



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

Conference Call

Wednesday, October 27, 2021

9:00 am

0.0 Call to Order

President Lisa Rockhill called the meeting to order at 9:00 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 present. A quorum was present with 21 members in attendance.

Vacant Audubon		Deb Sabin Franklin	Ph	Judy Top Osceola	Ex
Vacant Buena Vista		Vacant Greene		Diana Elbert Palo Alto	Ph
Leane Bodle Calhoun	Ph	Robert Kempf Guthrie	Ph	Linda Saathoff Pocahontas	Ex
Michelle Klocke Carroll	Ph	Becky Koppen Hamilton	Ph	Carol Auen Sac	Ph
Kathye Gaines Cerro Gordo	Ex	Vacant Hancock		Merry Landenberger Sioux	Ph
Randy Van Dyke Clay	Ph	Jan Olson Humboldt	Ph	Beth Gernhart Webster	Ph
Sherry Meyer Crawford	Ex	Vacant Kossuth		Rick Burke Winnebago	Ph
Carol DeSchepper Dickinson	Ph	Lisa Rockhill Lyon	Ph	Sandra Olson Worth	Ph
Jessica Carlson Emmett	Ph	Vacant Mitchell		Tracy Crees Wright	A
Pat Gansen Floyd	Ph	Eric Erickson O'Brien	A	Ethan Huizenga Board Rep	Ph
Deb Kratchovil At-large	Ph	Carl Legore At-Large	Ph	Dan Skelton At-Large	Ph

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 Jan Olson and seconded by Randy Van Dyke to adopt the October 27, 2021, meeting agenda. Motion carried.

1.0 Council Affairs

1.1 Approval of the August 25, 2021, Council Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Dan Skelton and seconded by Merry Landenberger that the August 27, 2021, meeting minutes be approved. Motion carried.

1.2 Seating of Advisory Council member, Debra Sabin, Franklin County

President Rockhill asked Debra Sabin to introduce herself to the Advisory Council. She is retired from Iowa Valley Community College and NIACC. She loves working with the public and is looking forward to learning about Elderbridge as she has an elderly mother. Robert Kempf is from Guthrie County and is the Emergency Management Coordinator for the county. He has asked CEO Sindt and staff to serve on a committee he formed and he returned the favor by serving on the Advisory Council. It was moved by Carol DeSchepper and seconded by Becky Koppen to seat Debra Sabin from Franklin County to the Advisory Council. Motion carried.

1.3 Current vacant counties

1.3.1 Audubon, Buena Vista, Greene, Hancock, Kossuth, Mitchell

CEO Sindt stated that there are six vacancies on the Advisory Council and that efforts are ongoing to fill the vacancies. Linda Vaudt from Kossuth County will be leaving the Advisory Council to serve on the Board of Directors.

1.4 Fundraising Committee Report

CEO Sindt reported the following:

- There will be a fundraising gala in August 2022 in Carroll, with hor d' oeuvres and music. Auctions items will be donated. There will be a silent and live auction.
- The event was scheduled a year away due to the pandemic and because the agency has received federal ARPA funding and the need for fundraising is not as great.
- Elderbridge employee, Emily Winker, will be the auctioneer for the event.
- Staff and Board members will begin to meet regularly to plan the event.

It was moved by Jan Olson and seconded by Rick Burke to accept the fundraising report as presented. Motion carried.

1.5 Older Iowans Legislature Report

CEO Sindt stated that the Older Iowans Legislature is a non-profit group that advocates in the state of Iowa on behalf of older Iowans. It is important that Elderbridge supports its efforts and is part of the organization. The top priority issues are the direct care workforce, elder abuse, liveable homes, and Long-Term Care Ombudsman. COO Timmer stated that the long-term care ombudsman program goes into long-term care facilities and assisted living facilities to advocate for residents and tenants. The program

has traditionally been underfunded. There are currently five ombudsmen for the state of Iowa.

1.6 Joint Planning Committee Appointments

1.6.1 Meeting date of November 5 from 10:00 to Noon by Zoom & in person

CEO Sindt stated that the Joint Planning Committee meets every year to prioritize direct care services and subcontracted services. Three to four volunteers from the Board and Advisory Council participate on the Committee. The meeting is scheduled for November 5, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. at the Algona Senior Center. Randy Van Dyke, Diana Elbert, Carol DeSchepper, and Dan Skelton volunteered to participate.

It was moved by Pat Gansen and seconded by Merry Landenberger to appoint Randy Van Dyke, Diana Elbert, Carol DeSchepper, and Dan Skelton to the Joint Planning Committee. Motion carried.

1.7 Review and Discussion of Annual Report

CEO Sindt stated that the Annual Report was included in the meeting packet. The report includes information on where funding was allocated and spent, Elderbridges services that were provided, and an individual county report is included when staff meets with the County Board of Supervisors to request funding. County funding allows Elderbridge to meet the 25% match requirement to receive federal funding. Once the County Board of Supervisor visits are scheduled a listing will be sent out to the Advisory Council.

1.8 COVID-19 Update

CEO Sindt stated that the Delta variant created issues back in September mostly with unvaccinated individuals. The booster vaccines have been approved and counties are starting to have clinics. COO Timmer reported that all offices are open to the public. Staff and the public are asked to wear masks in the office. The meal sites have been functioning normally. The evidence-based services are still being offered by Zoom because clients like not having to travel. Caregiver support groups are still by Zoom but are slowly going back to in-person meetings.

2.0 Board Liaison Report – Ethan Huizenga

Board member Huizenga reported that the Board talked about most of what has been reported during the meeting. The Central Services Board met to discuss projects that are ongoing in the Spencer and Fort Dodge offices. CEO Sindt stated that the Fort Dodge office has some updates that will be happening and the Spencer office will be getting new blinds for the windows. Board Member Huizenga also reported that Elderbridge is in the process of getting 28E Agreements from the counties in Elderbridge's service area to continue to receive county match funds.

3.0 Agency Report

3.1 CEO Report – Shelly Sindt

CEO Sindt reported on the following:

- Elderbridge is currently waiting for three counties to sign the 28E Agreement. All the other counties have submitted their signed agreements. Webster County has indicated they will not sign the agreement.

- CEO Sindt has been elected to the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (USAgging) and is the Region VII alternate on the Board. There will be an in-person Board meeting in December in Washington DC and she will be attending the meeting.

3.2 COO Report – Stacia Timmer

COO Timmer reported on the following:

- Tricia Porath is the new Information & Assistant Specialist in the Spencer office and Christine Lorentzen is the new IRTC Coach for Hancock County and she is also a case manager in the Mason City office.
- Santa for Seniors is coming up. Elderbridge partnered with Upper Des Moines and RSVP to adopt a senior. Mason City, Spencer, and Webster City will be involved with the program. The program is very popular and has grown each year.
- Elderbridge partnered with the NIACC wrestling team and the track team to go out into the community to do fall clean-up for seniors. Northwest Bank in Spencer will also be partnering with Elderbridge to do fall clean-up in Spencer.
- Advisory Council members need to fill in the “in-kind” form for their time attending meetings or Elderbridge activities.

4.0 Community Relations

4.1 County Updates – Feedback from Council Members

- Hamilton County – RSVP is gearing up for Santa for Seniors. RSVP is also partnering with Elderbridge to provide Errand Buddy and reassurance calls.
- Worth County – More and more activities are being scheduled at the senior center. A restaurant in Kensett was approached to be an Iowa Café site.
- At-large – Dan Skelton stated that the Clay County Board of Supervisors has acted on the 28E Agreement
- Clay County – Sent a link to CEO Sindt and COO Timmer for an article that was posted on KLEO about how healthcare workers are weathering the COVID storm.
- Humboldt County – There is no congregate meal site in the county. Home-delivered meals work well. She has not seen any advertising for the Iowa Café site in Humboldt.
- Winnebago County – Nothing new to report. The meal site is going fine.
- Sioux County – Concerned for a 99-year-old senior in Hawarden that lives alone. The Nearest family member is in Chicago. Advisory Council members suggested Homemaker services (income-based) for her that could be paid through Medicaid if she qualifies.

5.0 Coming Dates

- 5.1** Next Advisory Council Meeting – February 23, 2022, 10:30 a.m., Fort Dodge Elderbridge Office
- 5.2** Next Board Meeting- November 9, 2021, 10:00 am Conference Call
- 5.3** Office Closures – November 11, 25 & 26, 2021, Veteran’s Day, Thanksgiving
- 5.4** Caregiver Support Group – Trinity Lutheran Church in Mason City, the fourth Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. by Zoom
- 5.5** Webster County Caregiver Support Group – 4th Thursday of the month from, 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. by Zoom.
- 5.6** Clay County Caregiver Support Group – 1st Thursday of the month at 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. or 3rd Tuesday of the month from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.by Zoom

- 5.7 Coon Rapids Caregiver Support Group – 1st Tuesday of the month from 3:00 to 4:00 by Zoom
- 5.8 Seated Tai Chi for Arthritis – November 2 – December 30, 2021, 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays by Zoom
- 5.9 Tai Chi for Arthritis & Fall Prevention – October 4 to December 6, Mondays & Thursdays at 10:30 a.m., Lake Plaza Apartments, Clear Lake

6.0 Adjournment

6.1 Adjournment

There being no further business before the Advisory Council, it was moved by Dan Skelton and seconded by Randy Van Dyke to adjourn the meeting at 10:53 a.m. Motion carried.