

Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency, Inc.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Holiday Inn, Alpena, Michigan
December 3, 2005

The meeting was called to order by President Dale Huggler at 12:45 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Stuart Bartlett, Matt Bolinger, Jim Bricker, Bob Cudney, Mike Davis, Ann Denis, Donna Dietz, Pete Hennard, Bob Harden, Rev. Bill Hipwood, Dale Huggler, Rev. Bob Knight, Jean Kroll, Dawn Lawrence, Jack Mahank, Daniel Marcum, Tehea Minke, Boyden Olson, Sheila Phillips, Dianna Schafer, Clyde Soucie, Bob Spencer, Gerald Wall, Paul Wingate, Gary Wozniak, Leonard Zolnierenek and Koreen Zurschmiede

Excused: Frank Cowger, Herb Makima, Joe Pellens, and Rose Walsh

Absent: Terry Beardslee and Pauline Hall

Quorum present.

Staff Members Present:

John Briggs, Laura Budreau, Barb Dault, Kathy Goddard, Karen Godi, Linda McGillis, Diane Price, Jim Robarge, Laurie Sauer, Sue Schuler, Lisa Slupecki, Carol Shafto, John Swise, Marlene McCulloch and Sally Lindsey

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Motion by Rev. Bob Knight to approve the minutes of the November 2005 meeting. Support by Jack Mahank. All ayes, Motion carried.

Bob Cudney led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Rev. Bob Knight provided blessing for the meal prior to the meeting. Rev. Bill Hipwood provided reflections.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Dawn Lawrence introduced two new Board members, Matt Bolinger and Koreen Zurschmiede who were elected to the Head Start Policy Council. John Briggs introduced Dr. Olin Joynton, President of Alpena Community College. President Dale Huggler stated that Leonard Zolnierenek resigned from the Alpena County Board of Commissioners and that today would be his last NEMCSA Board Meeting. Dale thanked Leonard for his years of dedicated service to the NEMCSA Board.

COMMUNICATION

None

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Head Start Policy Council – Dawn Lawrence

Dawn indicated that the Policy Council reviewed the Prism results, held elections and approved some new hires and terminations.

Regional Advisory Council – Rev. Bill Hipwood

No meeting, No report.

Volunteer Program Advisory Groups:

Senior Companion Program – Rev. Bob Knight

As of October 31st there were 58 Senior Companion volunteers. Members received an update on Medicare Part D and were asked to complete and return a Client Satisfaction Survey card. Members were informed that the State programs would receive a slight reduction in funding and the Federal programs were operating under a continuing resolution which would expire on December 17, 2005. Members reviewed a volunteer survey received from the Office of Services to the Aging.

Foster Grandparent Program – Jean Kroll

As of October 31st there were 62 Foster Grandparent volunteers. Members received an update on Medicare Part D and were asked to complete and return a Client Satisfaction Survey card. Members were informed that the State programs would receive a slight reduction in funding and the Federal programs were operating under a continuing resolution which would expire on December 17, 2005. Members reviewed a volunteer survey received from the Office of Services to the Aging.

Client Services Advisory Council – Boyden Olson

No meeting. No report.

Personnel Committee – Clyde Soucie

No meeting. No report.

Membership Committee –

No meeting. No report.

Program Planning and Evaluation Committee – Rev. Bill Hipwood

President Huggler sent a letter to the Committee Chairperson asking members to review and discuss a letter he received from the Regional Council on Aging. The letter expressed concerns and asked for Board support in opposing a Federal reduction in Older Americans Act funding. In his letter, President Huggler asked that the Committee review and discuss the information and then bring it to the full Board for consideration. The Committee reviewed and discussed the request and then recommended that the full Board consider it favorably by sending a letter expressing their concerns to all legislators.

Motion made by Dan Marcrum to support sending a letter to all legislators opposing any federal reduction in Older Americans Act funding. Support by Leonard Zolnierok. All ayes, Motion carried.

Rev. Bill Hipwood introduced Carol Shafto who has been working with the Program Planning and Evaluation Committee for over 5 years preparing the governance materials. Rev. Hipwood asked Carol to present to the full board the tabulations of her recent survey. Carol indicated that she was extremely proud of the board members for taking part in the survey noting that twenty-four out of thirty-one surveys were returned. Carol reviewed the results of the survey and indicated that 95% of the responses were either good or excellent. Carol also indicated that the State monitors were astounded that the Board was so involved in ROMA. They indicated that they could think of no other Community Action Agency board that was as involved.

Motion by Jack Mahank to receive and file Carol's written report on the survey results of Section III, Executive Limitations of the Board Governance Policy. Support by Leonard Zolnierek support. All ayes, Motion carried.

President Huggler stated that the board members should be commended for their participation.

Dan Doezema reported on the several forums regarding senior issues that were held around the state. A meeting to review the forum results was conducted in order to prepare for the White Conference on Aging. Another movement taking place is an effort to make senior communities more elderly friendly. A few communities within Region IX, in coordination with the Area Agency on Aging, are working on this initiative.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Directors Report:

Financial Report – Jim Robarge

Community Service Block Grant, Head Start, Early Head Start and agency wide revenue and expenses were all reported on. Jim indicated that the agency auditors were on site starting their preliminary review of the books.

Motion by Dan Marcum to receive and file the financial report as presented. Support by Rev. Bob Knight. All ayes, Motion carried.

Program Information Report – Housing and Homelessness

Karen Godi began by introducing Marlene McCulloch and Sally Lindsey from the Community Development staff. Marlene explained her role in providing technical assistance and advocacy to the County Housing Directors. Marlene also provided a brief update on the activities of Northeast Michigan Affordable Housing (NEMAH). Sally Lindsey explained her role in providing technical assistance and advocacy for the area Continuums of Care. Sally presented some history about the development of the Continuums including current funding levels. Sally included information about the Point in Time homeless count and explained what the count means for the number of homeless people in Northeast Michigan. Sally also explained what efforts are being done to promote homeless awareness within the various Continuums. Sally informed the Board members that she recently hosted a successful forum on rental inspection codes. MSHDA is considering a similar forum to be held at the upcoming statewide Affordable Housing Conference.

New Business:

Dale Huggler and Mike Davis presented everyone present with a bag of candy.

The 2006 Board Meeting Calendar was distributed.

John Swise stated that on behalf of the staff he would like to thank all board members for their participation over the past year. John wished everyone Happy Holidays and indicated that in January 2006 the Board would meet at the Alpena Michigan Works! Office.

Motion by Gerald Wall to adjourn the meeting at 1:45 p.m. Support by Bob Cudney. All ayes, Motion carried.

Date Prepared: December 2, 2005

Date Approved: _____

Board Secretary

Date