

Monona Senior Center  
SENIOR CITIZENS COMMITTEE

MINUTES  
August 5th, 2020  
4:00 P.M.

The meeting of the Senior Citizens Committee for the City of Monona was called to order by chairperson, Molly Grupe at 4:04 p.m.

PRESENT:

Chairperson Alder Molly Grupe, Steve Halverson, Glenn Vosberg, Gwen Feit, Peggy McDonald and Sara Whalen

ALSO PRESENT:

Diane Mikelbank, Monona Senior Center Director  
Jim Krueger, NewBridge Madison  
Stan Nielsen, Friends of the Monona Senior Center

ABSENT: John Anderson

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes of the August 27th, 2019 meeting were approved on a motion made by Steve Halverson and seconded by Gwen Feit to approve the minutes. Motion carried.

APPEARANCES: None

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Approval of 2021 - 2025 Capital Budget for Monona Senior Services

Gwen Feit moved we take this item out of order for immediate vote. Steve Halverson seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Diane Mikelbank reviewed the proposed 2021 – 2025 capital budget including the following:

- 2021 Senior Center Signage \$5,000 and Painting \$3,000
- 2022 Touchscreen, Mobile Scanner \$3,000 and Entrance Vestibule \$5,000
- 2023 Tile Floor – no quote has been obtain for this project yet.

A brief discussion regarding each item continued. A motion was made by Gwen Feit and seconded by Peggy McDonald to approve the 2021 – 2025 Capital Budget for Monona Senior Service. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. 2021 Operating Budget Proposal for Monona Senior Services

Diane Mikelbank discussed the four budget alternatives that we were asked to prepare including 1% increase, 0%, 1% decrease and 2 % decrease. The budgets mean a slight difference in overall funding across the board with no drastic changes or cuts necessary. Both NewBridge and Monona Senior Services feel we can “made do” for the coming year and understand the budget challenges facing communities. NewBridge is facing cuts from both municipalities and the County.

REPORTS:

- A. **Chairperson’s Report** – Alderperson Grupe shared that a local organization, Nehemiah Community Development Corporation, has been hired by the City of Monona to start some equity work with instructional resources and workshops focusing on how to be supportive of people of color. They will communicate with staff and focus on community relations. The capital and operating budget season is a bit shorter this year, therefore these budgets seem to be processing a bit faster than usual. Monona continues to examine its public safety policies in order to modernize them. The potential of the San Domiano property is being looked at by the City with a community partner with the hopes that the beautiful space could be made more public and enjoyed by the community.
- B. **Friends Group Report** – Stan Nielsen reports that the Friends face a unique challenge with most fund-raising efforts being cancelled for 2020. The Summer Concerts did carry on with the support of generous sponsors with a live-streamed format thanks for the help of Monona Community Media.
- C. **NewBridge Report** – Jim Krueger shared that the first half of 2020 brought relatively steady case management work to Monona seniors. Home chore actually increased compared to last year, prior to the pandemic. In March Top Notch discontinued providing services temporarily but were back to assisting seniors in May. Volunteers for the Home Chore program are not assisting seniors quite yet. NewBridge continues to meet the critical needs of seniors with distributing Food boxes and essential needs kits. Hundreds of these kits have been distributed. They have been very fortunate that adequate funding has been made available for these items.
- D. **Monona Senior Center Report** – Diane Mikelbank shared a brief review of Mar – May activities and an update of programs being offered now that our doors are open.

MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS:

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, August 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was made by Gwen Feit and was seconded by Steve Halverson. Meeting adjourned at 4:46 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

*Diane Mikelbank*

Diane Mikelbank, Director  
Monona Senior Center