

Commission on Aging

A meeting of the Commission on Aging was held on November 20, 2008 at the De Pere Community Center. Members attending were Al De Cleene, Jim De France, Carol Peters, Rachel Dickhut and Millie Bain. Also present: Lori Pazdera, Senior Program Coordinator and Paula Rahn, Community Center Manager.

1. Approval of minutes of the September 18, 2008 meeting. Attachment.

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Carol Peters. Millie Bain seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. Review and analyze results of Senior Citizens Survey.

Senior Program Coordinator, Lori Pazdera shared copies of the senior citizens survey results. She explained the purpose of the survey was to mainly see if there would be an interest in starting a café here and also different interests for senior programs. Lori feels she would love to have the café but she doesn't see if it would actually work and from the survey results there wouldn't be enough volunteers to service the café. The Commission agreed not to continue to pursue the café unless a great demand of interest developed in the future.

Lori commented that one suggestion with the senior programs is to serve sandwiches, cookie, and coffee or tea for a nominal fee. Rachel Dickhut and Al De Cleene commented that in Allouez they serve a half a sandwich, cookie and coffee for 50 cents. After much discussion, the Commission agreed to start small with one group – Cribbage – and then see how it goes. COA will sponsor the first one and start in January, the second Tuesday of each month. Carol, Rachel and Lori will help set it up. Lori will contact Allouez & Ashwaubenon to see what they offer and charge.

Lori also mentioned that one of the interesting comments on the surveys was to have a calling system to remind seniors of programs and exercise programs that we offer. Most of the Commission felt that it is the responsibility of the seniors to take action for themselves. There are plenty of avenues of advertisement regarding our programs and it should be the responsibility of the senior citizen to post it on their calendar.

3. Choose date for 2009 Senior Citizens Picnic.

Next years Senior Citizen's Picnic will be held on Saturday, August 1, 2009.

4. Update on new programs for seniors.

Lori discussed the Games Day Programs added on Thursdays: 1st Thursday – Movie, 2nd Thursday – Wii Video Games, 3rd Thursday – Bunco, 4th Thursday – Table Games. Paula Rahn commented these are great programs and it would be nice to have COA members to be advocates of these programs and spread the word and/or participate in order to get these programs started. Lori commented the best way to promote these activities is through word of mouth and what better way than to start with our Commission members.

5. Public Comment Period.

There was no public comment.

6. Future Agenda Items.

Establish position descriptions and criteria for volunteers.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 22nd at 2:00 p.m. at the De Pere Community Center. Rachel Dickhut motioned to adjourn the meeting. Millie Bain seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Minutes recorded by: Lori Pazdera & Paula Rahn