

Council on Aging Board Minutes

Wednesday, October 16, 2013

Call to Order: Chair Marti Everts called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Approval of Agenda: A motion to approve the agenda was made by Ronnie Thomas, seconded by Janet Kopp. Motion carried.

Introduction of New Member: None

Roll Call:

Present: Nancy Arnold, Marti Everts, Dawn Fossum, Sonja Heiser, Janet Kopp, Daryl Porter, Mike Santucci, Peg Slaback, Diane Tester, Ronnie Thomas, Supervisor Terry Thomas

Excused: Terry Burrington, Nancy Flood, Char Levzow, Hjordis Olson

Staff Present: Joyce Lubben, Julie Seeman, Justin Svingen, Linda Mather

Introduction of Visitors: Marcy Berner-Reedy was present.

Citizen Participation, Communications, and Announcements: Ronnie Thomas shared information on the Fill a Freezer sale.

Approval of August 21, 2013 CoA Board Minutes: A motion was made by Diane Tester seconded by Daryl Porter to approve the minutes of the July 17, 2013 meeting. Motion carried.

Staff Report:

Family Caregiver Marketing Assistance: Julie Seeman introduced Linda Mather who is working with the National Family Caregiver Support Program. She is reaching out to businesses to educate them on employee caregiver issues.

Rock County Senior Fair: Julie Seeman stated that there are 85 vendors for the Senior Fair. She thanked those who are volunteering at the fair as the event is very dependent on volunteers.

National Family Caregiver Month: Julie Seeman shared the plaque presented by the County Board of Supervisors in recognition of National Family Caregivers Month. There will be state-wide ads running this month regarding caregivers and the work they do. The library system is putting together a section on caregiver resources.

Newspaper Articles: Julie Seeman stated that there is always a need for articles for the Senior Review. They need to be submitted to Ms. Seeman by the 5th of the preceding month they are to be in the newspaper.

MTM Transportation: Justin Svingen provided a status update on MTM Transportation, the Medicaid transportation broker. He also provided the process for consumer complaints.

Elder Benefit Specialist Position: Joyce Lubben reported that Terri Pass has left the Council on Aging to become a Disability Benefit Specialist for the ADRC. Lachel Fowler has been hired as the new Elder Benefit Specialist and will start her duties on Monday, October 28, 2013.

SitLess Research Project: Joyce Lubben reported that, while the original grant application was not funded, the Council on Aging has been awarded funds to conduct a research project with the University of Wisconsin Medical School. The project will evaluate the health benefits of having people just sit less than they normally would. The project must be completed by the end of December 2013.

Old Business:

Long Term Care Workshop: Joyce Lubben stated that a date has been scheduled for this workshop. It will be held on Tuesday, January 21, 2014. There was discussion on possible locations for the workshop.

Reports:

County Board of Supervisors: Supervisor Terry Thomas thanked committee members for their cards and prayers during his surgery and recovery. He stated that the ADRC had their first advisory committee meeting. They will meet quarterly. The 2014 Recommended County Budget has been presented to the County Board. The Human Services Department is planning for consolidation of some divisions. The public hearing on the 2014 county budget will be held on November 6, 2013.

ADRC: Dawn Fossum stated that they are up to around 400 calls per month. Two Disability Benefit Specialists have been hired and will be taking appointments by the end of October. From July through September that ADRC received 120 calls for abuse/neglect.

Long Term Support Committee: Mike Santucci provided year-to-date data on persons served through Long Term Support. Almost everyone has been removed from the wait list, however there continues to be an extensive wait list for CBRF facilities.

Items for Future Discussion: Joyce Lubben stated that the by-laws required election of officers for the next year to be held in November.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Nancy Arnold, seconded by Janet Kopp to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:54 a.m.

Minutes not official until approved by the Council on Aging Advisory Board.