



**ELDERBRIDGE AGENCY ON AGING
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

308 Central Avenue
Fort Dodge, IA 50501
Wednesday, February 26, 2020
10:30 am

0.0 Call to Order

Vice President Linda Vaudt called the meeting to order at 10:31 a.m.

0.1 The advisory council members, staff members, and guests introduced themselves. Also present were: Shelly Sindt, CEO, Stacia Timmer, COO, and Amy B. Simpson, Executive Assistant were present. Ethan Huizenga, Board Liaison was not present. A quorum was present with 14 members in attendance.

Brenda Bengard Audubon	Ex	Elaine Kelsey Franklin	P	Vacant Osceola	
Vacant Buena Vista		Vacant Greene		Maureen Sandberg Palo Alto	P
Leane Bodle Calhoun	P	Betty Knudsen Guthrie	Ex	Linda Saathoff Pocahontas	P
Joene Bohlmann Carroll	P	Becky Koppen Hamilton	P	Vacant Sac	
Kathye Gaines Cerro Gordo	P	Vacant Hancock		Vacant Sioux	
Randy Van Dyke Clay	P	Vacant Humboldt		Alison Hauser Webster	Ex
Sherry Meyer Crawford	Ex	Linda Vaudt Kossuth	P	Rick Burke Winnebago	P
Carol DeSchepper Dickinson	P	Lisa Rockshill Lyon	P	Nancy Rheinfels Worth	A
Kelly Schultz Emmett	P	Talia Bremer Mitchell	A	Ann Leonard Wright	Ex

Pat Gansen P Eric Erickson A Ethan Huizenga Ex
Floyd O'Brien Board Rep

0.2 Items to be added to/deleted from the Agenda by Council Members and Staff
 No new items were added to the agenda.

0.3 Adopt Agenda
 It was moved by Lisa Rockhill and seconded by Rick Burke to adopt the February 26, 2020, agenda. Motion carried.

1.0 **Council Affairs**

1.1 Approval of the October 23, 2019, Council Meeting Minutes
 It was moved by Lisa Rockhill and seconded by Kelly Schultz that the October 23, 2019, meeting minutes be approved. Motion carried.

1.2 Seating of new Advisory Council Members, Pat Gansen, Floyd County, and Linda Saathoff, Pocahontas County
 Pat Gansen and Linda Saathoff were welcomed to the Advisory Council and they introduced themselves to the group. It was moved by Kathye Gaines and seconded by Rick Burke to seat Pat Gansen and Linda Saathoff to the Advisory Council. Motion carried.

1.3 Upcoming Term Renewals, term completions, and current vacant counties
 Vice President Vaudt reported on the upcoming renewals, term completions, and current vacant counties. COO Timmer indicated there is an interested candidate for the Sioux County vacancy. Betty Knudsen from Guthrie County indicated she would not be serving another term. CEO Sindt stated that if any of the outgoing members had someone who could replace them to please contact her or Amy with possible candidates.

1.4 Joint Planning Committee Report – Service Priorities
 COO Timmer reported that on November 8, 2019, the Joint Planning Committee met in Mason City to set service priorities. The Joint Planning Committee meets yearly to discuss and prioritize services for the next fiscal year. The direct service priorities were ranked according to importance as follows:

- Home-delivered meals
- Material aid
- Case management
- Congregate Meals
- Elder Rights
- Health Promotion – Evidenced Based
- Nutrition Counseling/Education
- Outreach

The subcontracted services were ranked according to importance as follows:

- Transportation
- Personal Care

- Homemaker
- Behavioral Health Services
- Emergency Response System
- Health Promotion/Disease Prevention
- Chore
- Respite
- Legal

It was moved by Linda Saathoff and seconded by Joene Bohlmann to approve the Joint Planning Committee report. Motion carried.

1.5 Fundraising Committee Report

COO Timmer reported that there will be a spring fundraiser to be held on April 30, 2020, from 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. at the Waterfront at Arnold’s Park in Okoboji. Tickets will be \$25.00 apiece and can be purchased at Eventbrite.com. There will be a silent and live auction at the event. The staff has been successful in finding sponsorships for the fundraiser to cover the costs of the event. The funds that will be raised at the event will be put towards material aid, home-delivered meals, and home modifications to help keep seniors in their homes.

Advisory Council members are encouraged to participate in and attend the fundraiser and if they have any ideas or suggestions for the event, please contact COO Timmer or CEO Sindt.

It was moved by Rick Burke and seconded by Kelly Schultz to accept the fundraising report. Motion carried.

1.6 Area Plan Update

COO Timmer reported that the Area Plan update was in the meeting packet. An update is provided to the Iowa Department on Aging yearly. The goals and strategies for the update are included in Section 1. As of July 1, 2020, Elderbridge will be starting a new 4-year plan. The Iowa Department on Aging will review the update once it is submitted.

It was moved by Randy Van Dyke and seconded by Kathy Gaines to approve the Area Plan Update. Motion carried.

1.7 Older Americans Act Update

COO Timmer stated that the Older Americans Act is the foundation of where Elderbridge gets its funding. The reauthorization of the Older Americans Act will take place in 2020. The funding will stay the same and not be decreased. The hope is that the reauthorization will be for five years. CEO Sindt stated that back in the ’80s there were cuts to the funding and a “hold harmless clause” was put in to set a funding amount for each state even if there were cuts. If the clause would have been removed, Iowa would have suffered an immediate 8.5% reduction in federal funding. Senator Grassley called for a removal of the clause gradually over 8 years to minimize the impact of the funding reduction.

2.0 Board Liaison Report - Ethan Huizenga

No Board Liaison report was presented.

3.0 Agency Report – Stacia Timmer, COO

3.1 Agency Report

COO Timmer reported that there are two new staff members. Jodi Presswood is the new Assistant Finance Director located in Fort Dodge. Sharla Kuyper, Healthy Aging Coordinator, is also located in Fort Dodge.

Remodeling is taking place at the Mason City office to expand the conference room. Staff is currently doing MIPPA (Medicare Savings Program Information) events to educate seniors about the Medicare savings program. The rent reimbursement program is open and staff is helping consumers fill out the forms for the program.

3.2 Elderbridge Alliance

COO Timmer reported that Elderbridge Alliance has been dissolved and will no longer be a 501(c)3 but Elderbridge is still providing the services that Elderbridge Alliance offered seniors.

3.3 Healthy Aging Program Update

COO Timmer stated that Elderbridge has received grants from Iowa Department on Aging to incorporate salad bars at two meal sites, Clear Lake and Denison. The hope is to increase attendance at the congregate meal sites. Shari's Kitchen, in Rock Rapids, has begun to serve congregate meals at her restaurant during lunchtime. SNAP benefits will be accepted at the meal sites as a way of contributing. An EDT machine will be coming soon to be used at the sites.

3.4 LifeLong Links Update

COO Timmer reported that the Return to Community Initiative continues to do well. Two more grants have been received to expand the program to Spirit Lake Hospital and Palo Alto Hospital. Buena Vista County hospital is also interested in the program. If you are 60 and over and have Medicare and private insurance you qualify for the program.

4.0 Community Relations

4.1 County Updates – Feedback from Council Members

- Hamilton County – Congregate meal site lost manager and cook took over duties along with other volunteers.
- Franklin County – Newsletter is sent out each month. Information was provided members about the Iowa DOT's driver's license procedures to have the gold star put on your ID or driver's license. Hampton will be having a 150th Birthday celebration in June.
- Palo Alto County – Will be providing a couple of names of replacements for her seat on the Advisory Council. Numbers are down at the Emmetsburg meal site.
- Carroll County – Liver and onions meals are popular and well attended. The hospital cooks the main entrees except when it is fish or liver and onions. The meal site in Manson is doing very well.
- Cerro Gordo County – Attended the Caregiver event in Clear Lake. It was well attended and she found it to be informative.

- Clay County – On March 5, Randy will be giving a presentation to the Spencer Pastoral Association. He will mention Elderbridge and will stop by the office to pick up any information he can give out to the group.
- Calhoun County – The meal site does 40 meals a day. Meals on Wheels are delivered Monday thru Friday. Calhoun County has one grocery store for the entire county in Lake City.
- Lyon County – Have more meals on wheels going out than congregate meals.
- Kossuth County – The care team is trying to find a way to get individuals to the meal site to have a good lunch. The goal is to have 50% of clients under the age of 65 to the meal site in Algona.
- Pocahontas County – There are more home-delivered meals than congregate meals.
- Winnebago County – Kathy Bendickson the site manager in Forest City, has resigned. There are more home-delivered meals than congregate. Will report on the Lake Mills and Buffalo Center sites in the year moving forward.

5.0 Coming Dates

- 5.1** Next Advisory Council Meeting – May 27, 2020, 9:00 a.m., conference call
- 5.2** Next Board meeting – March 10, 2020, 10:00 a.m., Fort Dodge Elderbridge Office
- 5.3** Webster County Caregiver Support Group – 2nd Wednesday and 4th Thursday of every month, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. Elderbridge Office, Fort Dodge
- 5.4** Clay County Caregiver Support Group – February 26, 2020, 3:00 to 4:00 p.m., at Spencer Elderbridge office (4th Wednesday of every month)
- 5.5** Caregiver Support Group – March 24, 2020, 9:30 a.m., Trinity Lutheran Church, Mason City
- 5.6** Caregiver Panel Discussion – Coon Rapids, Thomas Rest Haven Activity Room, 1st Tuesday of every month
- 5.7** Medicare Savings Programs Information – February 26, 2020, 12:45 p.m., Northwood Senior Citizens Center, Northwood
- 5.8** Medicare Savings Programs Information – March 18, 2020, 12:45 p.m., Senior Saints Center, St. Ansgar
- 5.9** Fundraiser “Play it Forward” Event, The Waterfront of Arnold Park, April 30, 2020

6.0 Adjournment

6.1 Adjournment

There being no further business before the Advisory Council, it was moved by Joene Bohlmann and seconded by Randy Van Dyke to adjourn the meeting at 12:09 p.m. Motion carried.