



COUNCIL ON AGING ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
Wednesday, April 19, 2017

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chair Pam Strom at the Rock County Council on Aging, 3328 US Highway 51 North, Janesville, Wisconsin.

Approval of Agenda: A motion to approve the agenda was made by Jean Boyle, seconded by Sonja Heiser. Motion carried.

Roll Call:

Present: Nancy Arnold, Jean Boyle, Jim Farrell, Sonja Heiser, Suzanne Rasmussen, Jenny Schmidt, Cherie Scholz-Baker, Peg Slaback, Pam Strom, Aaron Thomas (at 9:25 a.m.), Chuck Wilson

Excused: Dawn Fossum, Jo Ann Koltyk, Char Lezvow, Supervisor Norvain Pleasant

Staff: Joyce Lubben, Lachel Fowler, Ryan Booth, Julie Seeman, Lisa Lucas, Steve Skelly

Introduction of Visitors: Also present was Ellen Wiegand, Beloit Meals on Wheels.

Approval of February 15, 2017 Advisory Board Minutes: A motion was made by Peg Slaback, seconded by Jean Boyle, to approve the February 15, 2017 minutes. Motion carried.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: Congratulations went to Jim Farrell for winning a seat on the Janesville City Council. Ellen Wiegand shared the latest newsletter from Beloit Meals on Wheels. Their volunteer luncheon will be held next week. In 2016 they had 570 volunteers serve that agency.

Staff Report:

Benefit Specialist Report: Lachel Fowler reported she is now a trained leader for Living Well with Chronic Conditions. Her Lighten Up! workshop is starting today with 11 enrollees. Ms. Fowler also shared the first quarter statistics:

| | Calls | Hours |
|-------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Health Insurance Benefits | 257 | 124 |
| Income Benefits | 51 | 17 |
| Community Services & Supports | 5 | 1 |
| Housing & Utilities | 262 | 164 |
| Consumer Issues | 1 | 1 |
| Surrogate Decision Making | 5 | 1 |
| Other | 131 | 21 |

Mobility Management Report: Ryan Booth reported he has mailed introduction letters to the senior housing units. He has attended several workshops, including motivational interviewing, and attended the WAMM/WRAPP conference. Mr. Booth is now a certified AARP Smart Driver Instructor. He has met with staff from St. Mary's to discuss a "Walk with the Doc" program. It would likely be adapted to utilize different areas of healthcare instead of just cardiac care. The Wednesday Walks start in June. He has conducted three travel training sessions and presented at the Willard Haus and Cedar Crest on services of Janesville Transit System.

Family Caregiver Report: Julie Seeman reported that the Wisconsin Women's Council chose to highlight caregiver issues in Beloit by putting ads on three of the city bus routes, including the Janesville/Beloit Express. She is serving 30 families through the AFCSP which now has a waiting list. There are 35 families served through NFCSP. She will be attending the Alzheimer's conference in May. The Hedberg Library project is coming along and will hopefully be ready in May or June.

Health Promotion Report: Lisa Lucas stated that the Lighten Up! and Stepping On workshops have been relatively easy to fill. Healthy Eating, Powerful Tools and Living Well have been more difficult. She is working with pharmacists and clinics to enlist their help in promoting the programs. Ads will be running in the Janesville Gazette. Ms. Lucas mailed 250 letters to potential community partners and she is available to speak to groups to promote the workshops. Ms. Lucas is now a trained leader for Stepping On, Powerful Tools and Living Well.

Transportation Update: Steve Skelly reported that Rock County transit is now running 8-9 vehicles each day. There may be an opportunity to purchase a new vehicle that would accommodate a wider lift as the vehicle that is used now has an airbag recall, restricting its use.

New Business:

Legislative/Advocacy Update: Joyce Lubben announced that this is Healthcare Decision Week as it's important for everyone to have an active Power of Attorney for Healthcare. Transportation has now been pulled out of the Governor's budget so we need to advocate for the 2% increase in s.85.21 funds be restored. GWAAR staff reminded aging unit directors that Older Americans Act funds are the only federal funds that "require a mandate and provide a gift to advocate for older adults." Information was shared on the 2017 Aging Advocacy Day to be held on May 17, 2017 as well as a position paper on Dementia Care Specialist Programming.

Reports:

County Board of Supervisors: No report.

ADRC of Rock County: No report.

Items for Future Agendas: Joyce Lubben stated that Bob Borremans, a new member of the advisory board for the Wisconsin Bureau on Aging and Disability Resources will attend to learn more about the aging unit. Also, it is hoped that we will have information on the newest county health rankings.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Nancy Arnold, seconded by Cherie Scholz-Baker, to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:03 a.m.