

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Kimberly L. Murphy
County Administrator

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MEMBERS

Karol "KZ" Bolton, Kevon Martis, Dawn Bales
301 N. Main St, Adrian, MI 49221

MEETING LOCATION

Chambers

Minutes: Monday, October 7, 2024

I. Call to Order

Present: Commissioners: James Van Doren, Karol Bolton, Terry Collins, Dawn Bales
Also Present: Administrator Kim Murphy, Deputy Administrator Shannon Elliott, Community Development Coordinator Francine Zysk, Marketing & Communications Coordinator Jen Ambrose, Administrative Coordinator Carissa Zubke, Health Officer, Health Officer Monica Hunt, Finance Director Dan Zimolzak, Amy DeJonghe

Absent: Kevon Martis, Cari Rebottaro

The meeting was called to order by Comm. Bolton.

II. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes: September 9, 2024

Comm. Bolton appointed Comm Collins as a voting member of the committee today.

Motion by Bales to approve the minutes of September 9, 2024, seconded by Collins. Motion carried.

III. Presentation: Orchard Terrace Elderly Housing- Amy DeJonghe

Amy DeJonghe was present from Orchard Terrace Elderly Housing and is the current property manager. The housing complex is low-income HUD housing for those 62 and older or who have a disability status. Dejonghe stated they take pride in caring for the property and making it a home; low-income qualifications do not mean they should go without the best.

Over the years, property projects are always being looked at. Prior to COVID, the cost to replace furnaces was quoted at \$8,000 annually, over 4 years, but those quotes increased to \$14,000. DeJonghe and her team needed a way to cover the expenses. Orchard Terrace applied for Lenawee's ARPA funding and the projects below were planned, if awarded.

- *Generator, to run elevators, heat, A/C in community rooms.*
- *New windows-screens were hard to use or holes in the screens*
- *Carpet in main areas, painting in community rooms.*

Lenawee County was able to grant the fully applied for amount and Orchard Terrace matched \$70,000.

DeJonghe shared her gratefulness to see these projects come to life. She strives to make the property a great place and a home; commonly having a two-year wait list to reside there. This summer, their new generator was used during one of the hottest weeks in summer; DeJonghe was pleased to walk in to find residents joining in the community room to watch T.V. and cool off.

IV. Department Highlights

A. Health Department - Monica Hunt

Health Officer Hunt shared her monthly report. An ALICE training will be taking place soon at HSB and various outreach events are scheduled. Seasonal vaccines are now available too schedule, any weekday.

Hunt gave a thorough update on the Statewide Septic Code. Highlights from draft # 7 is included; Hunt states the state now has draft #8.

Revisions include sewage system inspections will be for homes older than 20 years, or no file on record, to be inspected every 10 years. Also, instead of within 300 ft., it is now within 500 ft. and/or a high plane area.

Hunt reported many of their records are from 1980 and prior, but she noted that just because there are no records, it does not mean it has failed, just that it needs an inspection.

Discussion took place about the state mandates that may come forward would impact the Health Department. They would be performing the inspections and entering information into the possible future database. Hunt also stated the State has not informed them of possible funding for the department to implement these things.

Other possible changes in the code include "non-compliance corrective actions", including fines or waived fees based on income. Hunt reviewed other possible changes, including warrants, or waiving.

Currently, there is a septic grant, which includes loans for homeowners; Hunt stated there have been discussions for the State to expand this grant.

Hunt provided some details about what an inspection may include; overall the objective is to verify there are no leaks and up to code.

B. Department on Aging - Cari Rebottaro

Director Rebottaro was unable to attend today. Bolton reviewed her monthly report.

This month Rebottaro focused on 1 of the 7 senior centers. She stated each one is different and provides various activities. Activities are available between 8-3 and you may find gardening, flowers, games, dancing, crafts and more. Lunch is daily at 11:30am; Rebottaro encourages residents to stop for a visit.

C. Community Development - Francine Zysk

Community Development Coordinator Zysk shared her monthly report.

The County has been accepted to participate in an Addiction Policy Forum. This is a 6-month planning program that will assist with evaluating the effectiveness of our current policies and what is needed to create data dashboards in our County.

Zysk works with Ms. Rupley at the Recovery Courts to submit a grant. This is to bring people together, to map out things that are currently working in the courts and what is needed for better standards and policies relating to substance use and mental health courts.

Zysk attended the LandBank summit, where Lenawee was highlighted for all their work and success at LandBank.

The MI Neighborhood Grant is still in progress and Zysk is diligently working on completing the necessary items during the application process. This grant will be used for musical instruments at Gerber Park.

Royal Prosperity Office has opened up the acceptance of applications; Zysk submitted an application for the County Landbank.

Zysk is also attending the BroadBand conference and will bring back any updates to the committee. Merrit Network will be Day 1, and on Day 2, the agencies and community members will gather to discuss what is happening and what they can do, to bring BroadBand to all of their Counties.

Zysk shared that she would be presenting at the National Human Services Conference in November, covering a Decade of Differences in the Opioid Epidemic.

V. Updates & Other Business

No discussion

VI. 2024 Goals

Visiting Community Organizations | Wells and Septic | Planning for Strategic Plan | Scholarship Fundraising | Attendance at Legislative Meeting

Legislative Dinner is being held on November 12th, 6pm at LISD that will include the State of the County presentation. The Dinner is hosted by the culinary students attending LISD, cost is \$35 per person.

VII. Public Comment

No comment.

VIII. Adjournment

Motion by Collins, Second by Bales to adjourn the meeting at 11:38 AM. Motion carried.

