

Advisory Council for Greene County Department for the Aging
January 9, 2024 @ 2:00 – In person with option to join via Zoom due to weather.

PERSON CONDUCTING MEETING: Dick Golden

RECORDER: Katy Drake*/Consultant *Zoom

ATTENDANCE: Chair Dick Golden, Ed Bloomer, Tami Bone (Deputy Director), Don Crespino*, Ann Krieg, Judy LoPresti*, Charlene Mabey*, Florence Ohle*, Kathie Scanlon, Stephanie Schleuderer (Executive Director), Vice Chair Linda Van Etten, Dawn Wallant* and Molly Whitbeck

GUESTS: Danielle Kane, Phyllis Panetta /Independent Living Center and Tezera Pulice

ABSENT/EXCUSED: Lula Anderson, Ernie Armstead, Lynn Brunner, Michelle Deyo, Beverly Meyers, Lillian Moore, Jeff Ruso and Dottie True

With 11 members present—plus 4 staff, the consultant and 1 guest -- 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 November 14, 2023, meeting minutes were approved as written.	Molly made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Linda seconded the motion. Minutes approved with all in favor.			X
AGING SERVICES	Report by Danielle Kane on Aging Services	Danielle shared a brief overview of services reporting the department is able to keep up with the new referrals at this time. Eight new meal referrals have been reported since the start of the new year.			
NUTRITION	Nutrition report by Tezera Pulice	Tezera provided an update on all the holiday parties in December, the challenges of being short-staffed recently due to illness and the dire need for volunteers to cover meal routes for home delivered meals. GCDHS staff are	The Board discussed HDM coverage and ideas for recruitment.		

<p>VOLUNTEER SERVICES</p>	<p>Ruth Pforte was unable to attend – Tami shared information on volunteer services.</p>	<p>currently covering meal delivery. The critical lack of volunteers on specific meal routes (Acra & Athens) and for medical transportation was further discussed. The volunteer mileage reimbursement rate just increased to 67 cents a mile.</p>	<p>Stephanie shared a new bus wrap which will advertise the need for volunteers. Florence offered to be a relief driver for HDMs in Catskill. It was recommended that email be added in addition to a phone number for volunteer recruitment.</p>		
<p>DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORT</p>	<p>Helping Hands- Program with the Rotary</p> <p>2023/24 Budget & State Monitoring</p>	<p>The types of requests for the Helping Hands Program that have been coming in were reviewed.</p> <p>Tami shared information on the State Monitoring, which was conducted during December. Questions arose with the monitoring in terms of policies regarding the delivery of Mom’s Meals for some clients in rural areas. Mom’s Meals are delivered frozen on a weekly basis, but policies regarding meal temps and daily client check ins were questioned during monitoring.</p> <p>A Junior Accountant has been hired to assist with state vouchers.</p>	<p>The HH program is for small projects.</p>		
	<p>Senior Angels</p>	<p>Tami stated that people were generous in donations in 2023 for Senior Angels.</p>	<p>The Committee can approve Senior</p>		

<p>THANKSGIVING DINNER</p>	<p>The annual dinner was held in collaboration with Community Action and the Elks for 2023.</p>	<p>Gifts to the Seniors in Nursing Homes are still pending delivery. The policy change for seniors requesting assistance was discussed.</p> <p>Florence reported that approximately 150 people participated in the Thanksgiving Dinner. Approximately 20 people attended the event with the rest of the meals provided by delivery. Florence shared it was a positive event, with great volunteers, including CGCC staff assisting the day before with food preparation.</p>	<p>Angel Funding beyond a one-time assistance of up to \$500 based on need.</p>		
<p>DIRECTOR'S REPORT</p>	<p>Staffing Update, Programs and Public Forum Report Out</p>	<p>Stephanie shared the challenges from the recent State Monitoring with the Board further discussing Mom's Meals and how to best meet state requirements.</p> <p>A full staffing update was provided, noting the shortage of per diem employees due to the wage.</p> <p>A potential new policy to address the situation of seniors not being home when an aide arrives for their shift was discussed. The department may reassign the aide if the client has three no shows as these aides are a valuable resource that others in the county could utilize for home support.</p> <p>Resources and Programs are now listed in the Roundtable News. The Fall Prevention Classes for Acra and Jewett</p>	<p>The Board commended Stephanie for the</p>		

<p>2024 SENIOR AWARDS</p>	<p>Nomination applications were available to members at the meeting.</p> <p>Tami and Stephanie requested additional information on NY Connects. (Katy sent NY Connects Background information on 1-16)</p>	<p>are still pending a date. Bingocize is being explored for the sites who enjoyed it last year.</p> <p>The Public Forums had good turn outs as Stephanie coordinated the forums with club meetings.</p>	<p>new resource listings in the monthly newsletter</p> <p>Nominations are due February 2nd.</p>		
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Council Member Announcements & Updates:

- * Dick shared a success story regarding providing a wheelchair for a community member through Hudson Valley Independent Living Center—Thanks were extended to Kathie Scanlon!
- * Judy discussed NY Connects and sharing those resources with community members.
- * Don shared the buses are running on schedule with no changes to report.
- * Kathie reported a focus on outreach in Greene County for the ILC. * Katy will connect Kathie with Tezera via email to set up center visits. Kathie shared the medical supply closet out of Troy will deliver 90-day loans of equipment. The NY State benefits site was discussed (nystate.gov) along with the NY Connects Resource Directory.
- * Molly shared information on the \$100,000 Access to Home Award for Greene County. While details are still being finalized, applications are expected to be available for February 1st. This funding will go quickly so please let Molly know if you know of clients in need.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55.

Notes respectfully submitted by Katy Drake/Consultant

Next meeting – February 13, 2024 @ 2:00 at Greene County Office Building, Training Room

Approved by a Quorum on March 12, 2024 (Feb meeting cancelled due to weather).