed included the following: Proposal for a new HDM Van; Update on the Strategic Planning Session including that Doug Durand has signed the facilitator contract and the session will be scheduled this fall; Doug provided an update on staffing needs (2 Kitchen Assistants, at least 1 Homemaker, a part time Home Health Care position and a part time Senior Center Assistant). Staff continues to be very supportive to ensure proper coverage; WAT update and needed volunteers; Update on the reopening of The Gathering Place; Update on County Road Commission contact regarding any potential BSR interest in Platte River Elementary. Tim Markey mentioned that the Homestead Township Fire Department has also been approached regarding their interest in using the old gym as a potential garage. The committee also confirmed the proposed agenda items for today's BSR Board Meeting.

B. Fund Development Report

No meeting in July

C. Program & Personnel Report

No meeting in July

D. Directors Report – June 2021/July 2021

No questions

E. Program/Services Report – June 2021

Dawn Bousamra highlighted several elements of the report including the following: The Nutritional program continues with 50 bags per week being distributed; Many seniors are transitioning from Home Delivered Meals back to visiting The Gathering Place for meals; Foot Care program continues to go very well and is extremely popular so care is being prioritized for those with the greatest need until capacity can be increased; The reopening of TGP and its programs are going well with 100 people attending the music program on Tuesday 7/20. Ron Dykstra asked if we can investigate the potential patio expansion now that TGP has reopened. Leo Hughes advised he will develop a short list of potential options for Executive Committee review and Board discussion at the upcoming Strategic Planning session.

F. Board of Commissioners Update

Tim Markey provided the following updates: The County has hired an administrator (Katelyn Zeits) and they are allowing her to develop a plan for her team; Benzie County has been allocated \$3.5m in American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds \$3.5m and while they are waiting for specific Treasury direction on how funds can be used they have asked the commissioners to provide input on prioritized needs that might be funded by ARPA. Half of the funding has already been deposited and the balance will be deposited next year. The funds must be committed for eligible use by 2026. Current understanding of eligible projects include sewer, water, broadband, compensation for frontline workers. Area Townships are also getting ARPA funds to be spent in the same fashion. BSR Board Member, Ron Dykstra, asked if ARPA funds could be used for projects like the potential patio addition at TGP and Tim Markey advised he believes it can be. Tim further advised the County is finishing up the budget process. Their strategic plan is finished and published. Courts are now back in session.

Action Items

1. Finance Committee Report on the June 2021 and Year-to-Date Quarterly Financials and Approval of the June 2021 and Quarterly Financials

Nancy Mullen-Call stated that the Finance Committee met on July 16th to review the June 2021 and Year-to-Date Quarterly Financials and the committee voted to submit the report to the board with a recommendation to approve. Nancy further stated that while revenue and expenses are down, the financials overall are stable. A motion to approve financials as presented was made by Ron Dykstra and supported by Pam Howe-Perry.

Roll Call – Mullen Call-Yes; Dykstra-Yes; Howe-Perry-Yes; Hughes Yes; Ringleka-Yes. Motion approved.

2. Approve the purchase of a 2021 Ram Promaster City Cargo/Delivery Van from Watson Benzie
Nancy Mullen Call reviewed the details of the vehicle and the desire to complete the purchase. Doug Durand seeks Board approval of the purchase. Motion to approve vehicle purchase was made by Linda Ringleka and supported by Ron Dykstra.

Roll Call – Mullen Call-Yes; Dykstra-Yes; Howe-Perry-Yes; Hughes Yes; Ringleka-Yes. Motion approved.

New Business

1. WAT Sign Up List for help on Saturday, 8/7

Dawn Bousamra advised that they are going “full speed ahead” on the WAT with one team meeting remaining before the event. Breakfast will be a prepackaged breakfast this year. Dawn advised that she

has openings on the WAT volunteer list to help with setup, hand out meals, and tear down. She has volunteers for two of the "Mile Marker Tables". Road signs advertising the WAT are still available to display. Shoe sales are slow currently, but several area churches are supporting the sale effort. Tim Markey suggested that the WAT Team send notes to the area fire departments and townships asking for support.

Dawn advised that they (Doug/Dawn) are drafting a reminder note to potentially be sent to the Chamber, Townships, etc. seeking any available support. Nancy suggested the verbiage on the solicitation be updated to include options less than \$250 for Chamber, Townships, etc.

2. Board Members to make follow up calls to area businesses regarding sponsoring the WAT (Refer to list) Sabra to update list with prior sponsors and send out to board members.
3. Returning to In-Person Meeting and Committees
Tim Markey suggested we confirm the Open Meetings Act rules as they pertain to remote participation for voting members. Dawn advised she would contact Dawn Olney, County Clerk to confirm rules. Pam Howe-Perry, Ron Dykstra, Leo Hughes, Nancy Mullen-Call and Linda Ringleka all advised they would prefer in person meetings going forward, but like the flexibility of joining by Zoom for those not able to attend in person.

Old Business – None

Board Round Table Discussion/Evaluation of Meeting – None

Meeting Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, a motion to adjourn was made by Leo Hughes and supported by Ron Dykstra.

Roll Call – Mullen Call-Yes; Dykstra-Yes; Howe-Perry-Yes; Hughes Yes; Ringleka-Yes. Motion approved and meeting adjourned at 5:47p.m.

NEXT MEETING: August 18, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. Location: The Gathering Place Senior Center, 10579 Main Street, Honor, MI (and via Zoom Virtual Meeting as necessary)

Respectfully submitted:

Leo Hughes,
Secretary, Benzie Senior Resources Board.