

**WINNEBAGO COUNTY
AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (ADRC) COMMITTEE**

MEETING MINUTES

DATE: December 14, 2020

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Virtual via Zoom

Members Present: Paul Janty, Susan Locke, Harold Singstock, Claire Steger, Pete Christianson, Rob Paterson, Tanisha Alvarado, Jan Olson, Elizabeth Jones, Don Hansen, Michael Norton, Nicole Neuhoff

Members Excused: Kate Pfaendtner

Staff Present: Beth Roberts, Brian Nagler, Bryn Ceman and Julienne Gohde

Others Present: Larry Lautenschlager, Karen Powers, Alana Erickson

Paul Janty called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

1. Public Comments:

No public comments given at this time.

2. Approve Minutes of the November 9, 2020 ADRC Meetings:

Mike Norton motioned to approve the minutes as written; Susan Locke seconded the motion and was approved by all.

3. ADRC Reinvestment- Beth

Over the last 3-4 years there has been discussion on some ADRCs not being funded enough to do their core jobs where others have more than enough funds. Initially the State was talking about reallocation of the funds to make an even playing field. They realized that there would not be enough funds for some counties then. A committee was formed to see what it would take for the State to reinvest into the ADRCs. The funds have been stagnant without increases for a while as the population that the ADRCs serve has increased immensely. The committee came up with a formula that used the demographics of the county such as population over 60, population over 18 with disability, population over age 18

who are considered a minority, population over the age of 75, and population of people who are in poverty in the community. Only if the state would approve the budget as is, we would get a theoretical allocation \$1.725 million dollars as a grant. Currently it is \$1.1 million. This will not be discussed until next year in the state budget and would take effect July 1 2021, but would not see any profit until January 2022. No counties will lose fund, however there is potential for some ADRCs that are grouped together to lose funds if they split up vs. staying in a consortium.

4. Newsletter/calendar-All:

The ADRC newsletter was shared on the screen. The ADRC did not want to draw funds from other printed materials like the resource directory to create a newsletter. A no cost monthly electronic newsletter for our ADRC was produced and is now sent out to over 300 subscribers! Each month the newsletter highlights a staff member, fun things such as recipes, calendar of events, additional information and resources available, benefit highlights, and much more. This newsletter is on the Winnebago Co. website where one can click on the ADRC link to view newsletters.

5. Reports:

- a. Manager Report – Beth Roberts
Beth gave a sincere thank you for the support through the passing of her husband.

Beth shared information on the "score cards" that rate the managed care organizations. The ADRC is used to sharing the preliminary \$ amount with the client that would be used initially for Family Care or IRIS care. Now, the amount will not be shared until AFTER they choose Family Care or IRIS. Brian voiced that the state is trying to have consistency through out the state so that options counseling is done the same in all counties. Right now, they educate the customer on how much services will cost and how much will be funded. It is a confidence builder for the client to know that they can do these programs. With this change, the client will not know upfront what dollar amount is available to them. The state wants them to choose the program and not the dollar amount. There could be a lot more busy work and lost time if they go back and forth if the client wants to change programs.

Beth shared information regarding a report on inclusivity and providing non-traditional services and opportunities from a county in Minnesota. Beth feels that we should consider changing the mission statement of the ADRC to include this. A county appointed diversity committee is still in the works, to make our county a more inclusive county. There would be 7 appointed members where each would have an equal voice in how to create more inclusivity in our community. This committee will be voted on at the County Board meeting on December 15th.

- b. Complaints / Grievances – Beth Roberts
No complaints to share at this time.

6. **“Community Beat” – Sharing of Compliments / Complaints from Community, Consumers, Providers – Committee Members**

Mike Norton questioned about roundabouts (Washburn and 9th) and funding that was received from the ADRC and was curious if we are reaching out to other communities also, for example extending to Neenah. Beth shared that there have been many complaints received about this intersection by people having difficulties crossing in walkers and wheelchairs. There was a lot of push by advocates for the city to add flashing lights for crossing. Some transportation funds that were not used yet for this year, that were still available, were allocated to this project. These were used for funding the electronic device and the city will cover the installation cost. Bids went out to the city and the equipment will be purchased by the end of the year and installed early next year.

Mike spoke with the chairman of the County Board and he said that Beth is welcome to make a presentation at any time.

Diversity Affairs commission is important to Mike and he gives kudos to Beth for all of the work that she has done for it.

Tanisha Alvarado mentioned the future listening sessions that she is receiving information on. She will continue to send on information that she finds on these sessions to the committee. She also shared that Alban (seamstress) makes and gives away masks for the hearing impaired for free. These have a clear "window" around the mouth area so that lips may be read.

Jan Olson questioned if there is anyone looking for help to roll out injections for the COVID vaccine (skilled nurse techs). She still carries her nursing license and would like to help if she could. Alana Erickson will reach out to her.

Alana Erickson updated the committee that the case rate numbers are coming down. There is also a lower rate of testing being done. They are more able to manage their daily case loads now. The vaccine is in the near future. There is a very low rate of testing in the community right now. They encourage testing if you have been exposed or a change in your symptoms. The recommendation is to wait 5 days after exposure before being tested.

Pete Christianson shared that he wants to share the information about the specialty masks for the hearing impaired for a fellow tenant in his building. Elizabeth Jones will send some to him 😊

Nicole Neuhoff commented that she would love to get one of the flashing crossing signals at the roundabout in Neenah (intersection of Winneconne and Green Bay Road) also.

Liz Jones gave a thank you to Tanisha for sharing the information about the listening sessions.

Larry Lautenschlager stated that he is now the chairperson of the Human Services Board and will be attending these meetings more often now.

Karen Powers commented on the roundabout at 9th and Washburn. At 9th and Koller there are flags that you can carry across the street. She does not believe that the buckets for these flags are on both sides. Bryn Ceman will follow up with Jim Collins on this.

Brian Nagler shared that Cindy Pischke is retiring after 43+ years! Rebecca Groleau (Dementia Care Specialist) will be filling Cindy's position. There will be updates soon on the replacement of the Dementia Care Specialist position. There are many trainings with the State for Family Care and Iris being completed right now. They are waiting on the November budget from accounting department to see what funds are left to be used by the end of the year. They had just put in a stair lift for a client thanks to the work of Cindy Pischke!

Bryn Ceman reported that this year there has been over 100 court actions- 26 financial exploitation cases with an average age of 74 and average loss of \$22,000.00. In February they will have a Welcome to Medicare Presentation from Julie and Joan. Rebecca is helping get additional law enforcement trainings in the book for 2021.

Post meeting, Bryn shared the following updates regarding the roundabouts:

- Confirmed there are pedestrian flags at 9th and Koeller, 9th and Washburn, Witzel and Washburn and Witzel and Koeller.
- The only roundabouts without pedestrian flags in the City of Oshkosh are at Hwy. 41 as those are under WisDOT's jurisdiction.
- The desire for pedestrian flags at the Green Bay Road roundabout was shared with Traffic Engineer for the City of Neenah. He has the information from The City of Oshkosh for the vendor and the cost of pedestrian flags. He is agreeable to installing them. City of Neenah may also be interested in a beacon system (aka flashing lights) for installation at the roundabout in the coming years. Traffic Engineer will reach out to ADRC for assistance, funding and with updates.

7. **Next Meeting – January 11, 2021 via Zoom**

With no further business, Paul Janty adjourned the meeting at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted: Julienne Gohde, Recorder