

WINNEBAGO COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING
MEETING MINUTES

September 23, 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: Mike Norton, County Board, Kim Biederman, Omro Community Center; Carol Rausch, Jasper Pickett Community Center; Terri Stern, Advocap Nutrition Program; Carol Frahm, Lutheran Social Services; Joan Jaworski, Mark Weisensel and Mary Krueger, 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

The agenda was adopted as written.

C. Approval of minutes of the August 26, 2009 meeting

With no additions or corrections, the minutes were unanimously approved (9-0).

D. Program: Aging & Disability Resource Center of Winnebago County

Mary Krueger said she attended a very informative ADRC conference in Stevens Point on September 21 and 22. She explained that Fond du Lac, Manitowoc and Winnebago counties have been planning for the Lakeland Family Care District during the past year, but before we actually begin Family Care we must have an ADRC in operation. Mary said an ADRC is a place where the elderly and disabled aged 18 and over can get information and referrals for their long term care needs. The ADRC will be a county function within the Long Term Support Division of Human Services. The mission of the ADRC is to empower and support people who are seniors or adults with disabilities by providing useful information and assistance to them. She said our ADRC will include two full-time elderly benefit specialists and two full-time disability benefit specialists. There is no financial eligibility criterion to get information through an ADRC. People who are found functionally eligible for long term care services will have gone through a functional screening process. One of the services offered through the ADRC will be Options counseling, which explains what services are available to consumers to help prevent or delay the need for long term care services. These will include intervention or wellness types of activities. There will be collaboration with various agencies so efforts can be coordinated with limited available dollars. The state has indicated it will fund the ADRC at 100%. Since Winnebago County has almost 3% of the total population in Wisconsin aged 18 and over, we would get over \$1 million annually to provide services through the ADRC. She said in order for Winnebago County to start an ADRC, we need to submit an application to the state along with letters of support. Mary said she is hoping to include one from the Commission on Aging. If our application is approved, we plan to start an ADRC in February 2010. Mary said we still have responsibility for all of the long term support services using our current programs.

Mark said we would continue to receive the Federal Older Americans Act and DOT money because we are still responsible for those services. Mary said we would probably have a Committee that reports to the Human Services Board. Donna Lohry moved that the Commission prepare a letter of support to be included in the application for the start-up of an ADRC in Winnebago County; seconded by Patty Maehl and carried unanimously (9-0).

II. REPORTS:

A. City Committees

Dr. Jean Caudle – Oshkosh Seniors Center:

Jean pointed out a few activities that will take place at the Seniors Center: the Granny Smith 5k run/walk will take place on Saturday, October 10 with all proceeds supporting the fitness and exercise programs at the Center, and on October 6 at 2:00 p.m. there will be a piano concert by Steinway Artist Steve Hall.

Ann Jungwirth – Oshkosh Committee on Aging:

Ann said that at their last meeting she explained the function of the Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Committees (CWAG) and the benefits of belonging to such a group. She said the District III Coalition will have its fall meeting at the Oshkosh Seniors Center and all are welcome. The cost is \$3.00 for a continental breakfast and lunch. Ann said she attended a program titled, “Good Drugs Gone Bad,” which explained the dangers of ingesting another person’s drugs and the importance of putting your drugs in a safe place.

Sylvia Bull – Menasha Senior Center:

Sylvia was excused from today’s meeting. Joyce Klundt reported that there will be a flu clinic at the Center on October 9; a presentation about Fall and Fire Safety for the elderly on October 13; a Halloween party on October 22; and a Wellness meeting on October 23.

Patty Maehl – Neenah Committee on Aging:

Patty said she has been re-appointed to the Neenah Committee on Aging.

Kim Biederman – Omro Area Community Center

Kim said their annual meeting will take place on Monday, October 19 at 5:00 p.m. Members should call the Community Center by October 9 if they plan to attend. They will have a flu clinic on October 7 and October 21 from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. Kim listed some of the activities that will begin in the fall: karate, dance classes, Texas Hold ’Em and Wii bowling. There will be a Halloween party on October 29 for kids grades K through 5. They continue to have a card party on alternate Mondays. On the days they have blood pressure and nail clinics the attendance at the meal programs goes up. Kim said the Omro Community Center will be getting a new phone system where the caller can press a number to reach a person. Hopefully this will give the seniors better service.

Carol Rausch – Pickett Community Center

Carol said they are seeking a new director, and they have a new person working with the meal program. An auction will be held on October 10 to benefit the Center. Participants to the meal program during the month will receive “funny money” to be used at the auction to bid on a bag of goodies. They will have a Halloween party in October. The Center is looking for a Wii to be used for the seniors at the Center. They are looking for an agency to offer blood pressure checks and a flu clinic.

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

Deb was excused from today’s meeting.

C. Nutrition Advisory Council – Theresa Stern

Terri distributed information on the Volunteer Banquet, which will be held on September 29. She said she is currently working on the “Prepare Now” packets for emergencies in collaboration with RSVP and TRIAD. Presentations will be made at all of the meal sites. Terri said they are also doing some preparations in case of a pandemic such as the flu. The meal delivery drivers will be sanitizing their hands in between each delivery as a precaution. Terri shared statistics for the meal program from January through August. She said they are serving an average of 516 meals per day; 430 are supported with Older Americans Act dollars, and the balance is supported through donations or an agreement with the county. Contributions are down about .11 cents per meal. They project they will serve about 130,000 meals this year. Terri said an award was granted to the RSVP program through TRIAD for the good work they have done relative to safety and seniors.

D. County Board – Don Griesbach

Don said the Facilities & Property Management Committee passed a vote to purchase the Oshkosh B’Gosh Building, and the proposal will go before the County Board on October 20.

E. Human Services Board – Don Griesbach/Donna Lohry

They had no report.

F. Benefit Specialist – Joan Jaworski

Joan said she attended the recent ADRC conference. At the Medicare Part D workshop she learned that the state is raising the income limits for the low income subsidy; therefore, more people will be eligible for help with their Part D—they won’t have to pay a premium and their co-pays will be lower. It also eliminates the donut hole or coverage gap for those individuals. Joan said there are changes taking place to the Medicaid program starting January 1. When a person becomes eligible for Medicaid he will be enrolled in a temporary drug plan by the pharmacy so coverage starts immediately. He will automatically be enrolled in Medicaid, and coverage will then begin 4-6 weeks from enrollment.

Joan said annual enrollment for Medicare Advantage and drug plans starts October 15, so people should review their plans to see if they will continue working for them next year. She said Energy Assistance will start October 1, and individuals who applied last year will automatically get an application for 2009. Because income limits have gone up, more people will be served and the assistance amount will be lower than last year.

G. Supervisor – Mark Weisensel

Mark reported that he attended the two-day ADRC conference in Stevens Point. He participated in several interesting break-out sessions. He said he attended the Park View Fall Festival on September 9. He has been working on an application for a grant from the Department of Transportation for elderly and disabled transportation. He has also been working on the County's 2010-2012 Aging Plan which is to be submitted to the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources. Mark reminded Commission members about the "All Grown Up and Staying Young" conference, which will be held on Saturday, October 3.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Comments – Visitors and Guests

There were no comments

B. The next meeting of the Winnebago County Commission on Aging will be held Wednesday, October 28, 2009 at 1:30 p.m. at the Oshkosh Human Services Building, located at 220 Washington Avenue.

C. With no further business, Don Griesbach moved for adjournment; seconded by Patty Maehl and carried at approximately 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dorothy De Grace, Secretary
Human Services Department