

WINNEBAGO COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING  
MEETING MINUTES

August 26, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT: Sylvia Banville, Dr. Jean Caudle, Don Griesbach, Roger Jaeger, Ann Jungwirth, Joyce Klundt, Donna Lohry, Patty Maehl, and Esther Walling

OTHERS PRESENT: Sylvia Bull, Menasha Senior Center; Mark Ziemer, Oshkosh Senior Services; Deb Tauer, Advocap RSVP; Paula Brewer, Pickett Community Center; Kim Biederman, Omro Community Center; Candace Corbett, Joan Jaworski, Mark Weisensel and Dorothy De Grace, Winnebago County Human Services Department

**I. CALL TO ORDER:**

**A. Welcome and introductions – Esther Walling**

Esther welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

**B. Adoption of agenda/additions**

Mark Weisensel said Terri Stern could not be at the meeting today. With the change to the agenda Don Griesbach moved for approval; seconded by Joyce Klundt and carried (9-0).

**C. Approval of minutes of the July 22, 2009 meeting**

With no additions or corrections, Patty Maehl moved for approval of the minutes; seconded by Ann Jungwirth and carried unanimously (9-0).

**II. REPORTS:**

**A. City Committees**

Dr. Jean Caudle – Oshkosh Seniors Center:

Jean distributed copies of information she received at the recent convention she attended. It shows the changes taking place to Medicare coverage. Jean said the Seniors Center would host a Family Fun Fest on Grandparents Day, September 13.

Mark Ziemer explained several activities that will take place through the Seniors Center: a Silver Star triathlon on September 19; a Women's Wellness Retreat on September 20; Active Aging Week from September 21 - 24; and a 5K walk/run on October 10. He said they will be expanding the woodshop hours at the Center.

Ann Jungwirth – Oshkosh Committee on Aging:

Ann said the new slate of officers was approved for the Committee on Aging. She said the Oshkosh Seniors Center is in the process of completing a ten-year master plan for resources and development of programs. She said a free bus service card is being given to seniors at the Oshkosh Seniors Center to encourage participation in their programs and services. Ann said they have hired someone for fund development and community outreach.

Sylvia Bull – Menasha Senior Center:

Sylvia said they are planning a Brat Fry in September at Piggly Wiggly and a Hawaiian Cookout with the Mayor. They will be increasing their activity user fee to .50 cents. They will be exploring resident vs. non-resident fees for some of the programs.

Patty Maehl – Neenah Committee on Aging:

Patty said there was no meeting of the Neenah Committee on Aging this past month. She attended a S.A.L.T. meeting where a topic of discussion was the necessity of putting drugs in a secure place in the home.

Paula Brewer – Pickett Community Center:

Paula said they are accepting applications to fill the co-director position at the Center. They had several brat fry's this summer and will host a couple more this fall. They are planning to partner with other centers to organize travel to a couple of Christmas shows this year through Worldwide Travel.

Kim Biederman – Omro Area Community Center

Kim is the new director of the Omro Area Community Center. She explained some of the activities that are taking place at the Center—a local thrift store will be collecting school supplies and distributing them to children at the Center; every other week there is a card party; Bingo is played on Tuesdays; and movies are shown every third Thursday. They are looking at new ways to bring people into the Center. They will be offering more recreational programs, and a stretch class will be offered starting in the fall. Kim said the board approved the budget for the next fiscal year. They are looking for additional board members. They will have their annual meeting on October 19.

**B. Winnebago County Retired Senior & Volunteer Program – Deb Tauer**

Deb said she and others promoted the RSVP at the “National Night Out”, and volunteers also participated in the “Back to School Fair”. She is collaborating with the Public Health Department in coordinating volunteers for emergency situations in the community, and she is on a committee to look at how we can improve the general health of Winnebago County residents. Deb said there are four (4) current partners in the Phone Buddy program. Volunteers will be assisting at a TRIAD presentation titled, “Travel Easy,” driving through construction. It will be held at the Oshkosh Seniors Center on September 15 at 1:00 p.m. Deb will be sending out information in September about the upcoming annual Fall Cleanup project. She said the Volunteer Banquet will be held on September 29 at LaSure's. The volunteers are also assisting in the preparation of the senior conference on October 3.

**C. Nutrition Advisory Council – Theresa Stern**

Terri was excused from today's meeting. Mark Weisensel distributed the monthly Nutrition Program Report.

**D. County Board – Don Griesbach**

Don said the department heads and chairpersons from each committee have been meeting with the County Executive to review their 2010 budget. He said the purchase of the Oshkosh B'Gosh building is on hold right now, and the County Board has been discussing the use of the Pleasant Acres building.

**E. Human Services Board – Don Griesbach/Donna Lohry**

Donna said the new team effort in the Human Services Department for the mentally ill has been working very well. They have created a crisis facility to divert people from hospital admissions. Donna said another psychiatric nurse will be hired in January to take over some duties of the staff psychiatrists, such as medication distribution. Donna reported that she attended a recent WCHSA (Wisconsin Counties Human Service Association) meeting where she heard a presentation about child welfare cases increasing with the start of the school year, due in part to teachers' observation of abuse to some children.

**F. Benefit Specialist – Candace Corbett**

Candace said she will be the keynote speaker at the Senior Resource Fair on October 3 at Sunnyview Expo Center from 8:00 a.m. – noon. She said Senior Care has been extended until December 2012. She said if seniors are in the higher level of Senior Care, they might want to look into their Part D options. Candace said there is a backlog on Badger Care core program applications. The benefit specialists will be assisting at the senior centers during flu shot season to make sure seniors know the coverage they have through a Medicare advantage plan or supplement.

**G. Supervisor – Mark Weisensel**

Mark said the County Board approved the start-up of an ADRC (Aging & Disability Resource Center) for Winnebago County. He said the application is being written now to the state. The plan is to begin operating the ADRC on February 1, 2010. Mark said he will be participating in an ADRC conference in Stevens Point on September 21 & 22. He handed out information about the 2010 Census.

**III. NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Program – Oshkosh Family, Inc. Meals on Wheels Program – Mark Stockli and Judy Richey**

Judy Richey said their meal program is one of the oldest in the state of Wisconsin. They serve home-delivered meals within the city limits of Oshkosh. The weekday program is funded by private pay, United Way funded, COP waiver, and miscellaneous donations. The weekend program is funded by Older Americans Act funds and donations. The weekend program serves primarily people over the age of 60, but will serve people under 60 with a waiver. The weekday program also serves anyone over 60 and those individuals under 60 without a waiver. Judy said they also serve the non-homebound as respite for the caregiver. All of the meals are prepared at Evergreen Retirement Community. They are able to prepare meals for any special diet. A safety check is done on individuals when the meals are delivered.

Judy said they help keep people living in their homes as safe and as long as possible. They have approximately 150-175 volunteers delivering meals on the weekdays, and 20 on the weekends. They collaborate with the Winnebago County Caregivers Coalition and several of the local aging groups in providing information and service. The current cost of the weekday program is \$6.25, but if a person has a limited income he can complete a financial disclosure form and a fee is determined from there. The weekend program fee is on a donation basis if the person is over the age of 60; for those under 60 the cost is \$6.25 because they already have a waiver.

Mark Stockli said they don't duplicate services of any other program; partnership is important in making sure our seniors are getting the service they need. He said they don't turn anyone away based on inability to pay.

**B. Comments – Visitors and Guests**

There were no comments

**C. The next meeting of the Winnebago County Commission on Aging will be held Wednesday, September 23, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. at the Oshkosh Human Services Building, located at 220 Washington Avenue.**

- E. With no further business, Patty Maehl moved for adjournment; seconded by Ann Jungwirth and carried at approximately 2:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dorothy De Grace, Secretary—Human Services Department