



**ELDERBRIDGE AGENCY ON AGING
ANNUAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Zoom Conference Call
Wednesday, August 23, 2023
9:00 a.m.**

0.0 Call to Order

Chair Randy Van Dyke called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m.

0.1 The Advisory Council members, staff members, and guests introduced themselves. Also present were: Shelly Sindt, CEO, Stacia Timmer, COO, Amy Simpson, Executive Assistant, Amber Schulze, Healthy Aging Coordinator. Amanda Kaufman, Liaison to the Advisory Council was also present. A quorum was present with 18 members in attendance.

Vacant Audubon		Deb Sabin Franklin	Ex	Vacant Osceola	
Lisa Funk Buena Vista	A	Penny Tiffany Greene	Ph	Diana Elbert Palo Alto	Ph
Leane Bodle Calhoun	Ph	Vacant Guthrie		Linda Saathoff Pocahontas	Ph
Michelle Klocke Carroll	Ph	Becky Koppen Hamilton	Ph	Carol Auen Sac	Ph
Lionel Foster Cerro Gordo	Ph	Amy Callahan Hancock	A	Merry Landenberger Sioux	Ph
Randy Van Dyke Clay	Ph	Jan Olson Humboldt	Ph	Vacant Webster	
Vacant Crawford		Dan Peterson Kossuth	Ph	Rick Burke Winnebago	A
Carol DeSchepper Dickinson	Ph	Lisa Rockhill Lyon	Ex	Sandra Olson Worth	Ph
Jessica Carlson Emmet	Ph	Deb Scharper Mitchell	Ph	Tracy Crees Wright	A
Pat Gansen Floyd	Ex	Eric Erickson O'Brien	A	Amanda Kaufman Board Rep	Ph
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 Dan Peterson and seconded by Jessica Carlson to adopt the August 23, 2023, meeting agenda. Motion carried.

1.0 Council Affairs

1.1 Approval of the May 24, 2023, Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Dan Skelton and seconded by Sandy Olson that the May 24, 2023, meeting minutes be approved. Motion carried.

1.2 Approval and seating of Deb Scharper, Mitchell County, and Lionel Foster, Cerro Gordo County

CEO Sindt asked the new members to introduce themselves to the Advisory Council. Lionel Foster, Cerro Gordo County, is a former Board member, and Older Iowans Legislature Board member and is on the Board's Fundraising Committee. CEO Sindt stated that she asked Lionel to move to the Advisory Council once his terms were complete. Deb Scharper, Mitchell County, is a Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD) advocate and conducts a once-a-month FTD support group. She is an advocate for those with disabilities and is looking forward to contributing to and learning about Elderbridge.

It was moved by Carol DeSchepper and seconded by Dan Peterson to seat Lionel Foster and Deb Scharper to the Advisory Council. Motion carried.

1.3 Current vacant Advisory Council counties – Audubon, Crawford, Osceola, Guthrie, and Webster

Efforts are ongoing to fill those counties. Advisory Council members were encouraged to spread the word about the vacancies. It was also suggested to contact the Boards of Supervisors in those counties to see if they would be willing to serve or have recommendations.

1.4 Nominating Committee Report and Election of Officers

1.4.1 Election of Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary

It was recommended that Randy Van Dyke serve as Chair, Lisa Rockhill as Vice Chair, and Deb Scharper as Secretary. Nominations were called from the floor. Hearing no additional nominations for officers it was moved by Sandy Olson and seconded by Lionel Foster to approve Randy Van Dyke for a 2nd year as Chair. Motion Carried.

It was moved by Jan Olson and seconded by Dan Skelton to approve Lisa Rockhill a 2nd year as Vice Chair. Motion carried.

It was moved by Carol DeSchepper and seconded by Diana Elbert to approve Deb Scharper for her 1st year as Secretary. Motion carried.

1.4.2 Appointment of Advisory Council Representative to the Board

Sandy Olson volunteered to serve another year as the Advisory Council representative to the Board. Hearing no other volunteers from the floor, it was moved by Becky Koppen and seconded by Jessica Carlson to approve Sandy Olson as the Advisory Council representative. Motion carried.

1.5 Appointment to the Board Fundraising Committee

CEO Sindt stated that the Fundraising Committee is a very active committee and any Advisory Council members are welcome to participate on the committee. The Advisory Council members will be no voting members. Merry Landenberger, Sioux County, and Lionel Foster, Cerro Gordo County participate on the committee.

1.6 Fundraising Committee Report

CEO Sindt reported the following:

- Grant writer Tammie McCready writes large and small grants for the agencies.
- Completed 2 microfundraisers with Applebee's in Mason City and Fort Dodge. Those fundraisers can be done every three months and will continue to do those.
- In spring 2024 there will be an online auction.
- Pledge cards have been created to seek donations from businesses and individuals. Staff will begin distributing the pledge cards. Pledge cards will be shared with funeral homes also.

It was moved by Becky Koppen and seconded by Dan Skelton to approve the Fundraising Committee report as presented. Motion carried.

1.7 Older Iowans Legislature delegates to Annual Meeting in September in Des Moines.

- The Elderbridge approved \$200 per person for 10 delegates if they wished to attend the meeting in person.
- Advisory Council member Lionel Foster will be attending the meeting in person. The annual meeting discusses issues the group wants to present to the 2024 legislative session. Some of the priorities that will be discussed include improving the guardianship and conservatorship system, establishing and funding the Dementia Specialist program, funding the Iowa Return to Community program from the Iowa Lottery funds, and establishing a continuum of care for older Iowans.
- If Council members were interested in attending the meeting in person or by Zoom they were encouraged to fill out the information in their meeting packet. There is a \$15.00 fee to attend the meeting. Elderbridge will reimburse participants the meeting fee as well as other expenses if attending the meeting in person.

1.8 LifeLong Links Program Report

- All AAAs in Iowa provide services through the LLL program. COO Timmer will be doing a Zoom meeting with any interested members concerning LLL and Elderbridge.
- Elder Justice Grant – provide intervention and support to seniors who are at high risk for physical and verbal abuse, self-neglect, and financial exploitation.

The grant helps Elderbridge serve and meet the needs of high-risk seniors. Staff will be trained through a curriculum-based program.

- Amanda Kaufman stated that the banking industry is not educated or knows where to go if they think a client is being exploited. It was suggested that Elderbridge provide local banks with information concerning financial exploitation.

2.0 Board Liaison Report – Amanda Kaufman

- Outdoor projects at the Fort Dodge office are in progress and the inside of the Spencer office has been newly painted a light grey color.
- Mason City Applebee’s fundraiser raised approximately \$395.00 and the Fort Dodge Applebee’s raised \$241.00.
- Elderbridge was awarded a Community Care Corps grant that will be used for the volunteer program.
- CEO Sindt accepted the Aging and Innovations Achievement Award at the USAging conference in Salt Lake City on Laura Allen’s behalf for her Community Kindness project.

3.0 Agency Reports

3.1 Healthy Aging Report – Amber Schulze, Healthy Aging Coordinator

- There will be a Stepping On program in September in Storm Lake. Coworker Carissa Nelson will be teaching the class also.
- Fresh Conversations is currently at seven locations.
- Farmer’s Market has been very successful. Out of the 1,750 sets of checks, less than 100 sets are available. Each Elderbridge office has checks available. No meal sites have Farmer’s Market checks.
- The new menu cycle is nearing completion it runs from October to March.
- The Healthy Aging Director Jody Applegate has passed her registered dietician's test and will soon be licensed in the state of Iowa.

3.2 COO Report – Stacia Timmer

- New members will be contacted concerning the Advisory Council Training. Veteran members can also attend the training by contacting her by email or phone.
- Farmer’s Market program was very successful this year, \$50.00 in voucher was issued to qualified applicants.
- Due to Elderbridge’s successful volunteer program. volunteers are used where services are not being met, like transportation.
- Iowa to Return to Community program – looking at ways to have Elderbridge reimbursed from hospitals and nursing homes for the services provided through the IRTC program.

3.3 CEO Report – Shelly Sindt

- Elderbridge partnered with the AAAs on a grant from USAging for vaccine awareness. Elderbridge will be getting \$89,000. Vaccine events will be scheduled to promote vaccines. A commercial will also be made with funds from this grant.
- The Older Americans Act has not been revised since its inception and is out of date. The Administration for Community Living is rewriting the regulations and it will be a huge endeavor. The AAA will be giving input into the revision as well

as the state and federal associations. Looking for increased flexibility in how the funding can be utilized.

- Completed a survey with USAging for strategies focused on advocacy for the next fiscal year. The NEI3A CEO is now on the Board of USAging. He replaced CEO Sindt on the national board.
- Adult Disabilities & Services Unit (ADS) Zach Rhein was hired to run the ADS unit of the Iowa Health and Human Services. The AAAs were happy he was hired to run the department and look forward to working with him.

4.0 Community Relations

4.1 County Updates – Feedback from Council Members

- Clay County – Suggested someone speak to Occasions about Elder Abuse.
- Humboldt County – Open enrollment for Medicare Part D will be October 15 – December 7.
- Mitchell County – Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD) support group is the 2nd Thursday of the month for caregivers and it is nationwide.
- Worth County – Some of the Board visited the Manly meal site. Trying to get people into the meal site by doing activities. Doing a fundraiser on Founders Day to buy meal tickets. The meal site will be rebranding and have a new name.

5.0 Coming Dates

5.1 Next Advisory Council Meeting – October 25, 2023, 9:00 a.m., Zoom

5.2 Next Board Meeting – September 12, 2023, at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom

5.3 Virtual Caregiver Support Group with Ally Schwarzkopf – 3rd Thursday of the month, 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. by Zoom

5.4 Caregiver Support Group – Virtual meeting, the fourth Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom, Mason City area

5.5 Webster County Caregiver Support Group – 3rd Wednesday of the month from, 3:00 to 4:00 p.m., First Baptist Church, Fort Dodge

5.6 Clay County Caregiver Support Group – virtual, 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, United Methodist Church, Coon Rapids

5.8 Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD) Support Group – 2nd Thursday of the month, contact Deb Scharper at dscharper@aftd.org for details

5.9 Older Iowans Legislature – Annual Meeting, September 18, 2023, Des Moines State Capitol, Room 103

6.0 Adjournment

6.1 Adjournment

There being no further business before the Advisory Council it was moved by Dan Skelton and seconded by Merry Landenberger that the meeting be adjourned at 11:08 p.m. Motion carried.