

**Advisory Council for Greene County Department for the Aging**  
**June 14, 2022 @ 2:00 – In person with option to join via Zoom**

**PERSON CONDUCTING MEETING:** Dick Golden

**RECORDER:** Katy Drake/Consultant\*

**ATTENDANCE:** Chair Dick Golden, Lula Anderson, Ernie Armstead, Connie Bentley (staff), Ed Bloomer\*, Lynn Brunner, Bea Clappin \*, Don Crespino, Judy LoPresti, Tyler Lynch\*(guest), Charlene Mabey, Florence Ohle\*, Dottie True, Vice Chair Linda Van Etten and Dawn Wallant\*

\* = **Zoom**

**ABSENT/EXCUSED:** Ken Brooks, Michelle Deyo, Kendra Huber (guest), Larry Krajieski, Beverly Meyers, Lillian Moore, Jeffrey Ruso

With 13 members present, plus one guest and one staff, a quorum was available.

The meeting opened at 2:00 with roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/INFORMATION	PERSONAL RESPONSIBLE	DUE	DONE
<b>Review of Previous Minutes</b>	The May 10, 2022 meeting minutes were approved.	Judy made a motion to approve. Lula seconded the motion. Minutes approved with all in favor.			<b>X</b>
<b>REPORTS &amp; UPDATES:</b>					
<b>Aging Services- Report by Connie Bentley</b>	Connie Bentley covered new staff training, ElliQ, volunteer management & recruitment, and Senior Day.	<p>Connie shared the focus on training new staff, especially in the area of the computer programs. Long term staff have started attending conferences again-learning and networking.</p> <p>Connie provided information on the Case Management Training Courses required by NYSOFA. Staff are participating in the 16 – 20-hour program through online training.</p> <p>Connie reported that the new staff are doing well.</p>			

<p><b>Volunteer Services</b></p>	<p>Connie presented information from Ruth Pforte on Volunteer Services.</p> <p>ElliQ</p> <p>Senior Day Cancelled</p>	<p>For Medical Transportation, there are 17 volunteer drivers that cover 9 parts of the county. Greene County has 277 active clients for medical transportation with 120 round trips averaged each month.</p> <p>Due to gas price increases, the reimbursement rate for volunteers is in the process of being increased to 62 cents/mile. Gas prices are a challenge for volunteers. Connie shared that recruitment for volunteers will be done at the Music in the Park Concerts in various towns and through teller cards in the bank and post offices. Sending out volunteer requests &amp; information through State Telephone was also recommended. OFA will have a booth at the Greene County Youth Fair to attract volunteers as well.</p> <p>A training will be held on July 14<sup>th</sup> for all Meal Delivery Volunteers.</p> <p>Connie shared a brief overview of ElliQ.</p> <p>Senior Day has been cancelled for 2022 due to the turnover of a Director and the focus on training for all the new staff recently hired.</p>	<p>The Board requested Connie arrange a demonstration or presentation on ElliQ for the next meeting.</p> <p>Senior Day will be planned for 2023.</p>		
----------------------------------	--	--	--	--	--

<p><b>Nutrition Services</b></p>		<p>Connie reported that Tezera has returned to Jewett to cover vacancies. The staff movement to cover vacancies between centers was shared. Staff are assisting with Home Delivered Meals.</p>	<p>Judy will do a write up for the Daily Mail Senior Section on the benefits of being a volunteer.</p>		
<p><b>Interim Directors Report</b></p>	<p><b>Katy Drake</b> shared <b>Ken Brooks'</b> report.</p>				
<p><b>Finance/Transportation/ Senior Angel/Helping Hands</b></p>	<p>Ken's Retirement &amp; Replacement</p>	<p>Ken reported that his retirement date has been set for March 23, 2023. He has been given permission to start training his replacement- Tami Bone. Current training is 5 hours a week. As of August 1, training will increase to 15 – 20 hours per week. This allotted training time is very unusual for the county and speaks to the depth and breadth of Ken's position. Ken reported Tami is doing a great job.</p>			
	<p>Annual Budget</p>	<p>Connie passed out the budget. The Board was asked to review lines 12, 13 &amp; 14 with specifics provide on those lines. It was noted the county match should be only 10 – 25 %, but on most grants the match is over 50%.</p> <p>As the budget is complicated, Ken has offered to return after retirement to help as needed.</p>	<p>As there were specific questions on the budget, the Chair asked that it be on the agenda for the September meeting so Ken can walk the Board through the Budget and answer questions.</p>		
	<p><b>Good News! \$75,000 donation to Greene OFA.</b></p>	<p>Mr. Randall Fried, owner/founder of Curton Industries, left the Greene</p>	<p>More discussions will be held when</p>		



## **Council Member Announcements & Updates**

Lula shared information on trips, meetings, crafting and the Spring Fling.

Ernie wished everyone a safe and happy summer. Ernie started a discussion on cooling centers in Greene County and questioned if the Catskill center could be open if needed on hot days. Ernie suggested that information on cooling be added to the Roundtable News.

Florence shared information on CAGC's cooling program. It was suggested that DSS can be contacted for an A/C. It was noted that Senior Angels can also help with cooling options. Helping Hands can help install a/c, screens, and fans.

Lynn shared information on the Father's Day celebration being planned in Athens.

Don provided updated information for Greene Transit, noting routes are currently modified due to a shortage of drivers. Don reminded the Board to share the information that seniors and vets ride for free. Don is interested in a list of Senior Centers so that he can set up visits to talk about Greene Transit options and travel training for those unfamiliar with public transportation.

Dick shared that the Helping Hands Program is going well with a great response from volunteers. Calls right now are for windows open and screens & fans in.

Judy shared information on Companion Services.

Florence discussed the challenges with Free Farm Stand Tuesday. Unfortunately, produce has not been available, so the event has been cancelled most weeks. When open, Free Farm Stand Tuesday has generated a great turn out.

Dottie reported that the Cairo Town Park has been re-paved and senior exercise and recreational equipment (chess, shuffle board, etc.) is in place. Dottie asked the Board's opinion on how to best spend \$4,000 available to seniors—additional equipment for the park or year-round equipment for the center? The Board felt seniors were more likely to use the recreational equipment at the center.

Linda shared thoughts on reinvesting the \$75,000 donated to support volunteers (gas cards).

Dawn shared information on an upcoming Court sponsored training for volunteers on mediation.

Meeting ended at 2:58. Notes respectfully submitted, Katy Drake

Next meeting – July 12, 2022 @ 12:00 Picnic- Please RSVP to Ruth Pforte

Notes approved by Board at September 13, 2022 with a quorum present.