

BENZIE COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING, INC.
MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, July 20, 2011
The Gathering Place, Honor, MI 1:30 pm

Members present: Carol Hynes, Bob McQuilkin, Bruce Andersen, Gordon Kells, and Denise Strom. **Members excused:** Theresa Kerry and Mary Robling. **Also present:** Debbie Sever, Exec. Dir. COA, Cindy Dutton, Senior Coordinator, TGP, and Frank Walterhouse B.C.B.C. substitute liaison. **Guests present:** Randy Gilbert, President and Mary Dykstra Exec.Dir for Benzie Community Services/Benzie Home Health Care. Also James Chiumino, Exec. Chef of TGP.

Carol asked for an amendment to the agenda, adding approval of minutes for Closed Session for March 15th and June 15th meetings. Motion by Bruce, seconded by Gordon to approve the minutes of March 15th Closed session. All ayes, motion carried. Motion by Bob, seconded by Gordon to approve the minutes of the June 15th Closed session minutes. All ayes, motion carried. Motion by Gordon, seconded by Bruce to approve the agenda as amended. All ayes, motion carried. Motion by Gordon, seconded by Denise to approve the minutes of June 21st meeting. All ayes, motion carried.

Public input: James Chiumino asks what the employees are allowed to know regarding the outcome of the Sears estate hearing. He asks, "should I be looking for another job, considering our contract is up with Benzie County in a year and a half?" He also stated he has not seen anything in the media regarding the millage renewal. He feels the Seniors need to know as well as the employees.

Benzie Community Services/Benzie Home Health Care proposal for collaboration.- Randy Gilbert and Mary Dykstra presented us with some information regarding the services that are provided through BCS/BHHC. Randy stated there's been an increase in demand for the respite care, the fastest growing service in their organization. BCS/BHHC is trying to find ways to treat their clientele more economically and effectively and would like to open an Adult Day Care facility. The wish of BCS/BHHC is to discuss the opportunity to combine the resources and services of COA with BCS/BHHC. After further discussion motion by Bob, seconded by Gordon to have Debbie and Mary Dykstra check on Adult Day Care centers to gather further information. All ayes, motion carried.

Information Items:

- (a) Finance Committee Report-overall everything is on budget for June with minor adjustments needed to bring expenses in compliance with the budget.
- (b) Senior Center Update-Cindy reports TGP had 86 people for lunch today, & over 150 for Tuesday. She reported they are trying to get a second-hand flat screen TV for the dining room so the lunch and breakfast patrons can watch the news. A number of seniors would like to go to the movies in TVC. She is considering "Movie Day" in TVC the first Thursday of the month.

- (c) Chairman's Report-Carol's report was read and so noted. She reports we had our mediation with the Benzie County Commissioners on the Sears' Estate at Crystal Mountain, June 28, 2011; our bylaws were given to our attorney to look over and make sure everything we have changed is legal; we need to focus on our upcoming millage; she has contacted nine area Churches to see if we could place copies of our brochure and news letters with them; and finally Carol reports that on July 16th Lana Andersen had an 85th birthday party for Bruce.
- (d) Director's Report-Debbie reported that there were 239 Dining Out certificates issued, and 119 Benzie Bus passes issued from 6/20-7/18. Betsie Bay Inn of Frankfort and L'chayim Deli in Beulah/Frankfort are prospective new Dining Out participants. Cindy, James and Debbie will be meeting with Jeffie Lynch-Jones in August to discuss this year's Empty Bowls Soup Night being held Oct. 12th. Also, set for 8/26-8/28, with our sale. Graceland Fruit of Frankfort is donating 10 gals of strawberries for the Strawberry Shortcake sale, Saturday the 27th during the Coho Festival
- (e) Board of Commissioners Update-Frank Walterhouse sat in for BCBC liaison Tom Kelly. Frank discussed the County budget.

Old/New Business: The Benzie County Council on Aging Bylaws were discussed. Motion made by Bob, seconded by Gordon to have the original people go over the bylaws and make the changes suggested by Attorney John Grogan. All ayes, motion carried. More information is needed regarding the Mileage campaign. Frank suggested we go through our budget to see how much we need. Carol suggested we form a campaign committee outside the COA to work on the mileage campaign. Carol also went over the procedure for potential board member application: (1) Application is turned in (2) Application is reviewed (3) person is contacted for an interview before the entire board (4) Finally person is contacted to be invited as new member of the board.

Public Comment: Cindy commented on the cost of the meals for special needs people and Caregivers for Non-Seniors. She proposed we reconsider changing the price of \$7.50 for meals. She suggested: \$3.00 for special needs and handicapped; \$5.50 for non-senior Caregivers; and \$7.50 off the street. Cindy suggested carry-on cards or a care-givers pass, be made for the person at the front desk to know who the non-senior caregivers and special needs persons are. Motion by Bob, seconded by Gordon to give Cindy permission to change the cost of the meals to \$3.00 for special needs and handicapped; \$5.50 for non-senior Caregivers; and \$7.50 for regular non-seniors. All ayes, motion carried. Cindy will create carry-on cards for the Caregivers and special needs people.

Motion made by Gordon, seconded by Denise to go into closed session to discuss Mediation results. All ayes, motion carried. Moved into Closed session at 3:20 pm. Motion made by Gordon, seconded by Denise to come out of closed session. All ayes, motion carried. Out of closed session at 4:00 pm.

Meeting evaluation: Good meeting! There being no further business, motion by Denise, seconded by Gordon to adjourn meeting. All ayes, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 4:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Strom
Secretary/Treasurer interim

NEXT MEETING
Wednesday, August 17, 2011
1:30 pm
The Gathering Place

DRAFT