

Advisory Council for Greene County Department for the Aging
November 14, 2023 @ 2:00 – In person

PERSON CONDUCTING MEETING: Dick Golden

RECORDER: Katy Drake*/Consultant *Zoom

ATTENDANCE: Chair Dick Golden, Lula Anderson, Ernie Armstead, Ed Bloomer, Tami Bone (staff), Don Crespino, Judy LoPresti, Lillian Moore, Florence Ohle, Jeff Ruso, Stephanie Schleuderer (staff), Dottie True, Vice Chair Linda Van Etten, Dawn Wallant and Molly Whitbeck

GUESTS: Ruth Pforte, Kathie Scanlon#/Independent Living Center and Phyllis Panetta/ILC

= Appointment Pending

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Lynn Brunner, Michelle Deyo, Ann Krieg, Charlene Mabey and Beverly Meyers

With 13 members present--plus 3 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.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/INFORMATION	PERSONAL RESPONSIBLE	DUE	DONE
Review of Previous Minutes	The October 10, 2023, meeting minutes were approved as written.	Florence made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Judy seconded the motion. Minutes approved with all in favor. Stephanie was thanked for taking the meeting notes in October.			X
AGING SERVICES	Report by Danielle Kane on Aging Services	As Danielle was unable to attend the meeting, Stephanie shared information on Aging Services. The status of Open Enrollment for Medicare, a new assessment tool (T-Care) and the waiting list for Personal Care Aides was reviewed. Through the current contract, Unlimited Care is serving 12 clients with Personal Care Aides 2. No waitlist for PC1 services at this time.			
NUTRITION	Nutrition report by Tezera Pulice	Stephanie shared that Health Inspections occur this month.	Reports to be shared when available.		

<p>VOLUNTEER SERVICES</p>	<p>Ruth Pforte shared information on Volunteer Services.</p> <p>December Volunteer Holiday Luncheon</p> <p>Helping Hands - Program with the Rotary</p>	<p>The names of new volunteers were read off for the Board. Ruth is working on the AmeriCorps Supplemental Report. Drivers are needed, especially for medical appointments.</p> <p>The invitation to the December 12th luncheon was shared. Please RSVP as soon as possible as a final count is needed.</p> <p>Ruth shared the one request that came in from a woman who recently moved into a Nursing Home. She was requesting that a volunteer unload her storage unit to try to find her winter clothes.</p>	<p>If there are any concerns regarding new volunteers, please contact Ruth or Tami.</p> <p>The lunch is at noon. No 2:00 meeting in December.</p> <p>The HH program is for small projects or assistance (such as air conditioners or light bulbs).</p>		
<p>DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORT</p>	<p>2023/24 Budget</p> <p>Senior Angel</p>	<p>Tami reported that she is working on the quarterly vouchers for the state. The budget is not set yet. Tami shared that there is a significant increase in food costs due to price increases and more people being served.</p> <p>Tami shared that the annual Senior Angel letter went out and generous donations have been received. The Fortnightly Club and Heart of Catskill made a generous donation from the Cat Auction.</p> <p>Stephanie and Tami talked about recent changes to the Senior Angels program when supporting seniors in the county. Senior Angel was set up as a onetime</p>	<p>The names of Seniors to receive gifts are coming into the office. Shopping & wrapping will start in December. Wrapping; volunteers needed!</p>		

<p>THANKSGIVING DINNER</p>	<p>The annual dinner is being held in collaboration with Community Action and the Elks for 2023.</p>	<p>only receipt of \$500 or less based on need. The committee will now review requests based on need & circumstance and seniors may be eligible to receive. assistance more than once depending on the circumstances.</p> <p>Florence shared that people have been slow to sign up for the dinner. Currently, only 66 people registered while close to 300 were expected. Tami reminded members to share the information on the dinner for volunteers and those who would like to attend or have a meal delivered. Transportation to the dinner was discussed for future years.</p>	<p>Volunteers are still being sought to serve and for home delivery.</p>		
<p>INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTER</p>	<p>Presentation of services by Kathie Scanlon. Kathie will be serving on the Advisory Board in 2024, replacing Kendra Huber.</p>	<p>Kathie reviewed NY Connects and local resources. Equipment available through the durable medical supply closet was reviewed. Delivery of loaned equipment may be available, but the ILC does not provide set up. Generally, equipment is loaned out for 90 days to start, but extensions are certainly available.</p> <p>The ILC does not build ramps. It was shared that Habitat for Humanity may build ramps.</p>	<p>Kathie shared her contact information with all members.</p>		
<p>AGING ADVISORY BOARD BY LAWS</p>	<p>A draft of the bylaws was provided to each member at the October meeting (electronically and with a hard copy at the meeting.)</p>	<p>The Board further discussed unexcused absences. The update to the by-laws notes that 3 unexcused consecutive absences may lead to dismissal from the Aging Advisory Board. As the Greene Legislature appoints members to the</p>	<p>The approved by laws will be emailed out to members at the start of 2024 along with the hard copy</p>		

<p>DIRECTOR'S REPORT</p>	<p>Stephanie provided an update on staffing, the public hearings, the increased Medicaid threshold and fall prevention presentations.</p>	<p>Board, the Board would then recommend dismissal and request a replacement be appointed. Florence made a motion to approve the update to the bylaws. Molly seconded the motion. The update was approved.</p> <p>Stephanie shared the questions and suggestions from the two public hearings- one more hearing will be held on December 13 @ 1:30 in Cairo. The Board discussed the role of Advisory Board members at the Public Hearings. It was agreed that in the future, representatives should be introduced at the meeting. Stephanie noted that updates on local resources and services are being included in the Roundtable News. Stephanie added that going forward in 2024, the Senior Advisory Board members will be listed in the Roundtable News so that community members know who to contact for information.</p>	<p>they received at the meeting.</p> <p>Stephanie requested that Katy write an overview of the Aging Advisory Board for the Roundtable News in 2024.</p>		
<p>ELECTION OF OFFICERS</p>	<p>Dick asked the Board if anyone was interested in an officer position for 2024. Dick has served as Chair for 15 years.</p>	<p>Judy made a motion for the Aging Advisory Board officers to continue for 2024. Ed seconded the motion. With all members in favor the officers will continue for 2024: Chair- Dick Golden; Vice Chair- Linda Van Etten; Secretary- Florence Ohle</p>			

Council Member Announcements & Updates:

Dick shared that the YMCA & Coxsackie Rotary will be hosting a Narcan presentation on Wednesday, November 15th @ 6:00. Dick also shared information on how to check the status of expired COVID test kits as some kits are still good past the expiration date.

Linda reported that election day went smoothly in Greene County.

Florence provided additional information on the upcoming Thanksgiving Dinner for Greene County. Information on the Farm for Families grant, in which local farmers are paid to provide food to the local food pantries, was discussed. Community Action's Adopt a Family is in process for the 2023 holidays. Socks, hats and mittens are available at the office. The Rotary had a coat drive.

Ernie discussed the election, the two food drives underway and the Advisory Council's members' role in public hearings.

Jeff shared an invitation for the 12/6 New Baltimore Senior Lunch being held at Pegasus. The town is paying for up to 72 New Baltimore seniors to attend. Guests who live outside of New Baltimore can attend at a cost of \$28—all are welcome.

Lula informed the board that the new Senior Center is up and running. The meeting on the 20th will be a potluck. A catered Christmas party is planned for the 14th. Challenges with a shared Community Room at the Senior Center were discussed as new systems are being worked out for the shared space.

Judy updated the board that the baskets she was collecting for will now be donations to the nursing homes for Valentine's Day. Toiletries and crafting/coloring supplies are being sought.

Dottie reported that 47 people are attending the Cairo Golden Agers holiday dinner. On 12/6 the Cairo Durham School is hosting a Turkey Dinner for seniors along with the holiday concert. The meal is served by honor society students. Information on the Cairo Senior Grant is expected in December. Dawn shared that Common Ground is seeking a part time person to provide workshops for high school students on workplace communication skills. Tips on addressing holiday conflict were shared.

Stephanie shared Veteran's information in Michele's absence—Adopt a Vet info was shared along with information on the upcoming Veteran's Resource Fair (11/16 4:00 – 6:00)

Don provided the good news that Greene Mobility is fully staffed.

Molly shared information on grants still pending approval.

The meeting adjourned at 3:07. Notes respectfully submitted by Katy Drake/Consultant ** Notes approved on January 9, 2024, meeting by a quorum. Next meeting – January 9, 2024 @ 2:00 at Greene Department of Human Services Meeting Room