



PORTAGE COUNTY

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1519 WATER STREET
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

MEETING MINUTES

COMMISSION ON AGING/AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER BOARD

Thursday, April 1, 2021

4:15 PM

REMOTE ATTENDANCE & COMMENT

To attend this meeting by telephone : dial 1-608-338-1399, after dialing the number you will then be asked to enter in a meeting number. Use the following meeting number: 685 462 566, then press #

To attend this meeting by video: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Due to COVID-19 and the potential risk to members of the public who attend meetings in-person, any person who plans to attend the meeting remotely, but wishes to comment on an agenda item can send their comments via email to piesikk@co.portage.wi.us. The deadline for sending comments by email is 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Emailed comments will be delivered to committee members at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Remote comment by the public during the meeting will be at the discretion of the Chair.

CALL TO ORDER

Present: Eleanor Brush, Bernie Coulthurst, Chair Bob Gifford: Meleesa Johnson, Cathy Jones Ferk, Mike Splinter, Bernice Woitczak, Barb Zwickey
Excused: Bill Zimdars

Also Present: ADRC Director Cindy Piotrowski, Assistant ADRC Director Maureen Miller, ADRC Social Work Intern and Stevens Point Common Council District 4 Alderperson Mykeerah Zarazua, Senior Center Manager Donna Calhoun, Finance Manager David Foemmel, Administrative Associate IV Karen Piesik

Chair Gifford called the meeting to order at 4:17 PM.

1. Nomination and Election of Officers

A motion was made by Jones Ferk to nominate Splinter as Vice Chair, seconded by Brush. Motion approved, with no negative votes.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

2. March 4, 2021 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Jones Ferk, seconded by Coulthurst to approve the minutes. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

REPORTS

3. Review of Vendor Invoice List

- 2-28-2021

4. Year to Date Budget Reports

- Revenues - March 2021
- Expenses - March 2021

Piotrowski explained that expenses are just under 20% due to money that was earmarked but has not yet been received upon.

5. Information & Assistance Reports

- SAMS Agency Call Report - March 2021
- SAMS Call Profiler Report - March 2021
- Long-Term Care Enrollment Report - March 2021

Miller reports that things are status quo, though numbers are down a bit from last year; a lot of Loan Closet items are going out. Every county within the state is at entitlement and does not have a wait list, so people no longer move to Portage County to receive publicly-funded long-term care. Under the current structure, Wisconsin receives the Medicaid dollars that are needed as opposed to a block-grant program that would cap what is spent; all Long-Term-Care programs are paid by Medicaid.

6. Senior Corps Advisory Council Meeting Minutes - September 8, 2020

Piotrowski said that Foster Grandparents were not allowed in schools during the pandemic, but they still received a stipend which was extended to September.

7. Nutrition Program Advisory Council Minutes - February 17, 2021

Piotrowski spoke about the Nutrition Program Advisory Council and the significant impact of COVID -19 on that program. Only 30% of regular congregate participants have taken advantage of home-delivered meals. The Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) issued guidance on reopening congregate dining later this summer or early fall. Volunteer scheduling logistics make it more difficult to plan. The number of people vaccinated and herd immunity will affect reopening. Board member Zwickey also serves on the Nutrition Advisory Council.

8. COVID-19

Reopening - The north entrance is now unlocked. Staff are working towards starting small group activities on May 1. Calhoun said that a few groups will resume: Oil Painting, chair exercise classes, Pottery, and Polish. Most groups will be held in Rooms A and B, the Multi-Purpose Room and in the Dining Room for social distancing. Two outdoor concerts by the Potocki Family Band are scheduled for June and July on curbside pickup days. There will not be any close recreational activities like cards at this time. The outdoor produce gardens will be planted by volunteers, but a donation produce table is not planned at this time. The Nutrition Program will accept rhubarb for the kitchen's use.

Because of the overturning of Governor Evers' mask mandate, Portage County will issue a county-wide mandate. Visitors will be asked if they are fully vaccinated when they are screened at the entrance. Masks may be removed in small groups if all participants are vaccinated. Cindy will find out if the six-foot rule can be exempted for activities like square dancing. A soft reopening will happen in May, with a hard reopening by fall. Friday mornings have been quite active.

COVID-19 Vaccine - the second vaccine clinic was held here and went smoothly. Six hundred and fifty five (655) people were assisted with registration for the vaccine since January 29. Outreach money (more than \$11,000) from the Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources (BADR) will be available for community outreach with special focus on seniors who are home bound and adults with disabilities. Though 70% of people have received their first vaccine, the promotion will focus on the 30% who don't want it or haven't figured out how to access it. The ADRC is working with the Portage County Division of Public Health; money will be used for radio advertising and to help pay for mileage reimbursement and costs for a Public Health nurse to administer the vaccine. Funds must be spent by the end of August.

A discussion started by Jones Ferk followed re President Biden's message that a vaccine will be available within five miles of every person; Piotrowski said that is not feasible in most rural areas.

9. Director's Report

Bernett Ryskoski, Administrative Associate I Receptionist/Loan Closet with 20 years of service, has retired. Several other staff have stepped up to fill in while the position is open.

A mobile application pilot project will allow staff to enter client information directly into the computer while doing home visits.

A survey for the Wisconsin Family and Caregiver Alliance will be sent to caregivers and to all ADRC employees to respond to test the survey.

Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program vouchers will be distributed again this year to use locally at the Downtown Farmers Market.

Staff are working on the 2022-2024 ADRC Aging Plan. A survey used as guidance to establish the plan's goals will be available online, in the newsletter, and will be completed by focus groups. Copies will be available for participants of the ADRC at Lincoln Center.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

10. Discussion/Possible Action Re: Regarding Special Meeting Attendance (Portage County Ordinance 3.1.47 & 3.1.48)

- Request for special meeting attendance
- Approval of attendance of special meetings
- Special meeting attendance reports

11. Discussion/Possible Action Allowing the ADRC Director to Participate in 2021 Advocacy Efforts re Seniors and Adults with Disabilities

A motion was made by Jones Ferk to allow Piotrowski to participate in advocacy for the ADRC and the populations that it serves; Zwickey seconded. Motion passed, all in favor.

12. Discussion/Possible Action re the ADRC Cancellation Policy

A motion was made by Brush to approve the policy, Jones Ferk seconded; motion approved, no negative votes.

A discussion started by Jones Ferk followed about how we decide to close in bad weather. Piotrowski explained the process and logistics.

Jones Ferk said that the Plover Metro Market has 'no mask' shopping available on Saturday at 2:30 PM.

CORRESPONDENCE

NEXT MEETING DATE: Thursday, May 6, 2021 at 4:15 PM in the Multi-Purpose Room or via remote connection

ADJOURNMENT

Woiczak motioned to adjourn; Chair Gifford adjourned the meeting at 5:03 PM.

NOTICES

Notice: Any person who has special needs and plans on attending this meeting in-person or remotely should contact the Facilities Office at 715-346-1598 as soon as possible to ensure that reasonable accommodations can be made.

Notice: A quorum of the Portage County Board of Supervisors, or any committee thereof, may be present at this meeting.