

**COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING
TUESDAY, 2-2-2010
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING – ROOM 3212
1:30 PM – 2:35 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Audrey Kader, Chairperson, Patricia Boge, Sharon Hampson, Shirley Holman, arrived at 1:40 PM, Robert Machotka, Dr. Edward Miner

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Robert Keil

OTHERS PRESENT: Noreen Holmes, Director, County Aging Unit
Tina Johnson, Benefit Specialist, Aging Unit
Douglas Mormann, County Health Director

CALL TO ORDER

Audrey Kader, Committee Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 1-5-2010

MOTION: Motion by Patricia Boge and seconded by Dr. Edward Miner to approve Minutes of 1-5-2010. Pass unanimously. Keil excused.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA (informational)

Aging & Long Term Care Committee Meeting Minutes 1-11-2010

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

LANDLORD/TENANT ISSUES – TINA JOHNSON

Tina Johnson, Benefit Specialist reported to the Commission Board members that most complaints are from apartments regarding heat. The minimum is 67 degrees for heat. Two hand-outs were given to the Commission Board members regarding a guide for landlords and tenants.

FOOT CARE UPDATE-LA CROSSE COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Doug Mormann, County Health Director stated that foot care cost has increased from \$22.00 to \$30.00 for the Year 2010. The actual cost is \$38.00. The service is provided by registered nurses and La Crosse County Aging Unit provides free transportation for this service.

A "Nail Care to Suit Your Needs" hand- out was provided to the Commission Board members showing various establishments that will do a trim of the toenails, a little filing and some callous care at some sites.

STRAP GRANT 2010

A copy was provided to the Commission Board members announcing the Project Application for a 2010 Supplemental Transportation Rural Assistance Program Grant (STRAP) was awarded up to a maximum of \$277,404 for La Crosse County.

Noreen Holmes distributed a copy of a letter from Great Rivers Ride Quest (GRRQ) dated 1-26-2010 regarding concerns that GRRQ has with the proposed "Transportation Manager for Medical Assistance Transportation" proposed for implementation in Wisconsin in 2011.

The first concern is the potential shift of transportation funding from non-medical assistance sources (s.85.21, 285.20, 5307, 5311 and local government contributions, etc.) Many individuals utilize transportation who are not medical assistance eligible such as going to the store, bank, shopping, socializing, etc. Their independence, freedom and

quality of life will be adversely affected if these transportation services are no longer available to them.

The second concern is the potential to shift current medical assistance trips to services aimed at the general population rather than those that are MA eligible. Currently, MA pays the full cost of the trip, but the new program would eliminate the "agency fares" that allow the payment of full cost and required the transportation of MA individuals at the \$3.50 rate.

This shifts the cost of the largest portion of trip from MA to the transit funding sources. The funding shift could eventually reduce or eliminate transportation options for a large part of the population (non-MA consumers).

The third concern is the apparent lack of collaboration between arguably the two largest government agencies that fund transportation services in Wisconsin, the WI DOT and Department of Health Services. Both agencies need to reach agreement on policy matters and to be in complete agreement on goals, objectives and implementation strategies regarding transportation services for MA consumers and non-MA consumers. Safeguards must be put in place to prevent a shift in transportation funding.

After considerable discussion, Commission Board members instructed Noreen Holmes to have a Resolution presented to the Commission at the March meeting supporting the concerns of the GRRQ and to present the Resolution at the Aging & Long Term Care Committee and County Board of Supervisors. Shirley Holman stated a letter and/or Resolution should be written to the Wisconsin Counties for their support and to contact Steve O'Malley for the Legislative Committee's support.

AGING IN PLACE EVENT- SATURDAY, 4-10-2010

Noreen Holmes reported UW-La Crosse and the County Aging Unit will conduct a seminar on Saturday, 4-10-2010 from 9:00 AM to 1:30 PM at the Moose Lodge for boomers, seniors, caregivers, remodeling professionals, business owners, etc. For boomers, seniors and caregivers the workshops include: "making your home safer, basic remodeling low cost options, helpful tools and products and skills for being a smart consumer. For remodelers, business owners and planners the workshops include: "remodeling for aging friendly homes, specifications and rules, local experiences and working with boomers, elders and families.

Registration fee is \$8.00 with lunch included.

BILLY'S LANTERN-SENIOR MEAL SITE-DARRELL S. LARSON ESTATE

Estimates regarding a proposal from Billy's Lantern restaurant for congregate meals will be starting 3-1-2010 was given to the Commission Board members. Meals would be served Monday thru Friday from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Estimated meal cost of \$4.75 for an estimate of 12 participants. Donations are estimated at \$2.50 per meal. Daily special would be from the nutrition program meals. Participants would receive a monthly statement for meals.

MOTION: Moved by Robert Machotka and seconded by Patricia Boge to recommend Billy's Lantern as a senior meal site but not to exceed \$6,000.00. Pass unanimously. Keil excused.

GIFTED HANDS-DARRELL S. LARSON ESTATE

Noreen Holmes handed out a Gifted Hands Request regarding estimate/approximate cost regarding office equipment. Monies would be provided from the Darrell S. Larson estate.

MOTION: Moved by Shirley Holman and seconded by Dr. Edward Miner to recommend Gifted Hands request for office equipment but not to exceed \$3,000.00. Pass unanimously. Keil excused.

SENIOR AMERICANS DAY PLANNING

Noreen Holmes reported and will be attending the Eau Claire Senior Americans day in March. Commission Board members are encouraged to attend. UW-La Crosse and County Aging Unit are planning to have a Senior Americans Day in La Crosse either August or September of 2010.

MEAL SITES – MAYORS FOR MEALS ON 3-24-2010

Noreen Holmes stated that Mayor Harter, City of La Crosse, Mike Giese, Mayor of the City of Onalaska, , Robin Gjertsen, Village of Bangor, Nancy Proctor, President, Village of Holmen, Linda Young, President, Village of Rockland, and Dennis Manthei, President, Village of West Salem will be contacted to deliver home-delivered meals on Wednesday, 3-24-2010.

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MINI BUS

Effective 1-1-2010 the new rates for La Crosse Mini Bus took effect. As of this date, there have been no complaints regarding the cost of the ride.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Resolution

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Sharon Hampson and seconded by Patricia Boge to adjourn. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:35 PM.

Minutes may be approved, amended, or corrected at the next Committee meeting.

Approved: 3-2-2010. Ruth Hafner, Recorder

