

AUGUST '20 MEETING MINUTES

Merrill Enrichment Center Committee

Meeting was held on August 20th, 2020 at 3:15pm

Merrill Enrichment Center Conference Room – 303 N. Sales Street

Present: Laura Bertagnoli (Chair), Gene Bebel, Rose Akey, Sharon Harvey,

Absent: Rev. Lucas Williams, Jennifer Clark (ADRC representative), Paul Russell (Alderpersion)

1. Opening

- a. Laura called the meeting to order.

2. Consent Items

- a. Motion by Bebel second by Harvey to approve July minutes. Motion carried.
- b. Motion by Akey second by Harvey to approve May-July vouchers. Motion carried.

3. Public Comment – no public comment

4. COVID-19 – Phase 2 – Update on Operations

- a. Director provided the following information on attendance and outreach. We are pleased with the amount of people attending and note that the mask mandate actually increased our numbers.
 - i. July 20 – Aug 17 attendance for exercise classes was 320 (many are repeat participants), 11 walkers (as expected with great weather), 77 additional participants for art classes.
- b. Masks sales were once again strong at \$644. Demand is steady. *MEC will be donating masks to public grade schools starting in September and throughout the school year as needed.*
- c. September calendar includes bingo, an ice cream float drive through/social, new craft classes, quilters group starting up again for outreach (alternate days to keep numbers in room low). Director also shared the purchase of a ping pong table. This is a safe activity for two people to participate in. Hour long time slots are available. We will thoroughly disinfect between times.
- d. The MEC October craft show is cancelled due to the uncertainty of the coronavirus. Plans for the Spring Craft Show in April will begin.
- e. St. Stephens will host the Thanksgiving Day Meal/Outreach. Plans are still in place as to how this will look, specifically as to whether or not there will be a sit down meal. Carry out and delivery will be available. The MEC will begin working with Rev. Lucas in September to organize this annual outreach.
- f. Christmas Joy will look different this year as well. Committee will discuss this in detail beginning in September.

5. ADRC

- a. Jennifer Clark was not available but will be sending updated programming for us to share. Bertagnoli suggested that the MEC include the recent UW-Extension Flyer 'Coping with COVID' in our future outreach bags.

6. Discussion

- a. Director shared budget numbers to date. We are pleased to be fairly close to our normal activity revenues. Our craft shop is running slightly in the red. MEC staff is working on a plan for the fourth quarter to increase shop sales.
 - i. Committee would like Kathy Unertl to call in to our next meeting to discuss the MEC budget as we had planned prior to the shutdown. Director will speak with Kathy to arrange this for September meeting.
- b. Bebel revisited our ability to find those who are isolated. He recommended reaching out to churches, social services, our participants, Haven, etc. Bebel also shared the Minister Association has been revived. This will be an important group for the MEC to collaborate with. Bertagnoli asked if the MEC has connections to other Centers in the state. Director has maintained connections with some of the Centers and receives communications from GWAAR and other Centers. Director will strengthen those relationships moving forward. The MEC staff continues to make calls to participants to stay connected.

7. Adjournment

- a. Motion to adjourn made by Bebel second by Harvey.

The next meeting date is **September 17th at 3:15pm in the MEC Conference room.**

Public invited to call in: 419-684-0258 **PIN:** 697 859 403 #

Vouchers will be available for review 10 minutes prior to meeting time.

Respectfully submitted,

TMrachek

Tammie Mrachek
MEC Director