Silverton Area Seniors Inc. / Silverton Senior Center Board Work Session, Sept. 27, 2023 FINAL COPY

The meeting was called to order at 1:04 pm by Jenny Ohren, president.

1) Welcome and Introductions

The Board members present were Jenny Ohren, Terry Brandon, Connie Barkley, Dian Forster, and Joanne Pfau. Also representing the Center were Dodie Brockamp (director) and Larry Ferguson (bookkeeper).

Guests present were Diane Stone, Steve Rasmussen, Josh Lowell (PGE), Aaron Eddy (Earthlight Technologies), and Linda Gesler.

2) Open forum for non-agenda items

Dodie reported that it was discovered that the Solar panels have been unplugged and not delivering power. We do not how or when they were disconnected. Also, the city is currently here to work on the lights, some of which are not working.

Connie Barkley has the application of the Mount Angel Oktoberfest grant. She is applying for a grant for programs and classes.

3) Aaron Eddy from Earthlight Technologies

Aaron Eddy said his company charges \$350/hr for first hour for checking out solar panel systems. He would need to create a new price structure for maintenance because of the small size of the system at the Senior Center. At \$350 it would not be cost effective for us to maintain the system because the impact to our power cost would be less than the cost of maintenance.

4) Josh Lowell from PGE

Josh Lowell spoke about energy efficiency and Energy Trust programs. He said that PGE delivers service to the meter outside. Contractors are needed to find any possible issues with the heating/cooling system or electrical issues within the building. This is a city-owned building so the city would have to find and fix any issues with the heating/cooling system.

Josh Lowell explained how Smart thermostats would help. They would better manage the temperature settings to optimize efficiency. There is a PGE program that would make smart thermostats more affordable. They would cost \$60 per thermostat, and this price would include the installation. The Center has five thermostats.

Josh Lowell also said there is a program to change lighting at no cost. They do not change the fixtures, but they change the light bulbs to energy efficient bulbs. For fluorescent lights they will retro-fit the existing fixtures and install new energy efficient bulbs. The new light bulbs will use one third of the energy that the existing lights use. The time to get new light bulbs is around three months. The time to get new thermostats is about three weeks.

The board agreed to change the lights and get Smart thermostats under these programs. The board needs to contact the city to notify them of our intent to make these changes.

Dodie said that homeless persons are using the outside outlets to charge their phones and other items. There is a city ordinance which allows this to happen because this is a public building. The city is looking at changing this ordinance.

5) Credit Card

Jenny is getting a credit card for the Center's account so she also can make purchases. Dodie plans to take her name off the credit card within the next week.

6) Letter final revision

Dodie suggested that we send the letter requesting support as a 'Letter to the Editor' to the local newspapers. There were some revisions made to the letter in regards to ReVamp. A mailing to Silverton and surrounding areas was discussed. The cost of the mailing was compared to putting it as an ad in OurTown. Steve Rasmussen will check on the cost of a half-page ad.

- 7) Membership committee (renewal and new) Little Green Light training Training on Little Green Light data base program will be tomorrow, September 28, 2023 for Board members and front desk volunteers.
- 8) City of Silverton Contract review

 The lease agreement runs until December, 2023.

9) Additional items

Also discussed were the classes being offered. We need a separate sign-in for attendees for classes in addition to signing in at the front desk. Also, we need to address the payment for classes and potential of charging attendees for taking classes.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:55 pm by Jenny Ohren.

Respectfully submitted,

Joanne Pfau (secretary)