

Greene County Senior Citizens' Services Fund Board

Minutes

Meeting Monday September 23, 2024

Chuck Marinec, Chairman, called a meeting of the Greene County Senior Citizens' Services Fund Board to order on September 23, 2024 at 9:00 am. Self-Intros made for recording purposes. Meeting held at the Historic Courthouse Room 309, 940 Boonville, Springfield, Missouri.

Board Members Present: Chuck Marinec, Denny Pilant, Joyce Munden, Mike Jungers, Robert Thurman, Stephen Short and Mary Ellison

Board Members Absent:

Others Present: Chris Brumett, Chef Noriko Makoski (Salvation Army), Nancy Williams (Habitat for Humanity), Allen Criger (GC Auditors Office) and Deborah Allen

Meeting Minutes: August 26, 2024. Motion to approve made with corrections made by Denny Pilant. Seconded by Mary Ellison. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report for August, 2024 was presented by Denny Pilant. Total Cash Balance as of the end of August is \$1,600,486.11. Property Tax Revenue is \$10,704.28, Bank/Investment \$13,494.60, Refunds & Reimbursements \$0.00, Other Revenue \$0.00 with a Total Revenue of \$204,198.88, the YTD Revenue is \$2,984,388.28. Total Expenditures \$44,245.97 the YTD Expenditures are \$2,466,944.29. Checks issued: Ash Grove Sunshine Center, Mo Association of Levy Boards (MOALSO), Springfield Symphony Orchestra (4) and Springfield Stamp & Engraving. Total Ending Balance of \$2,117,880.10. Total Investments Principal \$1,704.00, at longer term investment and that should yield Approximate Annual Interest \$76,784.27.

Motion to approve Treasurer's report made by Joyce Munden. Seconded by Mike Jungers. Motion carried.

Presentation: The Salvation Army, Chris Brumett and Noriko Makoski (Chef Rico)

Amount Requested \$52,000.00. This program provides a hot meal Monday through Friday, free of charge. Lunch is served from noon to 12:45 p.m. from the full-service kitchen at The Salvation Army's campus. Seniors are also invited to participate in a social hour prior to lunch. A growing group comes in nearly every day to play cards, have a cup of coffee and enjoy fellowship.

In October of 2021, in response to the Greene County Senior Citizens Services Fund's call for additional proposals, The Salvation Army launched "Weekend Warriors", a backpack program for senior citizens. The idea came about when several of the seniors shared that the only meal, they can count on through the week is the lunch provided by The Salvation Army. The Weekend Warrior program provides nutritious food for three meals and snacks both Saturday and Sunday.

The funds being requested will be for food and supplies to help provide the weekly meal, as well as funding for the Weekend Warriors senior backpack program.

Through the knowledge and experience of Chef Riko, the new Food Services Supervisor, they have been able to provide nutritious meals using items obtained through the Food Recovery Program, partnerships with other nonprofits, and smart shopping through an examination of vendors used. This has resulted in a projected savings of tens of thousands of dollars. However, funds are still needed to support the meal service and senior Christmas.

Chris addressed the concern on the gift cards from Walgreen's and Price Cutter's. Walgreens supplies the seniors with items such as hygiene products, medication and various other household products that they would not be able to purchase. The Price Cutter's gift cards restrict the user to only purchase food products. This helps with only the necessary/approved items are being purchased.

Motion to Approve by Denny Pilant. Seconded by Joyce Munden. Motion carried.

Presentation: Habitat for Humanity, Nancy Williams

Amount Requested \$30,000.00 additional funding. At this point in time, they have spent all but a couple of thousands on emergency repairs that have been needed. This additional funding will help to make repairs on as many homes as possible that need essential repairs to address health and safety issues and where those homeowners do not have other options for completing the repairs. Priority will be water heaters and furnace servicing/replacement, water and sewer line repair/replacement, roof repair/replacement and gas and water plumbing. Other priorities will be mitigating security and energy efficiency issues with exterior windows and doors, improving porch/step safety, replacing inoperable refrigerators and stoves and providing modifications for accessibility, such as installing grab bars, replacing bathtubs with low-barrier showers and building or repairing ramps. Also included will be repairs that allow those primary repairs to be made such as termite treatment or environmental remediation.

Funding will be used to make repairs to homes in need of urgent or emergency repairs so the occupants can live in safe, reliable housing. Outcome will be that the repairs will be completed expeditiously and successfully, allowing the seniors to stay in their homes longer.

Motion to Approve by Mike Jungers. Seconded by Steve Short. Motion carried.

Old Business: Missouri Council of Aging

Motion to remove the table was made by Robert Thurman and seconded by Mike Jungers. Motion carried.

Chuck Marinec opened the floor for discussion. Listed below are some of the Board members suggestions as to whether to move forward and approve the Missouri Council on Aging's request of \$10,000.00:

- The legality of going forward has been looked at by legal counsel by both St. Louis and Clay County. At this time nothing in writing has been submitted.
- The Board does not want to incur the expense by obtaining legal counsel to move forward.
- The \$10,000.00 is considered more of a donation. There was precedent for funding this type of activity.
- The Missouri Council on Health is doing a terrific job and the individual that spoke the other day at the meeting did an excellent job. However, Denny feels they are looking in the wrong direction for money, and our funds should not go to other local counties.
- They are asking us to violate what has always been done, which is asking the requestor how the grant is being used and if it is benefiting the Seniors of Greene County. At the end of the year the individual that manages the grant must provide documentation as to how and where the money is being spent.
- MCoA is looking for State-wide policy that we really shouldn't be involved in. We do advocate for Seniors, however, we do it in Greene County.

After careful deliberation Stephen Short made a motion to approve a donation/membership in the amount of \$5,000.00. Seconded by Mike Jungers. A vote of 2-Yes and 5-No. Motion failed.

10:30 A.M. Joyce Munden moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mike Jungers. Motion Carried.

Next meeting October 28, 2024 – Location: Historic Courthouse, Room 309. If additional people are in attendance, a waiting area with appropriate social distancing will be available.

Minutes submitted by: Deborah Allen