

EDUCATION, VETERANS AND AGING SERVICES COMMITTEE
February 15, 2011

Call to Order. Chair Thomas called the meeting of the Education, Veterans and Aging Services Committee to order at 4:00 P.M. on Tuesday, February 15, 2011, in Conference Room N-1 on the fifth floor of the Rock County Courthouse-East.

Committee Members Present: Supervisors Thomas, Gustina, Innis and Yoss.

Committee Members Absent: Supervisor Wopat.

Staff Members Present: Joyce Lubben, Council on Aging Director; John Solis, Veterans Service Officer; Randy Terronez and Nick Osborne, Assistants to County Administrator; Renee Goodroad, Nutrition Program Supervisor, Council on Aging; Sue Fredrich, UW Extension.

Others Present: Robert Harlow, Retired and Senior Volunteer Program Director.

Approval of Agenda. Supervisor Yoss moved approval of the agenda as presented, second by Supervisor Gustina. ADOPTED.

Approval of Minutes. Supervisor Yoss moved approval of the minutes of January 11, 2011, second by Supervisor Gustina. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications, Announcements, Information. Mr. Osborne introduced himself.

Chair Thomas said he has received e-mails regarding the Budget Repair Bill and ADRCs and we will have to wait and see how next year goes.

Bills/Encumbrances.

2010

Title III-B	\$	755.00
Nutrition Program		10,610.57
Delivered Meals		7,036.87
E & H Transportation		6,756.95
Title III-E		1,603.40

2011

Veterans Service		245.00
Title III-B		90.00
Nutrition Program		225.96
Delivered Meals		984.00
E & H Transportation		522.00
Title III-D		32.64
Title III-E		1,309.40
Benefit Specialist Grant		35.00

Supervisor Gustina moved approval of the above Bills/Encumbrances for the Education, Veterans and Aging Services Committee, second by Supervisor Yoss. ADOPTED.

Pre-Approved Encumbrance Amendment. None.

Approval of Aging Unit Self Assessment Ms. Lubben said the Advisory Council and Commission are in compliance and said the report was basically the same as the prior month.

Supervisor Yoss moved approval of the Aging Unit Self Assessment for the Education, Veterans and Aging Services Committee, second by Supervisor Gustina. ADOPTED.

Approval of the National Family Caregiver Support Program Self Assessment Ms. Lubben said they have three assessments 1) the unit as a whole, 2) caregiver, and 3) nutrition. She went over the report included in the packet and answered questions.

Supervisor Gustina moved approval of the National Family Caregiver Support Program Self Assessment for the Education, Veterans and Aging Services Committee, second by Supervisor Innis. ADOPTED.

Discussion on Cost Savings for Congregate Meal Sites. Ms. Lubben said they need to look at meal site closings due to the state and federal budget cuts. She said she was not sure what more could be done to cut costs other than close a meal site. Ms. Lubben handed out reports on the 2009 and 2010 Congregate Nutrition Program and Home Delivered Meal Program. She said they could look at either a total or a partial closing, but they need to keep in mind the people who are at nutritional risk. She suggested the possibility of using "wise workers" instead of site managers, but there are questions and concerns in doing this. At Scoville Apartments about 50% are not yet 60 years of age but are developmentally disabled.

The Committee discussed what could be done instead of closing a site, and what happens to those under age 60 who would not be eligible for meals if the Scoville Apartment site is closed.

Chair Thomas suggested putting this topic on the next few agendas for discussion.

Mr. Harlow said he would talk to Meridian to see if they may be able to help at Scoville Apartments.

Department Reports.

RSVP – Seniors Volunteering for Seniors Update Mr. Harlow said they have 38 volunteers serving about 80 people and have clocked 1,000 hours of service in 4 months. He said they get calls for service every week and that everything is going well.

Overview of Legislative Issues Affecting Veterans. Mr. Solis said the Trust Fund is running out of money, it looks like it will be gone in 2013 unless something is done. The full reinstatement of the GI Bill – they first have to use Federal program funding first and when that is done the State funds are usually gone. They are going back and are hoping to get a quarter or more of the credits reinstated. Veterans' homes – we are doing a review of homes but a lot of work needs to be done.

The Committee asked Mr. Solis to write a resolution to go on the next agenda regarding the Veterans Trust Fund.

Youth in Government Update. Ms. Fredrich handed out a *2011 Time Line* and *Youth Member Application Process* and went over them. Currently the schools interested in participating are Whitewater High School, Parkview (Orfordville) High School, Milton High School, Brodhead High School, Craig High School, Parker High School, Edgerton High School, Janesville Academy of International Studies (JAIS) and Rock River Charter High School. Ms. Fredrich and the Committee came up with a few ideas: have the youth learn the whole process of what county government does; have them give input to the County Board; have the youth give presentations to their schools; have a separate youth committee; and have the youth on committees with the County Board Supervisors. Ms. Fredrich went over the process of the youth having 4 to 5 classes and then bring them together with the County Board. Ms. Fredrich stressed the importance of youth learning about government, how important it is to volunteer, and how this all helps in building life skills.

The Committee asked Ms. Fredrich to come back in April to give another update.

Committee Requests and Motions.

Ideas for Future Discussion None at this time.

Adjournment. Supervisor Gustina moved adjournment at 5:10 P.M., second by Supervisor Innis. ADOPTED.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn Bondehagen
Confidential Administrative Assistant

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