

MISSAUKEE COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION

Minutes

County Annex Meeting Room

February 22, 2017 5:00pm

MEMBERS PRESENT: Linda Hartshorne-Shafer (Staff), Belser Charles, Blaszak Sherry, Fisher Craig (arrived 5:33pm), Miller Bruce, Smallegan Dean, Zwolak Mimi; OTHERS PRESENT - Precia Garland, Missaukee County Administrator, Natalie Davis, Missaukee County COA Director

The meeting was called to order at 5:08; this was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The January 25, 2017 minutes were approved following a motion by Charles with support from Dean – all in favor. The February 22, 2017 agenda was approved following a motion by Dean with support from Mimi – all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Capital Improvement Plan Public Hearing – The hearing was opened at 5:10pm. No public was present. The hearing was closed at 5:12pm following a motion by Dean, with support from Charles.
2. Natalie Davis – COA Director
 - a. Non-Emergent Medical Transportation Grant (Specialized Services) – The COA applied for a FY18 grant in the amount of \$17,300 which helps to fund the volunteer program, covering primarily mileage for volunteer drivers. This service is available to individuals aged 60 or over, or individuals under age 60 with a disability. Last year, volunteer drivers drove a combined 35,000 miles in their personal vehicles to transport clients to medical appointments and for essential shopping trips. Natalie noted that the COA has policies in place regarding no-show clients and clients that are inappropriate with drivers – client transport services can be terminated for such individuals.
 - b. Bus grant - The COA was again awarded a 5310 grant. It was awarded in FY2017 and the COA considered acquisition of a bus with the funding, but then declined due to the additional expenses related to maintenance, etc. COA is now positioned to procure an MV-1 transport van rather than a bus, which will allow for easier transport of individuals confined to wheelchairs and the transport of other medical equipment; the van also provides a mechanized loading and unloading process (volunteers are not allowed to physically assist clients or load/unload wheelchairs due to the risks involved). Drivers will not be required to have a CDL. Per the grant, the COA would be required to maintain possession of the bus for a minimum of four years.

Motion by Mimi with support from Dean to approve the Commission on Aging's Specialized Services grant as well as the amended 5310 grant (MV-1 van rather than bus) – all in favor. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. ConnectMI/Broadband update – Planning Director met with Kim Blaszak and Charter representative Don Gladwell regarding Charter's low-cost broadband program (Spectrum Internet Assist) for eligible students (families that participate in the National School Lunch Program), as well as qualifying seniors (age 65 and older and receive SSI benefits). Kim will distribute to qualifying families. This service is available only within areas that Charter currently serves.
2. Recreation Plan update- Updates are being made to the recreation plan in preparation for the December expiration of the current plan.

MISCELLANEOUS: Motion by Bruce to cancel the scheduled April meeting as a cost-reducing measure. If a need arises to meet prior to the June meeting, this will be scheduled. Dean supported, all in favor. The April meeting has been cancelled; the next meeting will be on June 28th, 2017. Linda will notify the County Clerk of the change.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM – Discussion – The plan was briefly reviewed; no public was present and no questions were asked by Planning Commission members in attendance. Motion by Charles with support from Craig that the Plan be recommended to the Board of Commissioners for approval. All in favor.

OBJECTIVES to complete for June 28, 2017 meeting - Linda will continue to work on the Recreation Plan update.

SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:

P.A. 116 – Alt, Benthem – Motion by Craig with support from Charles to recommend the application to the Board of Commissioners for approval. All in favor.

**There was no public comment. The meeting was adjourned at 5:41 following a motion by Mimi with support from Charles.

***NEXT MEETING: June 28, 2017 5:00pm