

**Advisory Council for Greene County Department for the Aging**  
**March 12, 2024 @ 2:00 – DHS Office, 411 Main Street, Catskill**

**PERSON CONDUCTING MEETING:** Dick Golden

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

**ATTENDANCE:** Chair Dick Golden, Lula Anderson, Ernie Armstead, Ed Bloomer, Tami Bone (Deputy Director), Don Crespino, Ann Krieg, Judy LoPresti, Charlene Mabey, Lillian Moore, Florence Ohle, Jeff Ruso, Kathie Scanlon, Stephanie Schleuderer (Executive Director), Dottie True and Vice Chair Linda Van Etten

**GUESTS:** Danielle Kane, Ruth Pforte, James Murphy, Phyllis Panetta and Teri Osterhout-Paton/Pulmonary Disease Educator- Margaretville Memorial Hospital

**ABSENT/EXCUSED:** Michelle Deyo, Beverly Meyers, Dawn Wallant and Molly Whitbeck

With 14 members present—plus 5 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. The Board stood for a moment of silence to honor member Lynn Brunner. Lynn started with the Advisory Board in 2000, worked with the crafters out of the Rivertown Senior Center since 2012 and dedicated over 396 hours as a RSVP volunteer.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION/INFORMATION	PERSONAL RESPONSIBLE	DUE	DONE
<b>Review of Previous Minutes</b>	The January 9, 2024, meeting minutes were approved as written. There was no meeting in February due to weather.	Judy made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Florence seconded the motion. Minutes approved with all in favor.			<b>X</b>
<b>PRESENTATION</b>	Teri Osterhout-Paton, from Margaretville Memorial Hospital, presented on <b><u>Living with Chronic Lower Airway Disease.</u></b>	For additional information or to schedule presentations, Teri can be reached at: Teri.Osterhout-Paton@hahv.org			
<b>AGING SERVICES</b>	Report by Danielle Kane on Aging Services	Danielle shared a brief overview of services- no updates or changes this month.			

<p><b>NUTRITION</b></p>	<p>The Nutrition report was presented by Stephanie as Tezera was working at a site.</p>	<p>Stephanie shared an update on nutrition services—noting two vacancies for Athens. Lillian commended Athens for their lunches based on her recent visits.</p>			
<p><b>VOLUNTEER SERVICES</b></p>	<p>Ruth Pforte provided a detailed report for volunteer services- See report attached to meeting notes.</p>	<p>Ruth reviewed names of new volunteers for Home Delivered Meals and Medical Transportation.</p> <p>For 2023, Ruth reported 181 volunteers contributed a total of 11,681 hours to Greene County through the RSVP program. Information on veterans served is included in the attached report.</p>	<p>Contact Ruth with any concerns regarding new volunteers.</p>		
	<p>Helping Hands- Program with the Rotary</p>	<p>The types of requests for the Helping Hands Program that have been coming in were reviewed. Thanks were extended to Ed Bloomer and Dick Golden for their recent volunteer work for the program.</p>			
<p><b>DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORT</b></p>	<p>Budget &amp; State Monitoring</p>	<p>Tami introduced the Board to James Murphy, the Junior Accountant hired to assist with state vouchers. Final budget numbers are still pending for 2024.</p>			
	<p>Senior Angels</p>	<p>Tami stated that people continue to be generous in donations for Senior Angels. The donations allowed the DHS to stock up on supplies like incontinence pads, wipes, etc. that can be provided to clients during home visits, if needed.</p>	<p>Seniors in need of such home health products can call the office.</p>		
<p><b>DIRECTOR'S REPORT</b></p>	<p>Staffing Update, Program Update, Information on Volunteer Recruitment</p>	<p>An Aging Services Specialist/NY Connects position will be posted soon. At this time, Tami is covering HICAPP</p>	<p>Dick commended the Department for their efforts in all</p>		

<p><b>2024 SENIOR AWARDS</b></p>	<p><b>Slyvia Hasenkopf</b> of Cairo will be awarded Greene County Senior Citizen of the Year. <b>Steve Whately</b> of Athens will be awarded Outstanding Contribution by a Senior Citizen.</p>	<p>and Danielle is covering NY Connects. Dick commended the office for the efforts through this vacancy. Stephanie shared additional information on the two staff positions open at Athens, on the new van- with a wrap to address volunteer recruitment, the new office being built for the NY Connects representative to be hired and on the Roundtable News.</p> <p>The Greene County Legislature will be presenting the awards on May 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30—All Board Members are encouraged to attend. Dick reviewed the decisions made regarding members voting for the 2024 Senior Awards. Members do NOT need to abstain from voting if they nominate a senior for the awards in 2024—all Board members get one vote.</p>	<p>these areas.</p> <p>Members planning on attending the ceremony please respond to Maureen Murphy by May 6<sup>th</sup> to confirm your attendance.</p>		
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**Council Member Announcements & Updates:**

Dick expressed concern for the lack of representation for Greene County Veteran Services at the Aging Advisory Board meetings. A motion was made by Lillian, based on the by-laws, to dismiss a member who has not attended more than three consecutive meetings. Linda seconded the motion. The motion carried, with Ed Bloomer abstaining from the vote as he serves as a Legislator. A letter will be sent to the Greene County Legislature, requesting a new Veteran’s Services representative be appointed to replace Michelle Deyo as the Board needs and values the information shared about Veteran Programs in Greene County and Ms. Deyo is not attending meetings.

Florence shared information on Community Action’s Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program, a farm grant the will bring meat to the food pantry and the assistance CAGC can provide in advocating for victims of fraud.

Ernie shared that Governor Hochul will be in town honoring the first black pastor taking over Community Life Church this weekend. Ernie also shared information on the construction on Main Street due to water meters being changed out.

Jeff informed the Board about the March 3rd Veterans' Luncheon in New Baltimore. The event had a strong attendance, and another event is being planned for fall.

Lula shared information on a recent senior fraud situation in which check "washing" occurred with a check changed that drained a senior's bank account. Lula also shared information on the new building (fully moved in!) and that craft classes will begin soon. 15 Seniors attended an Easter Egg decorating event with a college representative. Free crafting activities are being sought!

Judy shared some of the upcoming events.

Dottie shared information on the status of the Cairo Senior Center. Outside work (water and sewer) still needs to be done. They are working with local politicians to try to secure grant funding for the center. Dottie also shared information on Animal Alliance, which is hoping to build an animal shelter in Greene County.

Don discussed the staffing challenges impacting Greene County Transit.

Kathie shared the benefits of her recent visits to Greene Senior Centers.

**The meeting adjourned at 3:14.**

**Notes respectfully submitted by Katy Drake/Consultant**

Next meeting – April 9, 2024 @ 2:00 at Greene County Training Room, 411 Main St, Catskill

**Notes approved by a quorum at the April 9, 2024, Meeting.**

**2023 Greene County Department of Human Services  
AmeriCorps Senior  
RSVP Volunteer Program Contributions**

**181** Volunteers contributed a total of **11,681** hours,  
which according to the Independent Sector has a value of  
**\$35.71** per hour for a total of **\$417,128.51**

**Making Greene County a better place for seniors to live.**

**123** Homebound Meal Delivery Volunteers delivered **88,608** meals to **458** recipients.

**24** Homebound Medical Transportation Volunteers provided **1,339** rides.  
to medical appointments for **101** clients.

**46** of the clients who received meals were veterans.

**11** of the clients who received rides were veterans.

**16** of the RSVP Volunteers serving in 2023 are veterans.

*If you know anyone who would like to volunteer with AmeriCorps Seniors,  
please have them contact*

*Ruth at [rpforte@discovergreene.com](mailto:rpforte@discovergreene.com)*

*518-719-3555*



**AmeriCorps  
Seniors**