COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING
TUESDAY, 4-30-2013
LA CROSSE COUNTY ADMIN BLDG Room 3212
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robert Keil, Audrey Kader, Ann Fisher, Dave Holtze

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Charles Spiker, Patricia Boge, Betty Woodruff

OTHERS PRESENT: Noreen Holmes, Director, County Aging Unit, Peter Fletcher, Mississippi River Regional planning Commission, Sue Betz

CALL TO ORDER
Robert Keil, called the meeting to order at 1:32 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT
None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF 4-2-2013
MOTION: Motion by Audrey Kader and seconded by Dave Holtze to approve minutes of 4-2-2013. Passed unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA (informational)
Aging & Long Term Care Committee Meeting, Maximizing Brain Health
Placed on file

DIRECTOR’S REPORT
WELCOME DAVE HOLTZE – COMMITTEE MEMBER
Dave also serves on the Gifted Hands Committee. We’re happy to have you as a new member of the County Commission on Aging Committee.

SMRT BUS UPDATE – PETER FLETCHER MISSISSIPPI RIVER REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION
SMRT bus services began December 3, 2012. They have three buses which seat 26 passengers. The bus travels through La Crosse, Coon Valley, Westby, Viroqua, Stoddard, Genoa, and down to Prairie Du Chien. The bus service runs Monday through Friday, four times per day. The cost is $3.00 one-way. Punch cards are available, along with $10.00 booklets with 25 one-way tickets. There has been a steady monthly increase in riders. The majority of riders at present are students, gaining more people who commute for work, and some elderly are using the service. The end of May will bring some route changes, adding a direct route from Prairie Du Chien to La Crosse, De Soto, Ferryville, and Lynxville.

FY 2014 FEDERAL BUDGET IMPACT ON AGING PROGRAMS
There has been a 5% cut for the La Crosse County Aging Unit programs, with the largest cuts hitting the meal program. This could potentially mean 6,000 less meals served this year.
JOINT FINANCE COMMITTEE HEARING - WISCONSIN DELLS
Noreen attended the JFC hearing in the Dells and gave testimony on how the budget cuts will affect the senior population in La Crosse County.

VITAL AGING CONFERENCE – JUNE 6, 2013
A flyer is being sent out by UW-La Crosse for the conference. The conference will be on June 6th from 9 am – 3 pm at the Cartwright Center on UW-La Crosse Campus.

TOWN HALL MEETING ON MEDICARE & SOCIAL SECURITY – MAY 17, 2013
Questions about Social Security and Medicare will be answered, along with what has been proposed and the impact it will have. State budget issues will also be addressed. The meeting will be at the Hmong Cultural & Community Center from 12:30pm – 2:30pm.

SCAM EMAILS LOOK LIKE IRS
Noreen shared the email she received, at work, asking for banking information to send a payment to her. Note that government agencies would not communicate via email and their email addresses would end in .gov instead of .com.

SENIOR FARMER’S MARKET FUNDING
We will be receiving six less vouchers than last year’s count. The vouchers will be available June 3rd until they are gone.

FAMILY CARE – LETTER TO JOINT COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
Noreen shared a letter written by Robert Kellerman, Executive Director of Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources to Senator Alberta Darling, Co-Chair Joint Committee on Finance, concerning the availability of Family Care for those needing long-term care.

MEAL SITES
ADVOCACY FOR SENIOR MEALS
The meal site managers were all given paper plates to hand out to the congregate and home delivered meals participants asking them to write a few sentences on what having the meals meant to them. There have been numerous plates returned. The plates will be forwarded to our government representatives so they can see firsthand how important these are to the community.

TRANSPORTATION
None

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
None suggested.

ADJOURNMENT
MOTION: Motion by Audrey Kader and seconded by Ann Fisher to adjourn. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:25 PM.

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended, or corrected at the next committee meeting.

Sue Betz, Recorder