



## **Watertown Commission on Aging**

Andrea Plahn – Commissioner

Chris Boerner – Commissioner

Richard Schimmel – Commission Vice-Chair

Terry Gallagher – Commission Chair

Deb Favorit - Commissioner

Lucinda Raymond - Commissioner

Kay Thul, Watertown City Council – City of Watertown

Margaret Reisdorf – Administrative Services Director – City of Watertown

Paul Ericsson – Carver County Library – Branch Manager

Amy Dimmler – Watertown – Mayer Community Education – Education Director

Dawn Plumer – Carver County Health and Human Services – Public Health Program Director

Jake Foster – City Administrator

6/7/2023 - Minutes

### 1. Call To Order

The Commission on Aging meeting was called to order at 3:32 pm on June 7, 2023.

Members Present: Jake Foster, Richard Schimmel, Deb Favorit, Lucinda Raymond, Kay Thul, Margaret Reisdorf, Paul Ericsson, and Dawn Plumer.

Members Absent: Andrea Plahn, Amy Dimmler, Chris Boerner, and Terry Gallagher.

Others in Attendance: Allison Streich, Carver County Community Development Authority (CDA).

### 2. Adopt Agenda

Thul moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Favorit seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

### 3. Approve Minutes

Thul moved to adopt the May 3, 2023 Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes as submitted. Raymond seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

#### 4. New Business

##### 1. Treasurer Report.

Reisdorf reviewed the treasurer report with the Commission. She informed that since the last meeting in May, that the Commission on Aging has not spent or taken in any money.

She stated that the Commission has dedicated \$600 towards the Senior Dance for the reservation of the band, Hillbilly Cadillac.

She stated that the current balance remains at \$2,364.39 and if factoring in the \$600 allocation, it would be an unallocated balance of \$1,764.39.

##### 2. Census Data

Reisdorf introduced Allison Streich from Carver County Community Development Authority (CDA) and explained that she was here to discuss more about what the Authority does throughout the County.

Streich reviewed Carver County CDA programs and properties that they manage throughout Carver County. She stated that the CDA Mission Statement is to provide "affordable housing opportunities" and to foster "economic and community development in Carver County". She talked about some CDA owned properties and products within the City of Watertown, specifically two units located at the "Hilltop" location.

Streich reviewed the following programs: Bridges, Bridges RTC, CoC Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Housing Trust Fund.

Streich went over other programs including one that they partner with the Carver County Environmental Services for called the Septic/Well Replacement Loan. She reviewed the Minnesota Housing Rehab Program as well that the CDA administers which is a Minnesota Housing Rehabilitation Loan/Emergency and Accessibility Loan Program.

Streich reviewed the Carver County Land Trust program in which the CDA owns houses and provides them to qualified people for rent. She also discussed the Community Growth Partnership Initiative that provides grants for development projects within cities.

Streich discussed the "Next Stage" small business support program that provides counseling services for businesses. She discussed some Senior Housing projects that the CDA is working on throughout the County.

Schimmel asked Streich if there are any planned projects with the CDA for the City of Watertown.

She mentioned that the CDA owns land within the City of Watertown, but that there is no plan yet for what they CDA hopes to do with it. She explained that the CDA has several projects going at the moment and funding is a major factor as well.

She stated that the CDA is working with Carver County Public Health on a County wide health assessment survey that will provide up-to-date results on specific topics, including senior needs and housing needs. She estimated the data to be available by the end of 2023.

##### 3. Survey for Seniors

The Commission reviewed the included draft survey within their packets and provided some final revision suggestions. The Commission agreed that this was the final version and that Reisdorf would come back in

July with printed surveys and discuss the process of getting it on Survey Monkey.

The Commission discussed how to distribute it and wondering if it could be mailed to each resident with a stamped return envelope. They talked about including it in with the next newsletter. They stressed the importance of trying to reach everyone.

#### 4. Senior Spring Dance

Reisdorf introduced this item to the Commission for continued review and discussion.

Reisdorf provided an update on several planning items. She said that letters were sent out to the following organizations for sponsorships: Watertown Clinic, Grocery Store, Lions Club, Bremer Bank, Citizens Bank, and Pharmacy.

The Commission agreed to coffee, lemonade, and water as beverages and cookies and bars for treats.

Raymond informed that the Watertown Lions Club stated that they would like to sponsor \$500 to the event. She said that they would like to sponsor the Senior Dinner in December for \$500 as well and the Commission on Aging Dance Event in Spring 2024 for \$500 as well. She asked Reisdorf to send a letter to the Watertown Lions formally requesting the sponsorship from them.

#### 5. Other Business

##### 1, General City and Organization Updates

Foster informed that there is a developer who has expressed interest in building and operating a hardware store. He said that it was just talk now though.

Foster said that there are some other developments in the works and that senior housing is always something that the city asks developers to consider as part of their projects.

Ericsson provided event flyers for the Carver County Public Library and several upcoming events. He also provided the summer programs packet and informed that the fall programs packet is currently in the works and will include more intergenerational programs.

Thul suggested that the COA and library investigate offering more education on fraud prevention awareness.

Schimmel provided a handout from the Chaska Police Department on "Getting to know the Community Service Officer Division and Role" document. He said it is a great packet of information that discusses common community ordinance information, events, and more.

#### 6. Adjourn

**A motion by Thul to end the meeting at 4:55 p.m. was made. Raymond Seconded. Motion passed 7-0.**

**309 Lewis Avenue S, Watertown, MN 55388**