

MINUTES
December 3, 2020

- Call meeting to order, Chair, Jim Hughes

IN ATTENDANCE: Al Barth, Perry Beise, Amy Christensen, Sue Hanks, Steve Heinen, Jim Hughes, Shaunna Johnson, Jon Knopik, Ann Matvick, Kris Peterson, Jeff Proell, Janet Reigstad.

Aging Service/RSVP staff: Jennifer Wucherer, Heather Brooks, Joleen Christiansen, Lisa Braun

- Approval of minutes: **APPROVED with motion by Perry Beise, second by Kris Peterson, none opposed.**

- Adjustments to the agenda - **None**

--Ice Breaker – Most unique or unusual thing you have eaten?

ITEMS OF INTEREST:

- Community Partner Highlight – Sue Hanks shared updates about services withing Catholic Charities Emergency Services during the pandemic.
- Program Coordinator hiring process/timeline – Jennifer – still waiting on screening results and approval to hire from City before we can announce the new hire. More to come soon!
- Recognition of outgoing RSVP Advisory Council members:
 - Jim Hughes, Chair completing second term
 - Therese Haffner
 - Ann Matvick
- New Advisory Council members to be appointed:
 - Ben Byker – Central MN Council on Aging
 - Lalita Subrahmanyam – RSVP volunteer St Cloud
 - Lee Meyer - RSVP volunteer St Cloud
 - Tina Johnson –BBBS and taking over Ann’s Second term,
- Election of 2021 Executive positions – **Jim Hughes made a motion to approve Jon, Amy and Sharon in the following positions, second by Janet Reigstad, none opposed.**
 - Chair – Jon Knopik
 - Vice Chair – Amy Christensen
 - Secretary – Sharon Kolstad
- 2021 Meeting Schedule was discussed, adding January and June and removing March meeting dates. **Amy Christensen made a motion to approve the 2021 meeting schedule and a second was made by Jon Knopik, none opposed.**
- Policy Changes – Jennifer and Joleen shared the proposed policy additions and changes. **Al Barth made a motion to approve the RSVP policy changes, seconded by Sue Hanks, none opposed.**
- Program Specific Performance
 - Around Cloud Tutors – Janet R and 9 other RSVP volunteers attended the virtual orientation session to become tutors for this brand-new free platform for K-12 children in the St Cloud Area. ACT should be up and running in January.
 - Volunteer Recruitment & Engagement –
 - 5 new RSVP volunteers recruited and enrolled
 - 3 RSVP volunteers were placed to start volunteer at agencies: Big Lake Community Food Shelf, 2X Sherburne Gov Center, Light the Legacy
 - 2 RSVP volunteers served at 1 community events such as: ARC

Blood Drive @ Bank of ER

- 23 contacts were made to RSVP volunteers (22 birthday greetings, 1 volunteer satisfaction follow-ups)
- Funding
 - Federal Augmentation Grant – Jennifer - Additional federal funds will be used to recruitment and place RSVP volunteers. To make this happen, RSVP will purchase:
 - tablets to 8-10 computer tablets for virtual volunteer use
 - 2 tablet hotspots
 - Mail out a New Year Newsletter – announcing new logo, new look, new volunteer opportunities, and new volunteer recruitment campaign
 - Recruitment campaign expenses = Printing volunteer business cards, volunteer recruitment cards in English & Somali, and physician referral cards, employer retirement cards.
 - Referral items to pick from when a volunteer refers a new volunteer (bag, t-shirt, long sleeve top, hat)
 - PPE masks for current volunteers serving on site
 - Benton County CARES – we applied for a Benton County CARES Non-profit grant application submitted, requesting \$2,000 recovery of a Benton County % of lost fundraising dollars
 - Other – we applied for \$5,000 for a Central MN Response and Recovery Grant for recovery of lost fundraising dollars for Sherburne/Stearns counties
- Fundraising Support Committee update – Jon reviewed the 2021 fundraising line up of activities to include past fundraisers and a couple new avenues to pursue such as Round Up programs and the Crafts Direct organization of the month.
- PR/Marketing Committee update – Facebook posts related to Veterans Day, World Kindness feature about Tom & Bonnie; Website updates related to Job Posting removed; Articles prepared for Whitney Time; Article submitted for publication in Brighter Side of 50 (pub date 12/21)
- Aging Service Department – Lisa – The Whitney Time issue is out with class and program offerings for Dec-Feb. WSC membership is up 80 members higher than 2019. The building is currently closed to the public. Unsure how the AARP Tax Aide program will provide services this upcoming season. Senior Linkage Line office won't open back up in person until June 30, 2021.
- Additional staff updates – Staff – See report below
- Other items of interest - All

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Meeting –**January 7, 2021 at 2:30pm**

Aging Services RSVP
Monthly Report
December 2020

MAJOR ACTIVITIES

Marketing/Promotion:

Facebook posts related to quilters donation, Power of Volunteering zoom presentation via WSC,

Happy Honking Days in Elk River, Elf stockings for Meals on Wheels, Merry Christmas post, Sr Friendship Circles.

Website updates related to holiday newsletter & Sr Friendship Circles

Sr Friendship Circle submission for the GovTV advertising Carousel

Brand kit & new logo final versions sent to Tony Goddard (see attached)

Articles sent to 3 Senior Newsletters and 2 Sherburne County Newspapers

1 Article sent to Volunteer Bridge for FB page

Grants:

No update received on the Women's Fund of Central MN submission for an \$8,000 grant.

Central MN Response and Recovery Grant submitted and approved – we received \$5,000 toward recovery of Sherburne/Stearns county % of lost fundraising dollars.

Costco notified us that they will provide funding to us; asking for details on amount to cover Move the Mall printing and other costs.

Benton County CARES Non-profit grant approved – we received \$2,000 as recovery of a Benton County % of lost fundraising dollars.

Fundraising:

A check for \$500 was received from Liberty Paper of Becker, MN with a note for a Community Involvement Donation.

Move the Mall planning meeting – the team has chosen a date of Sept 11 for this event and plan to hold it in conjunction with an AmeriCorps Day of Service. Crossroads Mall management are reviewing this concept & date and will get back.

Trainings:

Advocacy Strategies

Race, Equity and Volunteerism

Aging Assembly

Elder Loneliness Community Collaborations

Around Cloud tutoring initial training session

Financials:

November Revenue: \$21,368

November Expenses: \$21,490

Community Collaborations:

Around Cloud Tutors volunteer training

Age Friendly Communities orientation with CentraCare

Sherburne County Area United Way – Power of Kindness Happy Honking Holidays Event

Discussion with Anna Marie's regarding virtual tutors for youth in the shelter

Met with Jodi Speicher regarding Expo for Senior Leadership

PROGRAM SPECIFIC PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Volunteer recruitment:

2 new RSVP volunteers recruited and enrolled

6 RSVP volunteers were placed to start volunteer at agencies: Catholic Charities Emergency Services, Senior Friendship Circle Leader, Tri-Cap Snap Outreach, Big Lake Food Shelf, Communication Center Reader, American Red Cross Donation Center.

29 RSVP volunteers served at 5 community events such as: Salvation Army Toy Distribution, TCHS Gift Wrapping Fundraiser, United Way of Central MN Gift Wrapping event, American Red Cross Drive, Elk River Park/Rec Event.

Volunteer retention:

105 contacts were made to RSVP volunteers (birthday greetings, volunteer satisfaction follow-ups, Pie drop off to 2 volunteers as appreciation)

Volunteer impact:

Senior Friendship Circles: 11 active groups with 33 active participants, 1 participant on waitlist

INTERGOVERNMENTAL ACTIVITIES

1 Department meetings

3 Staff meetings

Held RSVP Advisory Council Meeting. Delivered farewell gift to Chair, Jim Hughes for 6 years of service.

St Cloud Age Friendly Communities Task Force

OTHER MEETINGS ATTENDED

Around Cloud Tutors

Move the Mall Committee meeting

St Cloud Area Volunteer Coordinators X2

SCAVC Training Committee

Women in Development virtual networking

Sherburne County Area United Way – Power of Kindness X2

CMCOA – Central Region

Volunteer Bridge Sub Committee

St. Cloud Human Services Council

Central MN Aging Network Assn virtual networking

AmeriCorps – MLK Day of Service in the time of COVID-19

Chamber Connection – St Cloud

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS

Staff News



Lisa Braun has set January 31, 2021 as her retirement date from her role as Director of Aging Services. We will certainly miss having her experience and her joy with us each day. It's nice to know that Lisa's plans include continuing to serve the community - this time as an RSVP Volunteer!



We are happy to announce that Tauna Quimby will be joining RSVP as the Program Coordinator. She comes to us with many years of experiencing in the non-profit world, having worked with Girls Scouts of America, and most recently with the Tri-County Humane Society. Tauna will be the primary contact for volunteers in Stearns and Benton counties, while Heather will remain the contact for Sherburne County.

