



COUNCIL ON AGING ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES
Wednesday November 18, 2020, 9:00 a.m.

Call to Order: The meeting of the Council on Aging Advisory Board was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Jean Boyle. All present were participating via ZOOM or the telephone.

Approval of Agenda: A motion was made by Sue McGinniss and seconded by Janice Turner to approve the agenda. Janet Smith did ask if an item had to be on the agenda to be discussed. Paula said it would go under new business and Randy Terronez clarified that in New Business, it could be requested it be added to future agenda to be discussed, because we would have to give the public notice that a topic is being discussed.

Roll Call: all present except Mark Richardson who is excused

Present: Janet Smith, Janice Turner, Patricia Burhans, Vicky Gobel, Rena Dewar, Tom Brien, Karen Ferguson, Jean Boyle, Vicky O'Donnell, Debbie Kraus, Sherril Gilbertson, Jack Kooyman, Sue McGinniss

Excused: Mark Richardson

Unexcused: none

Staff Present: Paula Schutt, Lisa Messer, Ryan Booth, Lachel Fowler, Julie Seeman

Introduction of Visitors: Pam Bostwick, Randy Terronez

Approval of October 21, 2020 Advisory Board Minutes: A motion was made by Tom Brien and seconded by Karen Ferguson to approve the minutes with the correction of two typos noted.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: none

Staff Reports:

Director – Paula announced that the specialized transit drivers would be transitioning to County employees as of January 1, 2021. We have hired all of our Manpower drivers that have applied and we will have six full time positions and 13 part time. Paula has been exploring the possibility of our drivers being tested for COVID due to requests from nursing homes. At this point it would be too big of strain on the budget to have this done. After conferring with HR and Corp Counsel, it has been decided to just redirect all extra efforts into cleaning and sanitizing buses and paying close attention to the ongoing health of the drivers. Paula will be sending a letter to all of the nursing homes explaining Rock County Transit's procedure. Rena Dewar said her employer has each employee go through a daily Health Check when reporting to work. Paula explained that because most of the drivers do not report to the office when beginning work, it would be difficult to follow this procedure. Ryan explained that we have been very proactive with the driver's health and safety, as well as the passenger's safety and we would continue this. He said as of yet, we have not had a driver that has tested positive for Covid. Paula mentioned she had thought of putting air

purifiers on the vans, but there is no place to plug them in. Ryan reported that he has asked the maintenance people to change cabin filters each time they do an oil change. Janice asked how many riders are allowed on the vans at one time. Ryan answered that it was up to 4, but staff worked to make it less than that and keep them separated. No one sits behind the driver. All passengers are required to wear masks, if they have no disabilities that would prohibit it. Pat Burhans asked Ryan if he found he was having to turn down people to maintain a small number on the vans. Ryan said he was not. Sue McGinniss asked if we go back to Phase 1 does what we are doing now meet Phase 1 requirements. Ryan explained that it did and explained how we prioritize riding needs for clients.

Elder Benefit Specialist - It is Lachels busy time of year. Ran her number from beginning of open enrollment until today's date and compared it to last year. She is right on track. Last year at this time she had processed 265 open enrollments and 10 senior care applications. This year, so far she has done 271 and 6 senior care enrollments. She received a thank you note from a client and said the on-line method worked well for them.

Mobility Management – Jennifer reported on her programs this summer. She explained Cycling without Age. It is an international program to provide bike rides for anyone who is not able to ride one. Last year, Cycling without Age was in its first year and did requests only. This year we partnered with City of Janesville Rec Dept. They allowed us to store the Tri Shaw at Palmer Park and she gave rides each Friday. On paper it looked great but in reality, it was hit or miss. She also worked with Janesville Senior Center and took reservations. Total participation last year was 54, this year the total was 84. Wednesday Walks showed an increase as well. Last year she had 164 participants and this year 196. Even with COVID, there was an increase. Everything offered was outside. Everyone seemed to enjoy the programs this year. Jean and Janice gave a review of how much fun each program was.

Transportation Supervisor – Our trips for October average about 76 trips a day with average of 6.5 buses. Sue McGinniss did a shout out to Ryan for help with a family member.

Caregiver Specialist – Julie had a report she gave to Paula as she was on a Zoom meeting. October was National Family Caregiver Month and each day on Face Book there was a post concerning Family Caregiving from COA. She has two virtual workshops for Caregivers on Dec. 3 and 4. That she is partnering with Cori Marsh from the ADRC on. She is also working with National Family Caregiver Support Program and Alzheimer's Family Support Givers program families so they can spend their allotted funding before the end of the year. She is also preparing the AFCSP budget for 2021. She continues her virtual workshops Joyful Moments and Armchair Traveling. Lachel announced that Julie just got her Recognition for 30 years of service to the County.

Health Promotion Coordinator - Has been entering end of year data into SAMS software. She reported on the Diversity Training she participated in. She had 6 people with the Powerful Tools Class. In person class for Healthy Eating had a small number but it was successful. Six people participating in Eat Smart, Move More, Weigh Less. Sherill Gilbertson reported she is taking the class and it is very enlightening. Jean said she is participating as well. The Stand Up Move More research group has to resubmit grant to see if they could do it online. Mind Over Matter has 4 people participating from Green County. One person from Waukesha County is participating in Living Well with Chronic Conditions. Lighten Up will not be offered in 2021, but they are resubmitting the grant and hope to be able to offer it in late 2021 or early 2022. Lisa has been able to partner with other counties for leaders and offering workshops. She would also like to thank Debbie Kraus for all the referrals she has sent our way.

New Business

Nominations. Paula explained Jean's second term is ending. Vicky O'Donnell and Janice Turner will both continue for a second term. Bob Borreman has stepped down, which leaves us two spots to fill.

Jeff Didelot introduced himself. He is a board candidate as well as a volunteer driver for home delivered meals. He has been an HR leader for 25 years. He drives 3 -5 days a week. He has been in Wellness Programs for Corporate for many years.

Jean opened the floor for nominations and Jeff was nominated with a motion by Jack Kooyman and seconded by Janice Turner. The vote passed unanimously.

Suggestions to Improvements for Board meetings – Janet Smith said she would like to review aging goals on a regular basis. Jean Boyle would like to have a short “teaching topic” each month or have program participants speak. Janice Turner would like to hear about how we go about getting grant money. She feels to continue growing our programs, we need to keep applying for funding.

Old Business

Training for board members was discussed and it was decided that Paula will set a date in January for a zoom meeting.

Discussion on Josh Smith's memo from October meeting. Janice gave a recap of the EVAS meeting when she presented her statement which was listed under Citizen Comments. Randy Terronez said that at the next EVAS meeting there will be a full discussion on the topic. Jean asked if the December meeting would include a vote for or against integration. Randy answered that Josh had indicated that most likely there would be a resolution presented sometime in the December to January time frame.

Jean asked if all board members felt there should be a statement from the board. After a discussion it was decided that the board would hold a special meeting where there would be a decision on making a formal statement. A motion was made by Sue McGinniss and seconded by Pat Burhans. To hold a special meeting on December 2 at 9 a.m.

Board Membership Report Reports:

County Board of Supervisors, Tom Brien: Work on new facility is moving along well. JP Cullen is the contractor.

ADRC of Rock County, Vicky O'Donnell: no report

Adjournment: A motion was made by Pat Burhans and seconded by Tom Brien to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. *Minutes not official until approved by the Council on Aging Advisory Board.*