

L.E. Phillips Senior Center

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

January 28, 2025 @ 8 am

Present: Colleen Bates, Bill Beaton, Pieter Graaskamp, Jerilyn Kinderman, Bryan Bessa, Jim Bunkelman, Mary Mero, Doug Mell, Larry Zorn, Janet Lesniewski, Sandy Pocernich, Denise Wirth, Jackie Minor

Absent: Aric Burch

1. Graaskamp called the meeting to order.
  - a. Introduction of new Board Member- Bill Beaton. Board members introduced themselves.
2. Approval of Minutes December 17, 2024. Correction of date made to December from October as packet stated- Bates moving and Mero seconded. Unanimously approved.
3. Outgoing President's Report-
  - a. Election of new officers as presented by Larry Zorn. Bryan Bessa- President; Doug Mell- Vice President; Pieter Graaskamp- Past President; Jerilyn Kinderman- Treasurer; Denise Wirth- Secretary. All approved.
4. Treasurer's Report- Kinderman presented the financial report. Wellness programs doing well. Good grant funds received this past year as procured by Minor. Expenses include miscellaneous center repairs as well as new exercise equipment to name a few. Budget is in good shape.
5. Incoming President's Report- Bessa
  - a. 2025 Board Meeting Dates-Bylaws state we need to meet 9 times/year of which we typically meet more than that. A December meeting was added as a placeholder in case we need another meeting. The upcoming year's Budget Plan is planned to be submitted to the Board in October or November this year.
  - b. Committee Structure Update- Currently we have 6 committees. With Strategic Planning other committees developed. In looking at

increasing efficiencies, decreasing redundancies, as the outgoing members left and new members joining, there is a need to relook at current committees. Do we need all of them? Do we need different committees? Are the committees assigned aligning with the board member's interests? In the future, we are asking committees to meet and bring ideas/concerns to full board meetings so we can move forward with action items and strategic plan. Committees are asked to take minutes which will be included in board packets. Strategic Planning documents will be redistributed to help guide the committees. Let Minor know your committee preferences &/or ideas for how committee structure should be.

- c. Updated Board List- look at list to see if your information is correct. Lesniewski will be noted as a county representative.
  - d. Steiner Gift- Mell will chair the Press Conference announcing the Steiner Endowment. Bessa will be speaking on behalf of the LEPSC & Mary Pica Anderson will be speaking on behalf of the Sylvia Steiner estate. Minor & Mell to inform the LE Phillips Corporation & other stake holders before the press conference. The S. Steiner donation will allow the center to do things that we wouldn't be able to do without further fundraising. Board members are encouraged to attend press conference. It will be held on Feb 5, 2025 @ 9 am.
6. Director's Report- Minor
- a. Water Street Mile has a 24-year history of the Center running this fundraising activity. It was suspended last year due to road construction. The race is a very time-consuming event to organize as other community groups have pulled out in helping, such as Indianhead Track, Dove Healthcare, etc. The Senior Resource Fair was very profitable, aligns better with our mission and has bypassed the amount raised by Water Street Mile. Confirmation from RCU and Celebration of Life as financial sponsors to this

year's resource fair has been made. Mell moves that we end our participation in the Water Street Mile. Mero seconded it.

Discussion of bringing families together for a community event might be considered in the future. Unanimously approved.

- b. Membership numbers & Insurance Updates- Security Health switched to One Pass from Silver Sneakers. More money is being allotted to the center through One Pass vs Silver Sneakers. It's a time-consuming process to switch members to One Pass. Members need to sign in. The center doesn't get paid unless the member checks in each day they're doing fitness activities. Effective March 1, pickleball players will need to sign up for Membership Plus (includes open fitness & pickleball. \$100) Communication to come out to the members soon.
- c. New phone system to be installed today.

#### 7. Committee Reports:

- a. Building –Bunkelman. Garbage disposal purchased & needs to be installed. Working with B&B Electric on installing the new Fire Alarm System. Working on parking lot & sidewalks being redone this year because of potholes, etc. Parking lots are often full.
- b. Marketing- Mell. S. Steiner news release was presented. Eggplant Heroes will do a gig in May. It is a good way to bring the community in. Acknowledgement that the LEPSC received good publicity on the New Year's Eve party.
- c. Finance- Kinderman. Finance Committee will regroup to discuss the money received from S. Steiner.
- d. Program- Mero. Discussion of cultural events to be organized in future. Mornings are busy at LEPSC. Discussion is in process of how to get members to sign in so the Center can get reimbursed. The UWEC students volunteering for technology help for members is appreciated. Discussion of end-of-life preparations & estate planning presentations as an idea for members.

Ancestry.com subscription for the center members was suggested as an idea.

- e. Nominating- Zorn. One more opening – working on it. Suggestion made to look for someone to move into Treasurer position in the future.
  - f. Personnel –Bessa. MRA presented the data of the salary survey. Most of our employees are in the range recommended, except for the Director position. Also to keep in mind recruitment and retention strategies as we aren't able to offer benefits.
8. Old Business- none.
9. New Business. We are members of the Wisconsin Association of Senior Center. We are in process of accreditation. Mell said he would help with this.

Adjournment at 9:38 am, with Mero moving and Graaskamp seconding.  
Next meeting will be held on February 25, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Denise Wirth, Secretary