

BASA MINUTES

Wednesday, February 20, 2018

- 39 people were in attendance.
- **No Guest Speaker**
- **PRESENTER:** Erin Whitney, GTC Veterans Affairs
Veterans Affairs is NOT part of the VA, opened Monday through Friday 8a to 4:30p, they service both the Grand Traverse and Leelanau Counties. One of the things that they help our Veterans with is processing applications for the Aid and Attendant Pension Benefits. There were changes made to the application in October so if you know a veteran that needs financial help with Assisted Living or In-Home Care needs please call the office to get the latest qualifications and application. If you know a Vietnam vet who was exposed to Agent Orange and suffered from Diabetes, Respiratory issues or Parkinsons, the surviving spouse could be eligible for benefits. They also have Burial Benefits, Emergency Assistance, Temporary Relief Benefits and Vocational Rehab and Employment benefits.
- **STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT:**
The website is being updated - Rachel Krino will be presenting all the changes at our April meeting. John Elwell has volunteered to chair our BASA Cares Awards, thank you John for stepping up.
- **SENIOR EXPO 2019**
Co-chairs: Elizabeth Sonnabend and Angie Lorenzi
Logistics Chair: Connie Hintsala
Marketing Chair is CC Hovie
Sponsorship Chairs: Nancy Albrecht and Dave Hauser
Vendor Registration: Theresa Kerry
Volunteer Coordinator - Beth Dole
There are MANY slots available to help with the Senior Expo - Registration, Clean Up, Tear Down, Bag Stuffing and helping at the Water Table just to name a few. Sign up today.
Expo forms for booths and sponsorships have been sent out.
- **MEMBERSHIP**
Irene Hogan is our new Membership Chair.
There are 74 Paid members at present
2019 dues are \$35 for new members. Dues have increased as of January 1, 2019 to \$50 for current members. If you are a new member please make sure you get on the website and check it out. There is an orientation on the website to introduce you to BASA and familiarize yourself with BASA's contributions to the community and its role in supporting the seniors in our area. If you need a nametag see Irene or Russ.
- **MEMBERS IN THE NEWS**
Leelanau COA's Nancy Begeman had her photo featured as the Hot Shots Photo on TV7/4 this very morning.
The Pace program was awarded a 1 million grant from the Harry and Janet Weinberg Foundation. Grand opening will be announced soon, they are going through all their readiness training right now.
Medilodge GT was featured for Valentine's Day. They have a resident who's husband comes to see her everyday - they have been married 60 years.
- **SENIOR SUPPORT**
Grants up to \$500 can be awarded to seniors in need. All the funding comes from the Senior Expo.
- **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**
Medilodge GTC: Facility Tours - Bring a Senior Citizen to their skilled nursing facility during February and receive a \$10 Cracker Barrel Gift Card. Visit 2 facilities and receive a \$20 Cracker Barrel Gift Card.
Antrim COA: Looking into healthy options to Meals on Wheels.
Cherry Hill Haven: Implementing music therapy with Mary Sue as a consistent program that can be duplicated. They are building a tool kit that can be shared.
North Star Insurance: During open enrollment for the first quarter of the year you can change your Medicaid/Medicare plans if you are not happy with the one you are on.
Greg Kirsch: Have hired another attorney - Kirsten will be stating in mid-April.
Alliance for Senior Housing: 4 Parade of Homes this year, splitting them up between Alliance and Options for Senior Living. Alliance's 2 will be May 31 and June 28.
Prime Time News: Senior Directories are out and being distributed.
Parkinsons: The 34th Parkinson's Summer Forum will be held May 30th at the Haggerty Center. Last year approximately 250 people attended. Looking for event sponsors - please call the Parkinson's Office if you are interested.
GT Pavillons: Pace Open House will be held on April 17th from 4p to 7p.
Getting ready for Concerts on the Lawn, they start in June and go through August. Looking for sponsors.
Northwest Michigan Health Services: Over \$100,000 has been donated for free dental care for Veterans this year.
Hudson Wealth Management: They are starting a program called "Gift of a Lifetime". A nominated Senior will receive a dream or a gift - it is in the preliminary stages. Ideas and sponsors are needed.
Reynolds Jonkhoff: Funeral Pre-planning lunch at Mulligan's on March 14th at 1:30a. Please call to make a reservation. They have recently hired 2 new funeral directors.
Monarch Home Health: Going to be showing off their new digs at a March 14th Open House from 4p to 7p - 821 S. Elmwood. Looking for a volunteer to chair the Alzheimer's walk to be held September 28th at the Open Space. Need teams and volunteers to help.
Fyzical Therapy and Balance Center: Hip Pain workshop on March 5th. Call the office for details.
Edward Jones: Fill up your IRA's before you file your taxes.