

Greene County Aging Advisory Board Meeting Notes

October 10, 2023

Present: Dick Golden, Linda Van Etten, Florence Ohle, Molly Whitbeck, Dawn Wallant, Stephanie Schleuderer, Ann Kreig, Don Crespino, Ernie Armstead, Lula Anderson, Judi Lopresti, Dottie True, Ed Bloomer and Tami Bone.

Guest: Meagan DeMento, Alzheimer's Association

With 12 members present, a quorum was available.

Chair Dick Golden ran the meeting. Executive Director, Stephanie Schleuderer recorded the meeting notes.

SEPTEMBER MINUTES approved, motion Mr. Golden, second Ernie

PRESENTER MEGAN DEMENTO, Rural Outreach Program manager/Alzheimer's Association
Specializes in rural areas Montgomery, Columbia

- There is a walk on November 14th at the CGCC.
- Differences between Dementia and Alzheimer's Disease warning signs that to look for, symptoms educate on the disease in general and how to have a healthy living.
- Support groups, research caregiver dementia cases, community education, caregiver consultation, designed to revolve around what is specific to your needs.
- It is best to detect it earlier rather than later.
- Lula Anderson explained her challenges with her husband, as his caregiver, his anger, confusion when taken out of his surroundings.
- Medical Alert bracelets one time \$30.00 necklace, bracelet, anklets 1-2-year biomarker test for Alzheimer's, similar to diabetes the new process of elimination x-rays, brain scans, spinal tap memory loss associated with Lymes.

AGING SERVICES - Danielle on vacation.

- The Elks received a grant and provided new bedding for the seniors, in conjunction with the DHS case managers and NY Connects coordinator.
- Each case manager has a 100-person case load.
- Ongoing training for Medicare open enrollment and T-Care training.

NUTRITION: Status quote, planning for the upcoming holiday events.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Finances, prices of food and fuel continue to go up.
- Unfunded mandate for the home health aides has put a further strain on the department.
- Deputy Director and Executor Director are always meeting to crunch numbers and trying to keep spending level.
- Senior Angels generous donations DHS receives lists from DSS, nursing homes and case managers to provide Christmas gifts for seniors.
- Thanksgiving, collaboration with Community Action, could always use volunteers, will spend Wednesday prepping.

- Recognition, recap, did a great job, great times.
- Renaming of Helping Hands, has always been this name, should be find even if named Helping Hands of Greene County Department of Human Services. Started by the rotary years ago to assist with putting in air conditioner, changing light bulbs etc.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Open enrollment for Medicare.
- The threshold for Medicaid has increased, more people may be eligible.
- Heap applications are coming into the Department, we partner with DSS to assist older adults in the application process.
- Master Plan of Aging rolling out through New York State geared towards providing supportive services for Seniors. The Master Plan of Aging (MPA) is partnering with the Department of Health to provide access to in-home services and supports, partnering with public and private sector to find solution to combat social isolation, mitigate elder abuse, expand transportation and expand on aging services.
- T-Care is a new platform, assessment tool used for Caregiver's to provide resources and support.

COUNCIL MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENT & UPDATES:

Dick Golden: Fundraising for the food pantry, money and donations are coming in.

Linda Van Etten: discusses text message scams from Fed Ex, spoke to Fed Ex and they confirmed that they do not send out text messages.

Florence Ohle, very busy with the food pantry, farm stand at the end of the month, October is Domestic Awareness month, wear purple and have picture posted on Facebook, Bank of Greene County December fundraising for gingerbread houses.

Solutions to end homelessness and adhere to fair market rent, currently \$800-\$1,200. For a one bedroom not, much is available now that it is getting colder, homelessness is a huge problem.

Ernie Armstead: reports that he enjoyed the luncheon and gives support to the Temple Israel church as there now has been police coverage.

Dawn Wallant: Mediation with family members, neighbors, intimate partners violence, recognize the signs with domestic partners, spouses, those living together, children and siblings.

Micelle Deyo, VA, reasoning behind changing the bylaws, missing 3 meeting out of board, Tyler was attended on her behalf, how left and the Department in understaffed.

Molly Whitbeck: applied for Access to home grant, general home repair, structure, roof. Florence explained that Community Action will do weatherization do not have to defer to Molly.

Meeting adjourned 3:30 p.m.

Meeting notes approved by a quorum on November 14, 2023.