



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, November 4, 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: 916 972 984, 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, Catherine Jones Ferk, Lynne Kissner, Judy Ordens, Mike Splinter, Bill Zimdars

Excused: Meleesa Johnson, Barbara Zwickey

Others present: Finance Manager David Foemmel, Nutrition Program Manager Kristi Cooley, ADRC Assistant Director Maureen Miller, ADRC Director Cindy Piotrowski, Dementia Care Specialist Carley Prochaska, Administrative Associate IV Karen Piesik

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

1. October 7, 2021 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Ordens, seconded by Zimdars, to approve the October minutes. Motion passed, with no negative votes.

REPORTS

2. Review of Vendor Invoice List

1. September 30, 2021

Report presented by Piesik.

3. Year to Date Budget Reports

1. Revenues - October 2021
2. Expenses - October 2021

Foemmel reported that expenses appear high due to the payment of \$119,846 to Central Transportation. Core funds are increasing; American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) funds will add to revenue amounts.

4. Information & Assistance Reports

1. SAMS Agency Call Report - September 2021
2. SAMS Call Profiler Report - September 2021
3. Long-Term Care Enrollment Report - September 2021

Presented by Miller - Call numbers are back to pre-Covid levels. Not many people have moved into the community during the COVID-19 pandemic.

5. Benefit Specialist Statistics

1. Elder Benefit Specialist (EBS) Report July - September 2021
2. Disability Benefit Specialist (DBS) Report July - September 2021

The Elder Benefit Specialist (EBS) Program served 98 clients, providing a monetary impact of \$418,217. The Disability Benefit Specialists (DBS) served 113 clients, with a monetary impact of \$468,273.

6. Senior Corps Advisory Council Meeting Minutes - 7-13-2021

Feedback from the April 30 Drive-Thru Event was very positive. Staff are planning for their next projects.

7. COVID-19 Report

The ADRC hasn't fully opened. Most activities are taking place except those that prevent social distancing. Piotrowski has consulted with Gary Garske, Director of the Division of Public Health, Portage County Health & Human Services (PCHHS) and Chris Holmen, Portage County Executive. The decision to reopen will be based on guidelines set by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) when the number of cases drops to moderate levels for the county. Plans are to reopen congregate dining in January, depending on the policies set by the CDC, Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), and Portage County Division of Public Health.

Federal COVID relief funds through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) will double the Older Americans Act allocation. Piotrowski said it is hard to plan how to spend the dollars without knowing definite amounts. Flooring and updates for the Dining Room are already included in the budget. Cosmetic upgrades to the building are planned in hopes to increase the appeal of the building for participants.

8. Director's Report

A new Health Promotion Coordinator starts on Monday, November 8.

9. Wisconsin Counties Association Magazine Article re Mental Health and Isolation for Seniors

The ADRC addresses social isolation and loneliness through the Telecare Program, coordinated by the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). Woodlands Church assisted with outreach to home-delivered and congregate meal participants after COVID hit. RSVP staff recruited volunteers to help with outreach through a pen pal program.

Piotrowski explained that social isolation is not as great an issue for seniors who are connected online and comfortable with technology. But not everyone has or wants to use technology. Classes to help people learn to use technology are regularly offered at the ADRC.

10. National Family Caregiver Month Events

Prochaska gave an overview of upcoming events:

Tuesday, November 9, 9:30 -11:00 a.m. Mindful Medication as a Means to Self Care, presenter is author and Grief Specialist Andrew J. Vitale;

Thursday, November 11, 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Caregiver Roadmap – How to Navigate the Pit Stops, an expert panel discussion

Wednesday, November 17, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. – Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias, presented by Cynthia M. Carlsson, MD, MS, Professor of Medicine, Division of Geriatrics, UW-Madison

Tuesday, November 30, 2:00 – 3:30 p.m. – Benefits of the ADRC for Caregivers, presented by ADRC staff

November 18, 9:00 - 11:00 CST, Humor & Caregiving, a virtual event presented by Occupational Therapist Teepa Snow (to register, call 920-675-4035 or email HeatherJ@jeffersoncountywi.gov)

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

11. 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

12. Discussion/Possible Action on a Resolution Approving and Authorizing the Aging & Disability Resource Center to Enter into a Service Contract with the City of Stevens Point Central Transit Office for the Provision of Rides for Seniors and Adults with Disabilities

Piotrowski reported that since the partnership with the City of Stevens Point is working well, members of the County Board of Supervisors, with Portage County's Corporation Counsel approval, requested entering a five-year contract for Central Transportation services.

A motion was made by Coulthurst, seconded by Ordens, to approve the resolution and forward it to the County Board.

Discussion: Jones Ferk expressed concern about entering a five-year contract, stating that both parties can remain more accountable within a two-year contract.

Gifford requested that Central Transportation provide annual reports to the ADRC Board. Ordens suggested that a customer satisfaction survey be conducted to measure the quality of transportation services. Piotrowski will bring these suggestions to the Portage County Transportation Coordinating Committee (TCC).

A motion was made by Jones Ferk, seconded by Ordens, to amend the resolution at the third "WHEREAS" to read: "WHEREAS the ADRC projects an approximate total cost of \$600,000 for this service during 2022-2023;" and that the date in the Be It Resolved clause be changed to December 31, 2023; the motion passed to approve the amendment, no negative votes.

A vote was taken to approve the resolution as amended; the motion passed, all in favor. The resolution will go before the County Board of Supervisors at the December meeting.

13. Discussion/Possible Action re Meeting Date and Time

For public safety reasons, the Portage County Sheriff's Office and Stevens Point Police Department recommend that all County committee meetings be held Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday between 3 and 5 p.m. in order to have a police presence at meetings.

Discussion: Piotrowski explained that COA ADRC Board meetings do not typically have controversial topics on the agenda, and the current scheduled time allows for members who are employed during daytime hours to attend meetings.

A motion was made by Jone Ferk, seconded by Splinter to keep meetings on the current schedule. Motion carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

CORRESPONDENCE

NEXT MEETING DATE

Thursday, December 2, 2021 at 4:15 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room or via remote connection

14. Date and time to be determined; location in the Multi-Purpose Room or via remote connection

Meetings will continue on the first Thursday of the month. The next meeting is Thursday, December 2, 2021 at 4:15 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room or via remote connection

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Chair Gifford, seconded by Jones Ferk, to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed, all in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

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.