

Greene County Senior Citizens' Services Fund Board

Minutes

Meeting Monday March 24, 2025

Charles Marinec, Chairman, called a meeting of the Greene County Senior Citizens' Services Fund Board to order on March 24 at 9:00 am. Self-Intros made for recording purposes. Meeting held at the Historic Courthouse Room 309, 940 Boonville, Springfield, Missouri.

Board Members Present: Chuck Marinec, Denny Pilant, Joyce Munden, Mike Jungers, Robert Thurman, Stephen Short and Mary Ellison (Phoned In).

Board Members Absent:

Others Present: Debbie Allen, Daniel Ketcher & Jamie Trussell (Council of Churches), Samantha Steury (Gillioz Theatre), Marilyn Meals (Fair Grove Senior Center) and Bill Bell (OACAC)

Meeting Minutes: February 24, 2025. Motion to approve made by Mike Jungers. Seconded by Joyce Munden. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's report for February 2025 presented by Denny Pilant. Cash Balance as of the end of February is \$1,488,999.34. Property Tax Revenue is \$419,594.61, Bank/Investment \$36,912.07, Refunds & Reimbursements \$0.00, Other Revenue \$0.00 with a Total Revenue of \$456,506.68, the YTD Revenue is \$2,992,684.59. Total Expenditures \$0.00 the YTD Expenditures are \$0.00. Checks issued: No Expenditures for the month of February. Total Ending Balance of \$4,481,683.93. Total Investments Principal \$2,115,963.45 at longer term investment and that should yield Approximate Annual Interest \$71,380.52.

Motion to approve Treasurer's report made by Mike Jungers. Seconded by Robert Thurman. Motion carried.

Old Business:

New Business

Presentation: Council of Churches – Daniel Ketcher and Jamie Trussell

Amount Requested \$196,400.00. The funds from GCSCSF will help cover a portion of the expenses associated with (1) food distributions to seniors, (2) the engagement of seniors in volunteerism, (3) Ombudsman advocacy at long-term care facilities and (4) Housing stability for unsheltered or soon to be unsheltered seniors. The funds will help to support the Council of Churches programs for seniors and enable seniors to:

- ✓ Understand their rights as residents of long-term care facilities and maintain their dignity when they are often most vulnerable. Ombudsman volunteers are available to receive complaints and advocate on their behalf.
- ✓ Engage in meaningful volunteer work.
- ✓ Sustain daily nutritional needs as recipients of the senior food box program, CSFP box program, holiday food distributions and grocery services for homebound individuals
- ✓ Housing stability for unsheltered or soon to be unsheltered seniors

Motion to approve made by Denny Pilant. Seconded by Joyce Munden. Motion carried with a vote of 6 for and 1 against.

Presentation: Gillioz Center for Arts & Entertainment – Samantha Steury

Amount Requested 51,000.00. Gillioz Movie Matinees will continue in 2025. Initially, they found that the largest barriers to participation by seniors in this programming were two-fold: cost and transportation. Efforts to address these barriers in the previous year's Matinee Series included seeking financial aid such as the amount granted by GCSCSF and working with numerous partners in our community. They have experienced consistent growth through the series, seeing patrons all across Greene County and surrounding counties coming from independent homes and communities. This year, in addition to the support sought after through Greene and Christian County Senior funds, they have secured funding to provide the seniors outside of Greene and Christian County with combo tickets at no charge to the individuals. With the funding requested today, they will be able to enhance the quality of life and personal health of 4,500 Greene County seniors over an entire year. Additionally, we are able to increase and focus our marketing efforts to contribute to as many Greene County patrons as possible.

With a diverse range of programming, there is always something of interest on the calendar for the seniors, but nothing specifically targeted for them until we began this series, which has become an annual series. The United State Census reports that in Greene County alone, there are roughly 53,000 senior citizens. The Gillioz Theater exists to provide entertainment and services to Greene County residents, including the senior demographic. The number of senior citizens that we specifically service in a year varies due to programming at the Theatre.

Motion to approve an amended amount of \$28,000.00 was made by Mike Jungers. Seconded by Joyce Munden. Motion did not pass.

A second Motion to approve an amended amount of \$40,000.00 was made by Denny Pilant. Seconded by Joyce Munden. Motion carried to approve \$40,000.00

Presentation: Fair Grove Senior Center – Marilyn Meals

Amount Requested \$2,185.00 – additional funding. Requesting funds for a one-time grant to place a water temperature booster in the dish washing station. The conventional water heater usually provides the hot water needed. However, they often have a high-volume day which puts a strain on the system. Experienced dishwashers keep an eye on the temperature gauge and are forced to pause when the water temperature drops below 140 degrees, this causes a backlog of dishes.

Motion to approve was made by Denny Pilant. Seconded by Mary Ellison. Motion carried.

Presentation: Ozarks Area Community Action Corporation (OACAC) – Bill Bell

Amount Requested \$85,000.00. Funds will be used to improve the quality of life of Greene County residents, age sixty plus.

- ✓ Home Care – eligible expenses include home repairs, rent, mortgage, homeowners' insurance, appliances, disability accessibility improvements, auto repairs, medical, dental and vision expenditures, household cleaning supplies and needed furniture.
- ✓ Staffing and personnel – a small portion of the grant will be used to pay wages and fringe for the OACAC staff administering this grant.

The OACAC Greene County Center provides assistance to individuals and families living at or below 200% of poverty. It is not uncommon for the Greene County Center to receive 80+ calls per week from people requesting assistance with rent, utilities and other services. While the center is able to provide help to many, funds for assistance with basic needs are dependent upon donations, fundraisers, and grants such as the Greene County Senior Citizens' Fund. When the center cannot provide assistance, referrals are made to other community agencies that may be able to help. This project will work locally to assist Greene County seniors in meeting their immediate needs, as related to home care. Based on the amount requested, it is estimated that 130 – 150 seniors residing in Greene County will receive financial assistance during the grant cycle. Many of those seniors may also benefit from other OACAC services.

Motion to approve made by Joyce Munden. Seconded by Mike Jungers. Motion carried.

Presentation: Fair Grove Senior Center – Food Enhancement Request

Amount requested \$8,000.00. The goal is to provide a social gathering place and provide meals as well as food pantry items to promote adequate nutrition for senior citizens. It is the objective to adjust and adapt services as the needs of the seniors change.

Motion to approve was made by Mike Jungers. Seconded by Denny Pilant. Motion carried.

Presentation: The Strafford Senior Center – Food Enhancement Request

Amount requested \$10,500.00. The goal is to help seniors in the area to receive a nutritious meal while talking with family and friends as well as educational information. They provide an in-center meal and frozen meals to in-home diners Monday through Friday to seniors in the Strafford area. They want to make the meals they serve great by adding special touches, preparing a special menu for the day or vegetables and fruits for the salad bar.

A motion to amend the amount to \$8,000.00 was made by Stephen Short. Seconded by Robert Thurman. Motion failed with a vote of 5 against and 2 for.

Motion to approve \$10,500.00 was made by Mike Jungers. Seconded by Denny Pilant. Motion for the original amount carried.

Presentation: Republic Friendship Senior Center/Gerry Pool Senior Friendship Center – Food Enhancement Request

Amount Requested \$8,000.00. The Republic Senior Center is a community-based facility that provides a variety of services and programs to support older adults in the area. It is the purpose to improve the quality of life for seniors by offering resources such as nutritional meals, social activities, education workshops, fitness classes and health screenings. It may also serve as a gathering place where seniors can connect with others, receive assistance with daily living needs and get information about available community resources. It is the Centers goal to provide the best possible service to the senior population.

Motion to approve was made by Joyce Munden. Seconded by Mary Ellison. Motion carried.

Communication:

10:40 A.M. Stephen Short moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mike Jungers. Motion Carried.

Next meeting April 28, 2025 – Location: Historic Courthouse, Room 309. If additional people are in attendance, a waiting area with appropriate social distancing will be available.

Minutes submitted by: Deborah Allen