

**COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING
TUESDAY, 9-4-2012
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE BUILDING – ROOM 3212
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Charles Spiker, Chair, Sharon Hampson, Patricia Boge, Ann Fisher, Robert Keil

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Audrey Kader, Betty Woodruff

OTHERS PRESENT: Noreen Holmes, Director, County Aging Unit, Susan Betz, Secretary

CALL TO ORDER

Charles Spiker, Committee Chair called the meeting to order at 1:33 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 7-3-2012

MOTION: Motion by Robert Keil and seconded by Ann Fisher to approve minutes of 7-3-2012. Pass unanimously. Kader and Woodruff excused.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA (informational)

Aging & Long Term Care Committee Meeting Minutes – 7-9-2012
Placed on file

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

INTRODUCTION – SUSAN BETZ

Noreen Holmes introduced the new secretary, Susan Betz, as Ruthie's replacement. She began working for the Aging Unit on 16 July.

FALLS PREVENTION WEBSITE

WI is ranked as one of the top states for fall related injuries, even higher than MN or MI. The State has set aside some monies to help address falls prevention. A new website, sponsored by La Crosse County, and partnered with the local community, has been established to address this issue. The web site is: www.lacrossestopfalls.org. We would like to have a video on the website to demonstrate the exercises. We are currently looking for someone to demonstrate.

AGING IN PLACE SEPTEMBER 28

At present there are five people signed up for the Aging in Place seminar scheduled for September 28th at the Black River Beach Neighborhood Center. Monica Sommerfeldt Lewis, a Certified Aging in Place Specialist (CAPS) will address modification tools, techniques, and resources to make homes more aging friendly. Monica would like to see about training others in the area to help go to homes to identify areas where modifications should be made for a safer environment. Monica is helping the Aging Unit plan a CAPS class in Lacrosse in October.

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**DIRECTOR'S REPORT CONTINUED
HABITAT FOR HUMANITY REPAIR PROGRAM**

Habitat for Humanity has been in contact with Noreen offering to provide free home repair services to seniors. This service is a referral based program. Noreen prefers to have people needing services call her first. They have offered to help with any home repair needs such as painting, plumbing, repairs, and ramps.

PRELIMINARY BUDGET 2013

There is a zero percent increase for 2013. The Designated Fund Balance monies were not used by the Aging Unit in 2011. At this time, we do not anticipate using this in 2012 either.

GIFTED HANDS

One employee is leaving in October with a second one possibly moving out of state in the near future. Gifted Hands will possibly need two replacement employees. Noreen has spoken with Goodwill. There is a possibility Goodwill, on the south side of La Crosse, will allow Gifted Hands to sell their merchandise there; eliminating the need for the north side location or employees. A meeting is scheduled with Gifted Hands in September to discuss options.

AGING PLAN 2013 – 2015

Noreen welcomes all suggestions for the upcoming Aging Plan. She explained the "Caregivers Coach" grant application and the "Share the Care" program. Required focus areas include the Aging Unit adding local initiatives to the plan.

MEAL SITES

Noreen suggested utilizing the Onalaska site for the Public Hearing meeting in October.

TRANSPORTATION

To make it possible to continue shared ride services the 5311/S85.20 Rural Transportation Program will replace the STRAP Grant that ends in December 2012. Noreen will present more details at next months' Aging meeting.

FUTURE ADJENDA ITEMS

Rural Transportation, Medicare Observation vs Inpatient care, Gifted Hands/Goodwill meeting

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Moved by Ann Fisher and seconded by Bob Keil to adjourn. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:05 PM.

Disclaimer: The above Minutes may be approved, amended, or corrected at the next Committee meeting. Sue Betz, Recorder.