

Northeast Michigan Community Service Agency, Inc.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Alpena Michigan Works!, Alpena, Michigan
January 6, 2006

The meeting was called to order by President Dale Huggler at 12:40 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Present: Stuart Bartlett, Matt Bolinger, Jim Bricker, Frank Cowger, Bob Cudney, Mike Davis, Ann Denis, Bill Estlack, Bob Harden, Pauline Hall, Pete Hennard, Rev. Bill Hipwood, Dale Huggler, Rev. Bob Knight, Jean Kroll, Dawn Lawrence, Jack Mahank, Daniel Marcrum, Tehea Minke, Boyden Olson, Joseph Pellens, Dianna Schafer, Clyde Soucie, Bob Spencer, Gerald Wall, Rose Walsh, Paul Wingate, Gary Wozniak and Koreen Zurschmiede

Excused: Donna Dietz, and Sheila Phillips

Absent: Terry Beardslee, and Herb Makima

Quorum present.

Staff Members Present:

Lisa Bolen, John Briggs, Laura Budreau, Barb Dault, Karen Godi, Linda McGillis, Diane Price, Sue Schuler, Lisa Slupecki, John Swise, Chris Rasmussen, and Leslie Scheen

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Motion by Jack Mahank to approve minutes of the December 2005 meeting. Support by Stuart Bartlett. All ayes, Motion carried.

Stuart Bartlett led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance. Rev. Bill Hipwood provided reflections.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Members introduced their guests.

COMMUNICATION

Dale Huggler read a letter of resignation from Board Member Ann Denis who is moving from the area.

Motion by Clyde Soucie to send Ann a letter of appreciation for her years of service as a NEMCSA board member. Support by Joseph Pellens. All ayes, Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Head Start Policy Council – Dawn Lawrence

The Policy Council met and discussed the results from the return visit with the Peer Review members. Changes to operating procedures and personnel policy were reviewed and new hires were approved.

Regional Advisory Council – Rev. Bill Hipwood

A letter of resignation was given by council member Bob Long. Rev. Bill Hipwood read Bob's letter to the Board because of its wording. Several council members whose terms had expired were reappointed and they all agreed to continue serving on the council. Medicare Part D was discussed and determined that many elderly are extremely confused by it. The Council asked the Board to express their concern to the Michigan legislators and explain that the current program explanation is unacceptable and that a better way needs to be found. President Huggler asked the Program Planning & Evaluation Committee to discuss this issue and come up with a resolution for the next meeting.

Volunteer Program Advisory Groups:

Senior Companion Program – Rev. Bob Knight

No meeting. No report.

Foster Grandparent Program – Jean Kroll

No meeting. No report. Jean reported that a program volunteer died on Christmas Day.

Client Services Advisory Council – Boyden Olson

The council met in December. Program updates were provided by staff.

Personnel Committee – Clyde Soucie

No meeting. No report.

Membership Committee – Frank Cowger

No meeting. No report.

Program Planning and Evaluation Committee – Rev. Bill Hipwood

No meeting. No report.

INFORMATION ITEMS

Directors Report:

Financial Report

No report.

Program Information Report – Rural Housing Resource and Support, Family Self Sufficiency (FSS) and Individual Development Account (IDA) programs – Dawn Stone, Chris Rasmussen and Leslie Scheen.

John Briggs introduced Dawn, Chris and Leslie who provided the program report. John explained briefly the programs available through Michigan Works! however indicated that the program report would be on programs not funded through Michigan Works! but being delivered in conjunction with the programs offered within Michigan Works! Dawn began by explaining the one-stop Michigan Works! Service Center and how these programs fit in with the work that Michigan Works! staff and funding do. Dawn explained the Rural Housing program and provided the eligibility criteria for receiving assistance from the program. Leslie provided information on a few successful cases she has worked with through the Rural Housing program.

Leslie explained that the assistance works quickly so it is not a long drawn out process to get someone moved into available housing.

Chris Rassmussen reviewed the Family Self Sufficiency and Individual Development Account programs. Chris explained that the Family Self Sufficiency program helps to improve the clients living status beyond the Rural Housing assistance. Chris also reviewed the Individual Development Account program explaining its purpose and eligibility criteria. Chris indicated that the IDA program works closely with surrounding county Habitat programs, as well as the Northeast Michigan Affordable Housing (NEMAH). Chris provided examples of how these two programs work to assist individuals.

NEW BUSINESS

Dan Doezema read a list of the top 10 priorities that came from the White House Conference on Aging noting that 6 of them came from Michigan.

Dale acknowledged Ann Denis and thanked her for her years of service and dedication to the NEMCSA Board.

Motion by Joe Pellens to adjourn the meeting at 1:51 p.m. Supported by Boyden Olson. All ayes, Motion carried.

Date Prepared: January 6, 2006

Date Approved: _____

Board Secretary

Date