



**SALINE AREA SENIOR COUNCIL, INC.**  
**Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, May 20, 2024**

Meeting began at 9:07am

**Roll Call:** President, Cindy Sobotta; Vice President, Kathy Lawless; Treasurer, Mark Sockness. Secretary, Cora Rogers  
Member at Large, Sue Kelch; Community Ed Director, Brian Puffer; City of Saline, Jack Ceo; and Director, Nancy Cowan

**Minutes of Previous Meeting:** Motion made to accept minutes as presented, carried unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** All looks on track with the budget. SASC will end up with positive cost recovery this year. CARES funds and interest from CD's are helping keep us on a positive track.

It was noted that our accounting firm that has been doing taxes for us the last 8+ years, is no longer going to be providing services to non-profit organizations. Nancy was abruptly notified of this in late Feb/early March when inquiring about another financial matter. This was surprising as SASC has not received any other communications that the firm would no longer be working with non-profits due to staffing and their knowledge base. An extension was not filed by the firm like common practice had been in the years prior. Therefore, 990 tax filings are behind currently. Nancy has secured another firm, Altruic Advisors, out of Plymouth, MI, to complete the process. The firm will complete SASC 990 Forms and assist in helping to waive any possible fees. The firm is also utilized by other local non-profit organizations and comes highly recommended.

Mark and Nancy reviewed the proposed budget for 2024-25. Nancy worked on the budget but will review it more with Mark in the weeks to come. There are some unknowns due to the bond construction which has been moved up to spring/summer of 2025, such as: if SASC will be able to operate all the way through construction in the current space (not sure that is possible), if not, where would we move, costs involved with the move, storage, etc. Otherwise the budget is pretty standard for SASC. There was discussion and review about staff contracts. The board will meet further in some working meetings to review staff steps and contracts, to be finalized early June. Brian, Mark, and Cindy will help lead that process.

**Director's Report:** (Nancy)

The bag and jewelry sale was successful at the end of April. The next one will be in November.

SASC had a good crowd at the first open mic night in early May – about 10 performers and many in attendance to watch and listen. Another one will be planned this fall.

Board nomination process was reviewed again. The Board nomination process is in the newsletter for the open positions this year - VP, Secretary and Member at Large. Kathy and Cora are termed out, Sue is able to run again. The dates for nomination are May 15-24.

Nancy reviewed other activities that have been taking place and trips. Membership is looking strong and we are seeing many members return from their winter travels.

Staff is working on the Jul/Aug Newsletter now.

### **Bond Update**

Nancy provided an update via Congress Member Debbie Dingell's Office that guidelines for funding are out for the year and it is the first-time non-profits are unable to submit community projects. Her office is disappointed, as are we, but stated they would be willing to write letters of support if we were to seek other funding opportunities for a gym/multi-use space in the future. Nancy stated this is something that can be discussed more in the future too, as the bond was approved for 10 years, therefore the pricing we received on the space would/should stay the same and be possible through the same architects through that timeframe. Nancy also spoke about such a space needed at least restrooms and water for such a space too, which was not figured into the drawings we have. The architects are supposed to be working on some updated drawings and costs for that.

Kingscott (the architect of the project) is working on updated drafts/drawings of the project. The goal would then be to have some membership/input meetings this summer.

As noted before, the membership is not yet aware of the change in funding of the Bond. Dr. Laatsch (Superintendent of Saline Schools), has agreed to address the membership regarding the changes at the Jun 19 GM Meeting/Social, Mayor's Conference in August, and information will be published in the Jul/Aug Newsletter. Nancy has not yet been provided with an updated cost sheet of what SASC will receive but has been told it will be about 3.2 million dollars. Note that the original SASC Bond Sheet stated funding would be 4.48 million dollars for SASC, and that was the staff understanding as well from meetings with David Raft and Anna Britnell, the leaders of the Bond to SASC when it was first being set into motion. In Fall of 2023 Nancy and Mark were told by the core bond committee that funding would be about 2.2 million for SASC; per their opinion the 4.48 million on the bond sheet was intended to be split between SASC, Cosmetology, and STEAM. SASC's opposition to this change was communicated in many ways and SASC has worked to try to deliver what was promised. Via a recent meeting Nancy had with Dr. Laatsch, SASC's portion of the funding will like be about 3.2 million, and will be for SASC and Cosmetology. There was more discussion on this and the Board thank Nancy for her advocacy and professionalism on the matter.

**Board Comments:** Brian Puffer noted the last day of school is June 6.

Motion to close meeting at 9:56am.

Minutes submitted by Cora Rogers, Secretary