



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

Conference Call

Wednesday, February 23, 2022

10:30 am

0.0 Call to Order

President Lisa Rockhill called the meeting to order at 10:33 a.m.

0.1 The advisory council members, staff members, and guests introduced themselves. Also present were: Shelly Sindt, CEO, Stacia Timmer, COO, Laura Allen, Volunteer Coordinator, and Amy B. Simpson, Executive Assistant were present. Ethan Huizenga, Board Liaison was not present. A quorum was present with 19 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	A	Robert Kempf Guthrie	Ex	Linda Saathoff Pocahontas	Ph
Michelle Klocke Carroll	Ph	Becky Koppen Hamilton	Ex	Carol Auen Sac	Ph
Kathye Gaines Cerro Gordo	Ph	Amy Callahan Hancock	Ph	Merry Landenberger Sioux	Ph
Randy Van Dyke Clay	Ph	Jan Olson Humboldt	Ph	Beth Gernhart Webster	Ph
Sherry Meyer Crawford	Ex	Dan Peterson Kossuth	Ph	Rick Burke Winnebago	Ex
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	Ex	Ethan Huizenga Board Rep	Ex
Deb Kratchovil At-large	Ph	Carl Legore At-Large	A	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 Randy Van Dyke and seconded by Linda Saathoff to adopt the February 23, 2022, meeting agenda. Motion carried.

1.0 Council Affairs

1.1 Approval of the October 27, 2021, Council Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Dan Skelton and seconded by Merry Landenberger that the October 27, 2021, meeting minutes be approved with the correction to the spelling of Merry Landenberger's name in item 1.6. Motion carried.

1.2 Seating of two new Advisory Council members, Dan Peterson, Kossuth County, and Amy Callahan, Hancock County

President Rockhill asked Dan Peterson and Amy Callahan to introduce themselves to the Advisory Council. Dan Peterson stated he has been retired since 2010 and is very active with the Algona Senior Center. Amy Callahan reported that she works with people with mental health disabilities. She has been a caregiver to her parents and became interested in what Elderbridge does.

It was moved by Sandy Olson and seconded by Merry Landenberger to seat Dan Peterson, Kossuth County, and Amy Callahan, Hancock County. Motion carried.

1.3 Upcoming term renewals, and current vacant counties

President Rockhill stated that the list of upcoming term renewals was provided in the meeting information. Elderbridge staff will be contacting members to provide an application to renew their terms. Audubon, Buena Vista, Greene, and Mitchell counties are currently vacant.

1.4 Joint Planning Committee Report

COO Timmer stated that the Joint Planning Committee met in November 2021. Board members, Advisory Council members, and staff met in Algona to prioritize Direct Care services and subcontracted services. The prioritizing of services helps staff develop the Area Plan. The top three Direct Care Services are Home-delivered meals, congregate meals and elder rights/high-risk case management. The top three subcontracted services are Personal Care, Respite, and transportation.

It was moved by Randy Van Dyke and seconded by Carol DeSchepper to accept the Joint Planning Committee report as presented. Motion carried.

1.5 Fundraising Committee Report

CEO Sindt reported the following:

- There will be a fundraising gala on August 18, 2022, in Carroll at the Santa Maria Winery. Auctions items will be donated. There will be a silent and live auction.
- The Advisory Council was asked to get donated items from their respective counties to help reduce Elderbridge staff time.
- Volunteer Coordinator, Laura Allen, showed the members some of the silent auction items that were at the last fundraiser.

- The silent auction will be from August 17 thru August 21.
- The funds raised will be for home modifications such as grab bars, wheelchairs, walk-in showers, and emergency home-delivered meals.
- Elderbridge employee, Emily Winker, will be the auctioneer for the event.
- Lidderdale Catering will be providing hor d' oeuvres for the event.
- A winetasting event is in the process of being organized for the event.

It was moved by Randy Van Dyke and seconded by Carol DeSchepper to accept the fundraising report as presented. Motion carried.

1.6 Review and Approval of Area Plan Update

COO Timmer stated that the management team has been working on the update to the four-year Area Plan. Updates to the Area Plan are done yearly. The three goals are reviewed along with the strategies. Elderbridge is on target for FY22. The strategies will be revised if warranted. The Advisory Council will be sent a copy of the update to review in detail. The due date for submission of the update is April 2022.

CEO Sindt stated that the update that COO Timmer presented at the meeting was a rough draft. The management team has been working on the goals that have been achieved, gaps that were focused on and may need updating, and reviewing and updating the strategies.

It was moved by Randy Van Dyke and seconded by Dan Peterson to approve the Area Plan update as presented. Motion carried.

1.7 COVID-19 Update

COO Timmer reported the Emergency Proclamation was ended by Governor Reynolds on February 15, 2022. This does not impact Elderbridge because the agency continued to provide services during the pandemic. The staff has begun to do more face-to-face visits as restrictions have been lifted. Congregate meal sites are open.

1.8 LifeLong Links Program Report

COO Timmer reported that in the Area Plan it is required to have a LifeLong Links Advisory Council. In the past, the LifeLong Links Advisory Council has not been active. So instead of having a separate group, there will be a new standing agenda item on the Advisory Council agenda to talk about programs and services within Elderbridge.

1.9 Legislative Update

CEO Sindt reported that the i4a Association pays for a lobbyist at the state level, that lobbies on behalf of the AAAs. CEO Sindt stated that she receives reports from the Older Iowans Legislature and the lobbyist. The reports will be sent out to the Advisory Council.

2.0 Board Liaison Report – Ethan Huizenga

No report was given at the meeting.

3.0 Agency Report

3.1 CEO Report – Shelly Sindt

CEO Sindt reported on the following:

- Elderbridge has a great team and she is grateful for the support she has received during her recent treatments. CEO Sindt will be returning to work the following week on a part-time basis.
- Volunteer Coordinator Laura Allen – the program has been growing. Volunteers play a vital role in the organization. The biggest need is in the area of transportation. The volunteers do telephone reassurance for clients that are homebound. Relationships have been created as a result of the telephone reassurance. Volunteers have also helped to do outdoor Chore services in Mason City and Spencer through the Community Kindness Project. The Santa for Seniors Program continues to grow, and the communities served were Mason City, Spencer, and Webster City.

3.2 COO Report – Stacia Timmer

COO Timmer reported on the following:

- The Iowa Return to Community Program (IRTC) – expanded into Hancock County and nursing facilities in Cerro Gordo and Winnebago Counties. The next target areas are Unity Point in Fort Dodge and Franklin County. More hospitals are becoming interested in the program.
- A new date and time will be scheduled to train new Advisory Council members.

4.0 Community Relations

4.1 County Updates – Feedback from Council Members

- At large Representative Clay County – Complimented CEO Sindt and her staff on the County visits they do to ask for county match funds.
- Franklin County – Been working with Nutrition Director, Danielle Crail, to get an Iowa Café restaurant in Franklin County (7 Stars). There is a cultural center in Hampton and CEO Sindt thanked Deb Sabin for taking the lead to better connect with the Hispanic population.
- Guthrie County – The public health agency in the county has added a social worker position to their staff.
- Humboldt County – two nursing homes in the County are owned by a company that is going bankrupt. She is worried about the residents living there. COO Timmer stated that the Long Term Care Ombudsmen as well as the Department of Inspections & Appeals are normally involved in those kinds of situations.
- Sioux County – Was wondering about the funds for the Iowa Café program. CEO Sindt stated there is a limited amount of money and there are counties that were targeted via the Area Plan. Elderbridge has slowed the acquisition of new restaurants to make sure the program does not run out of funds, but that does not mean Sioux County will never get an Iowa Café restaurant.
- Worth County – Has not been at the senior center since November. The committee in charge of the senior center, while she was gone, is doing a really good job of encouraging people to have congregate meals and participate in the center activities.

5.0 Coming Dates

- 5.1** Next Advisory Council Meeting – May 25, 2022, 9:00 a.m., conference call
- 5.2** Next Board Meeting – March 8, 2022, at 10:00 a.m. Fort Dodge Elderbridge office
- 5.3** Seated Tai Chi for Arthritis – March 15 - May 19, Tuesday and Thursday at 10:30 a.m. Swan Place, In the Chapel, Carroll
- 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, 3:30 to 4:30 p.m., Fort Dodge Public Library
- 5.6** Clay County Caregiver Support Group – 1st Thursday of the month from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. or the 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

6.0 Adjournment

6.1 Adjournment

There being no further business before the Advisory Council, it was moved by Dan Skelton and seconded by Dan Peterson to adjourn the meeting at 12:25 p.m. Motion carried.