

WINNEBAGO COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING
MEETING MINUTES

November 25, 2009

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

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Roger Jaeger

OTHERS PRESENT: Sue Schleis, Jasper Pickett Community Center; Terri Stern, Advocap Nutrition Program; Deb Tauer, Advocap RSVP Program; 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 Sylvia Bull, Kim Biedermann, and Roger Jaeger are excused from today's meeting. Patty Maehl moved for adoption of the revised agenda; seconded by Ann Jungwirth and carried.

C. Approval of minutes of the October 28, 2009 meeting

With no additions or corrections, Donna Lohry moved for approval; seconded by Joyce Klundt and carried (8-0).

II. REPORTS:

A. City Committees

Dr. Jean Caudle – Oshkosh Seniors Center:

Jean referred to the December Senior Doings booklet and explained some of the upcoming events. Several holiday functions are scheduled at the Seniors Center, including two Holiday concerts—one on December 1 at 6:30 p.m. and another on December 10 at 6:30 p.m.

Ann Jungwirth – Oshkosh Committee on Aging:

Ann said there will be a Holiday Lunch & Dance on December 11 at 11:30 a.m. at the Seniors Center. A Christmas Celebration will be held on December 15 at 1:00 p.m. and a Holiday Cooking Demonstration on December 17, 2009 at 3:00 p.m.

Sylvia Bull – Menasha Senior Center:

Sylvia was excused from today's meeting. Joyce Klundt said the Center will offer a Doggy Photo Shoot for \$5.00. A Christmas Party will be held on December 15. Christmas Bingo will be offered on December 22. A New Year's countdown celebration will be held on December 31 in conjunction with the meal site.

Patty Maehl – Neenah Committee on Aging:

Patty reported on her attendance at a recent Housing Authority meeting and a Committee on Aging meeting.

Kim Biedermann – Omro Area Community Center

Kim was excused from today's meeting.

Sue Schleis – Pickett Community Center

Sue said they offered a "flu shot clinic" in November, and they served over 60 people for a Thanksgiving meal at the Center. They will be offering scrapbooking and card parties every Thursday afternoon. They are selling gift cards as a fundraiser. Their annual Country Breakfast will be offered on Sunday, December 13 and a Christmas Dinner on Thursday, December 17 starting at 10:30 a.m. with a performance by the Madrigals.

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

Deb said that this year they will be recognizing volunteer coordinators of the 72 agencies in Winnebago and Green Lake counties that work with the RSVP program. Deb said volunteers have recently assisted at several H1N1 flu clinics. They will be doing recruitment for Habitat for Humanity in the Fox Cities by hosting a breakfast. They will sponsor a Martin Luther King Day of service by partnering with the Oshkosh Seniors Center in hosting a recognition recruitment event where the public will be invited for an opportunity to sign up as a volunteer in their area of interest. Deb said she prepared a Project, Profile and Volunteer Activity Report as required by the corporation. The report included these statistics: from June 2008 through June 2009 there were 342 active volunteers in the RSVP program; the average age of volunteers is between 64-74; there are 255 female and 87 male volunteers; over 100 volunteers help serve the congregate meals; there are almost 3,000 hours of service logged for food distribution; and over 5,000 hours for the Habitat crew for housing rehab and construction.

C. Nutrition Advisory Council – Theresa Stern

Terri said they have distributed "Prepare Now" packets to home-delivered meal participants for completion by them, and they will be giving out charts from Emergency Management containing detailed information for emergencies. They have completed their annual survey of participants of the meal program.

Terri said they are participating in the “Be a Santa to a Senior” program again this year. Terri referred to the Nutrition Program statistical report for January through October. The average number of meals served daily is 513. Terri projects we will serve about 130,000 meals through the end of the year.

D. County Board – Don Griesbach

Don reported that the County Board passed the 2010 Budget with a 2.2% increase. He said we purchased the Oshkosh B’Gosh building and will be doing some remodeling.

E. Human Services Board – Don Griesbach/Donna Lohry

Donna said the Human Services staff is progressing with changes in focusing on keeping children from out-of-home placements.

F. Benefit Specialist – Joan Jaworski

Joan said that anyone who is covered under a Medicare Advantage plan or has drug coverage through a Part D plan should re-evaluate their coverage to see if they should change plans. People that have Medicare and Medicaid will also be re-evaluated. Joan said she has been doing some presentations regarding Medicare. She said she was successful on two cases regarding Social Security overpayments.

G. Supervisor – Mark Weisensel

Mark distributed an organizational chart for the new Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC). The application form to be a member of the ADRC Advisory Committee will be available soon for anyone who is interested. The committee will be comprised of 11-12 members. As the Elderly & Outreach Services Supervisor, Mark said he will supervise two elderly benefit specialists and two disability benefit specialists. He listed the services that his team will offer. He will also continue to supervise the Elderly and Transportation Services for Winnebago County.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Program – Winnebago County Drug Free Coalition – Jason Weber

Jason is the Community Liaison Officer for the Town of Menasha Police Department. He has been selected to be on the Board of Directors for the Wisconsin Crime Prevention Practitioners Association and he is a representative for the State TRIAD Association. Jason said a campaign has been initiated in the Fox Valley to combat the theft and abuse of prescription drugs. A coalition of individuals has developed an educational kit containing power points, brochures, and TV commercials. It was distributed at the Crime Prevention Officers Association Conference in September, and they have since been asked to give talks across the state. Funding was obtained through grants and contributions.

Jason gave a power point presentation at today's meeting telling about pharmaceutical abuse and associated crimes. He said the abuse of prescription drugs can be just as deadly as street drugs. He said last year, according to the MEG Unit in the four-county area of Fond du Lac, Outagamie, Calumet, and Winnebago, we had 36 deaths that were drug related (27 of those deaths were related to pharmaceutical abuse). Almost half of the drug-related emergency visits in the Fox Valley were due to prescription drug abuse. Home burglaries are on the rise where the only thing taken is prescription drugs. Prescription drugs are the most commonly abused drugs among middle- and junior high school kids. Most prescription drugs are obtained from friends or relatives by stealing or otherwise. Jason said people should safeguard their medications by storing them in a private area, not out in the open. Be aware of anyone that enters your home, and be attentive at the pharmacy. Report any suspicious activity. Dispose of your excess or out-dated prescriptions in one of the following manners: Take them to a designated drop-off box as part of a "Take Back Medication" program; or if you must dispose of them yourself, place them in used kitty litter or wet coffee grounds; if they are liquid, add an absorbent product such as flour and then place it into a water tight container for disposal.

Jason said an Assembly Bill has been presented to the legislature in Madison to create a prescription drug monitoring program. A database would list the names of people that are taking prescription drugs and the date of each purchase. Prevention efforts are taking place locally and statewide in schools, the media, doctor's offices and pharmacies regarding the theft and abuse of prescription drugs.

B. Special Presentations

Mark Weisensel presented each Commission member with a certification of appreciation for their service over the years. He said this is the last Commission on Aging meeting, as it will evolve into an ADRC Committee overseeing the Aging & Disability Resource Center. He said the County Executive will be making appointments to the ADRC committee early in 2010. Mark said he would mail out ADRC Committee application forms to all Commission on Aging members as soon as the form is finalized.

- C. With no further business, Patty Maehl moved for adjournment; seconded by Joyce Klundt and carried at approximately 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Dorothy De Grace, Secretary
Human Services Department