

MAY '21 MEETING MINUTES

Merrill Enrichment Center Committee

Meeting was held on May 20th, 2021 at 2:15pm

Merrill Enrichment Center Conference Room – 303 N. Sales Street

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

Jennifer Clark (ADRC representative)

Absent: Sharon Anderson, Josh Jaeger

1. Opening

- a. Bertagnoli called the meeting to order.
 - i. Bebel nominated Bertagnoli as the Chair of the MEC Committee, second by Harvey. Approved by all.
- b. Although not present, Bertagnoli welcomed our new committee members Anderson and Jaeger. She also confirmed *all* members' terms end on 5-1-22.

2. Consent Items

- a. Motion by Bebel second Harvey by to approve April minutes. Motion carried.
- b. Motion by Akey second Bebel by to approve April '21 vouchers. Motion carried.

3. Public Comment

- a. Bebel spoke on behalf of the men's group stating how appreciative they are of the MEC staff accommodating the group. This is their social connection as many of them are alone Akey shared that many people are relieved that the masks are not required for vaccination individuals.

4. COVID-19 – Update on Operations

- a. Director shared that after the CDCs announcement that vaccinated individuals no longer need to mask or social distance, the City Mayor stated that his mask declaration no longer applied to those who are vaccinated. The MEC will follow this guidance. The MEC still welcomes masks and asks all participants to respect individual choices. Bebel asked if we have to follow the City. Director confirmed that we reside in a City facility and must follow the decisions of the Mayor; however we may have the ability to continue to recommend masks (for instance in and out of the bldg. if we felt it was needed). Russell added the County HR Director and Council extended mask requirements for another 60 days to figure out how to move forward.

5. ADRC

Jennifer provided the following updates;

- a. ADRC will be opening their doors on Monday, June 7 for scheduled appointments only. Walk-ins will not be allowed at this point. Pre-appointment screening measures will be in place and we will be encouraging customers to bring limited people with them (3 people or less).
- b. \$25 senior farmers market vouchers start June 1st. Ages 60+. Can be used in the following counties; Lincoln, Langlade, Marathon, Wood. Contact the ADRC at 715-536-0311.
- c. Join our effort to raise awareness and fight the stigma of memory loss. The Remember Project will provide a short virtual play called, "In the Garden", a one act play about memory loss. Date: Thursday, June 24th, 2021. Log-on begins at 2:45 pm, the event will run from 3-5 pm, reservations required, attendance is limited. Call the ADRC for more information at 1-888-486-9545.

6. Discussion

- a. Director updated committee on the progress of a city marketing committee. At this time the ordinance requires a third reading to become law. It will be on the agenda for the June 8th Common Council meeting. Russell added it would be a permanent standing committee structure comprised of 3 alderperson, 3 department heads, 2 community members and the mayor Bebel stated it should not take so many months (17 was his number) to form a committee. Bebel also brought up the question on a budget for this committee. . Russell stated there many questions remain.
- b. Craft show recap; revenue was \$1500; expenses included \$485 for Foto News advertising which included local papers in Tomahawk, Antigo, and Wausau. Director added the MEC's newsletter as well as the power of social media which is free; Facebook and FB events which are more measurable. We also have signs around town. Overall the show was a great success.
- c. Upcoming is our Fall Craft & Market Event. We are expanding our show outside to include farmers and some flea market items in addition to a variety of food vendors. More info to come. These topics lead to brainstorming of more ideas including exhibitions, Food Art, etc.

7. Adjournment

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

The next meeting date is **June 17th at 2:15pm in the MEC Conference room.**

Public invited to call in. Phone: 320-372-1037 PIN: 579 868 570 #

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

Respectfully submitted,

TMrachek

Tammie Mrachek

MEC Director