



Application
For Cities
Wisconsin

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Brillion Housing Authority receives \$2.4 million stimulus grant to refurbish Heritage Apartments senior housing facility

The Post-Crescent

BRILLION — Work is scheduled to begin today on a \$2.4 million project to remodel Heritage Apartments, a housing complex for low-income senior citizens and disabled residents.

A stimulus grant to the Brillion Housing Authority was finalized recently — about 1½ years after the project was approved for federal funding.

Marlis Trochta, executive director of the Brillion Housing Authority, is relieved funding is finally in place for the refurbishing project to proceed. A preconstruction meeting was held with representatives from McGann Construction in Madison, a firm that specializes in multifamily/senior housing structures and senior care/assisted living projects.

"Everybody's very happy that we finally got it," Trochta said. "It was a long road to get here, but we finally see the light at the end of the tunnel."

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The project, which is expected to take nine months to complete, involves remodeling the building's interior, including the facility's 23 apartments. Upgrades will be made to the laundry facilities, beauty shop and office area, and an exercise facility and computer room for residents will be added.

Other improvements will include a large commons area with an updated kitchen; an extended canopy at the front of the building to improve conditions for loading and unloading residents from cars; replacement of all windows and carpeting; installation of central air conditioning; and the addition of a conference room to serve as a

meeting space for residents and their families.

Trochta said one of the unique features of the project is the installation of an underground geothermal field to reduce the use of natural gas to heat the facility in the winter and the use of electricity in the summer to cool the building.

In addition, solar panels will be installed on the roof to help the facility generate electricity and to provide hot water for the building.

Federal financing for the project was originally approved in the summer of 2008, but the source of the funding dried up and the declining economy resulted in the project's delay.

The Brillion Housing Authority resubmitted the project for funding last year after Congress approved the stimulus funding program.

Additional Facts

Apartments available

The Brillion Housing Authority has eight rooms available for rent at Heritage Apartments, 108 W. National Ave., Brillion. The apartments will be available once the refurbishing project is completed. Residents who would like to be placed on the waiting list for an apartment should call Marlis Trochta, executive director of the Brillion Housing Authority, at 920-756-3041.
