Advisory Council for Greene County Department for the Aging June 13, 2023 @ 2:00 – In person with option to join via Zoom

PERSON CONDUCTING MEETING: Dick Golden RECORDER: Katy Drake/Consultant

ATTENDANCE: Chair Dick Golden, Ernie Armstead, Ed Bloomer, Tami Bone (staff), Lynn Brunner, Don Crespino, Kendra Huber, Tyler Lynch

(guest), Stephanie Schleuderer (staff), Dottie True, Vice Chair Linda Van Etten and Molly Whitbeck * = **Zoom**

GUESTS: Ann Krieg*/DSS, Ruth Pforte, Michael Pirrone and Ken Brooks

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Lula Anderson, Michelle Deyo, Judy LoPresti, Charlene Mabey, Beverly Meyers, Lillian Moore, Florence Ohle, Jeff Ruso and Dawn Wallant

With 9 members present, plus 4 staff, the consultant and 2 guests, a quorum was available.

The Chair opened the meeting at 2:00 with roll call and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Guest Michael Pirrone, representing the Greene Aging Services Foundation, was welcomed.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/INFORMATION	PERSONAL RESPONSIBLE	DUE	DONE
Review of Previous Minutes	The May 9, 2023, meeting minutes were approved as written.	Ed made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Ernie seconded the motion. Minutes approved with all in favor.			X
AGING SERVICES	Tami Bone opened the meeting by bringing animatronic pets in for a demonstration.	The animatronic pets—dog, cat and bird—are part of an initiative by NYSOFA to combat loneliness in Seniors. Greene County DHS has received a shipment of these pets, which can be provided to seniors in the county for free.	of Human Services if you know a senior who may be interested in		
DIRECTOR'S REPORT		Stephanie shared information on staffing. The new Case Manager has jumped right in. Greene currently has no wait list for Case Management Services. Bingo-cize at the centers is going well.			

		The dept is fully staffed at this time.		
	Colonie Bus Trip	Stephanie shared that the Colonie Bus trip is full and the next trip has been planned for July 17 th		
	Senior Day has been planned for Friday, September 22 @ the Point.	Staff will report at 9:00 for set up. The event will open at 12:00 with lunch served at 12:30. The event will close at 3:00, with staff working clean up until 5:00.		
	Greene County Youth Fair	This year's youth fair will open on July 27 th . Please join us!		
Nutrition	Stephanie shared an update on the Farmer's Market Coupons.	Coupons can be picked up at the Senior Centers or at the DHS office.		
	SNAP Shopping Bags	Stephanie and Tami are visiting all the Senior Centers. Tami offered all Board members canvas shopping bags.		
Volunteer Services	Stephanie and Ruth shared information on new volunteers, training, and recognition event plans.	Volunteer recruitment remains a focus with a critical need noted for Medical Transportation Volunteers. Due to recent air quality concerns (Canadian Wildfires) the office has N95 masks available.		
DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT	Tami Bone provided information on the 2023/24 budget, Rate Increases for Aides, the Helping Hands program and Senior Angels.	Tami provided an update on the annual budget. She again shared that pay rates are increasing for aides, but the budget did not expand at all to assist with those increased costs resulting in a tighter budget for 2024. The Helping Hands Program has been providing seasonal supports such as		

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		putting in air conditioners. The Board			
		discussed recent calls to put in			
		wheelchair ramps. While no funding is			
		identified for the ramps, it was noted			
		that veteran services will put in ramps			
		for vets.			
AGING SERVICES	The Director invited Mr. Pirrone	Mr. Pirrone has been involved with the	The Board		
FOUNDATION	to the meeting to discuss the	foundation for approximately 10 years.	discussed ways to		
	current status of the Aging	The Foundation has experienced a	recruit new		
	Services Foundation	drastic loss of members over the years	members for the		
		and needs new members to continue.	Foundation.		
		Ken Brooks shared the importance of	Bylaws require		
		the Foundation. The Greene Aging	quarterly meetings.		
		Services Foundation carries the 501c3	Corporate		
		status that is needed for tax deductions.	Sponsorships were		
		If the Foundation does not continue on,	discussed.		
		people who donate will not be able to	Action Pending.		
		count the contribution as a tax	_		
		deduction. All funds raised through the			
		Foundation go to the county to offset the			
		costs of medical transportation. Michael			
		discussed the fundraising efforts over			
		the years and commended Ken for the			
		success of the Senior Angels Program.			

Council Member Announcements & Updates:

- * Dick shared that if anyone needs a wheelchair ramp, one is stored in Coxsackie.
- * Linda confirmed the Board's next meeting for September—there are no Senior Advisory Board meetings scheduled for July & August.
- * Ernie wished all a Happy Father's Day. Information was shared on the street naming ceremony planned for West Main Street to become Martin Luther King Jr Way during the upcoming Juneteenth Celebration on June 19th at 2:00. Flyers were passed out.
- * Lynn shared the success of Athens' Mother's Day event and the plans for a Father's Day celebration.
- * Dottie discussed the progress of the new Senior Center for Cairo. Information on classes on Fall Prevention was requested. The Board shared information on the YMCA's <u>Moving for Balance</u> Class and the <u>Bingocize</u> Classes being offered at the Centers through the Department of Human Services' partnership. Dottie commended Maureen Murphy for the Roundtable News. Dottie shared that 52 Bears will be coming into Cairo for a summer display.

- * Tyler reported out for Vet Services. The Vets2Vets program is doing great. A weekly coffee hour has been a big success. A Mindfulness Walk is being planned for around Greene County in August and details can be found on Facebook. Information on the free upcoming bowling event was shared.
- * Molly provided the Board information on the ReStore Grant funding. Currently, there are more clients than funds available. The client with a well situation discussed at a previous meeting is being assisted. Molly noted strong referrals are coming into the office, however, funds are limited.
- * Kendra reminded the Board about the availability of Medical Equipment for clients in need.
- * Tami shared information on the Veterans Stand Down Program, a military appreciation event, at CGCC this upcoming weekend, June 17th from nine to noon.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55.

Notes respectfully submitted by Katy Drake/Consultant

Meeting notes approved as written by a quorum at the September 12, 2023 meeting.

Next meeting – September 12, 2023 @ 2:00