



ELDERBRIDGE AGENCY ON AGING
ANNUAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Zoom Conference Call
Wednesday, August 28, 2024
9:00 a.m.

0.0 **Call to Order**

Chair Van Dyke called the meeting to order at 9:02 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, Jody Applegate, Healthy Aging Director, and guest Sue Krogman. Linda Vaudt, Liaison to the Advisory Council was present. A quorum was present with 15 members in attendance.

CEO Sindt asked that the three new members of the Advisory Council introduce themselves. Randy Kuhlman from Webster County is the CEO of the United Way of Greater Fort Dodge and has served on the Community Foundation of Fort Dodge. He has been involved with many boards and commissions in Webster County. He has been involved with helping seniors who are struggling in the community. Sue Krogman, a former postmaster from Osceola County looks forward to working with and learning about Elderbridge. Angela Cook, Dickinson County, is a nurse who has worked with the VA and has worked with Elderbridge programs in the past. She looks forward to serving on the Advisory Council. Jared Johnson, O'Brien County, works out of the law enforcement center as the emergency manager. He will be seated at the October Advisory Council Meeting. Paul Fitzgerald from Winnebago County will also be seated at the October meeting.

Vacant Audubon		Deb Sabin Franklin	A	Sue Krogman Osceola	Ph
Lisa Funk Buena Vista	Ex	Penny Tiffany Greene	Ph	Diana Elbert Palo Alto	Ph
Carl Legore Calhoun	A	Linda Clark Guthrie	A	Linda Saathoff Pocahontas	Ex
Michelle Klocke Carroll	Ph	Vacant Hamilton		Carol Auen Sac	A
Lionel Foster Cerro Gordo	Ph	Amy Callahan Hancock	Ph	Deb Kratochvil Sioux	Ex
Randy Van Dyke Clay	Ph	Jan Olson Humboldt	Ph	Randy Kuhlman Webster	Ph
Morgan Saunders Crawford	Ex	Dan Peterson Kossuth	Ph	Vacant Winnebago	

Angela Cook Dickinson	Ph	Lisa Rockhill Lyon	Ph	Sandra Olson Worth	Ph
Jessica Carlson Emmet	Ph	Deb Scharper Mitchell	Ex	Tracy Crees Wright	A
Pat Gansen Floyd	Ph	Vacant O'Brien		Linda Vaudt Board Rep	Ph
Vacant At-large		Eric Erickson At-Large	A	Dan Skelton At-Large	Ph

0.2 Items to be added to/deleted from the Agenda by Council Members and Staff
Item 1.9 Request for volunteers for the Joint Planning Committee.

0.3 Adopt Agenda

It was moved by Jan Olson and seconded by Dan Skelton to adopt the August 28, 2024, meeting agenda with the addition of Item 1.9. Motion carried.

1.0 **Council Affairs**

1.1 Approval of the May 29, 2024, Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Sandy Olson and seconded by Diana Elbert that the May 29, 2024, meeting minutes be approved. Motion carried.

1.2 Approval of Advisory Council applications for terms starting July 1: Angela Cook, Dickenson County, Sue Krogman, Osceola County, and Randy Kuhlman, Webster County

Chair Van Dyke called for approval of the applications as presented. It was moved by Jessica Carlson and seconded by Lionel Foster to approve the presented applications for the vacant counties. Motion carried.

1.3 Current vacant Advisory Council Counties – Audubon, Hamilton, O'Brien, Winnebago

CEO Sindt reported that O'Brien and Winnebago Counties have been filled. Audubon and Hamilton counties should be filled by the October Advisory.

1.4 Nominating Committee Report and Election of Officers

1.4.1 Election of Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary for FY25

Deb Scharper volunteered to serve as Chair, Sandy Olson, as Vice Chair, and Dan Skelton as Secretary. It was moved by Dan Peterson and seconded by Lionel Foster to approve the slate of officers for FY25. Motion Carried.

1.4.2 Appointment of Advisory Council Representative to the Board

Sandy Olson volunteered to continue being the Advisory Council Representative to the Board. It was moved by Dan Peterson and seconded by Jan Olson that Sandy Olson serve as liaison to the Board for FY25. Motion Carried.

1.5 Appointments to the Board Fundraising Committee

CEO Sindt stated that Advisory Council members can participate on the Fundraising Committee to help Elderbridge raise extra funds for various programs. Dan Skelton and Lionel Foster volunteered to continue on the Fundraising Committee. It was moved by Pat Gansen and seconded by Dan Peterson to approve Dan Skelton and Lionel Foster to the Fundraising Committee and the 1.6 Fundraising Committee report. Motion carried.

1.6 Fundraising Committee Report

CEO Sindt reported on the following during Item 1.5:

- Fundraising has become very important to Elderbridge due to funding constraints from the federal and state governments.
- The Slam Dunk Against Hunger fundraiser planning will begin at the September Fundraising Committee. Funds will support home-delivered, congregate, and emergency meals. It will take place in March 2025. More information to come at the October Advisory Council meeting.
- Looking into crowdfunding which involves trying to raise funds on social media platforms.
- Tammie McCready, the grant writer, is continually applying for grants to help supplement programs like nutrition and client assistance.

1.7 Older Iowans Legislature delegates to the Annual Meeting in September.

CEO Sindt stated that Elderbridge is a member of the Older Iowans Legislature. The meeting packet included information about the September 16, 2024, Annual Meeting. Legislative priorities are discussed and four priorities will be decided for the upcoming legislative session. If anyone wants to attend in person Elderbridge will help supplement expenses. CEO Sindt and COO Timmer plan on attending by Zoom. Council member Lionel Foster will be attending in person.

1.8 LifeLong Links Report

COO Timmer reported on the following:

- Training will be provided to educate new members on Elderbridge services and LifeLong Links.
- LifeLong Links is a core program of Elderbridge and any AAA in the state of Iowa.
- I&A staff at Elderbridge answer the phones. There is no automated system.
- AAAs have a call center for the Aging and Disability Resource Center called LifeLong Links.
- Options Counseling is care coordination in the short term, 90 days. Case Management is for longer-term care past 90 days.

1.9 Joint Planning Committee Volunteers

CEO Sindt stated that the Joint Planning Committee meeting is coming up in November. It is an important meeting because members rank the direct and indirect services that are important for budgetary reasons and the upcoming 4 year Area Plan. Advisory Council members are requested to participate in the meeting and it will be via Zoom this year. Members will be requested and approved at the October meeting. The possible dates for the meeting are November 5 or 7.

2.0 Board Liaison Report

Board Member Linda Vaudt reported on the following:

- New members were welcomed to the Council.
- The board had its Annual meeting on July 30, 2024. After the Board meeting strategic planning took place with facilitator Linda Hildreth, who is the director of the Iowa Association Area Agencies on Aging. The strategic plan helps drive the Area Plan and vice versa.

3.0 Agency Reports

3.1 Healthy Aging Program Report – Jody Applegate

- Thanked the Fundraising Committee and grant writer Tammie McCready for their efforts in getting funds to help provide meals and emergency meals due to budget constraints.
- Working on new menus that will go out in October for the fall/winter season.
- There are 3 Healthy Aging coordinators. One in Mason City, Fort Dodge, and Carroll.
- Farmer’s Market vouchers are still available and will be distributed through September.
- More information on the Iowa Food Bank and food insecurity list will be at the October meeting.

3.2 COO Report – Stacia Timmer

- In June the northwest area experienced a 500-year flood. Staff reached out to clients in the affected areas.
- Elderbridge partnered with local general relief directors, housing entities, community housing initiatives, and the Chamber in Spencer to meet the needs of clients as quickly as possible. Homes are still not cleaned out and people are waiting for assistance. A few clients were displaced and looking at coming back to their homes.
- Grants are being written for flood recovery. USAging will be providing a \$10,000 grant for flood recovery. Received \$20,000 from the Clay County Foundation.
- Emmet County Foundation, \$10,000 for material aid. Dickinson County awarded Elderbridge a grant of \$5,000 for the Iowa Return to Community program.
- Work on the 4-year Area Plan and a needs assessment will be conducted.

3.3 CEO Report – Shelly Sindt

- USAging – received a \$10,000 grant for flood relief
- Submitting a grant to the Administration for Community Living for \$100,000 for flood recovery. Hope to hear about the grant by the end of September. Four counties will be targeted to receive material aid assistance and emergency meals. Sioux, Lyon, Buena Vista, and O’Brien counties.
- Vaccine grant – vaccine events will be scheduled in the fall. Elderbridge is partnering with HyVees to promote getting COVID and flu shots. Gift certificates will be handed out during the events.

4.0 Community Relations

4.1 County Updates – Feedback from Council Members

- Clay County – Dan Skelton thanked CEO Sindt and the Elderbridge staff for their immediate response to help seniors in the community during the flood. He also thanked Randy Van Dyke for his leadership of the Advisory Council during the last fiscal year.
- Worth grant – Sandy Olson reported that the meal site is getting more active.
- Cerro Gordo – Lionel Foster reported that he has been trying to access Iowa Lottery money to help fund the AAAs in the state of Iowa. Members could contact their legislators in their respective counties about the Iowa Lottery fund.

5.0 Coming Dates

- 5.1 Next Advisory Council Meeting – October 23, 2024, 9:00 a.m., via Zoom
- 5.2 Next Board Meeting – September 10, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom
- 5.3 Caregiver Support Group – Virtual or in-person meeting, the fourth Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. by Zoom, Mason City area
- 5.4 Webster County Caregiver Support Group – 3rd Wednesday of the month from, 3:00 to 4:00 p.m., First Baptist Church, Fort Dodge
- 5.5 Clay County Caregiver Support Group – virtual, 3rd Tuesday of the month from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. by Zoom
- 5.6 Frontotemporal Dementia (FTD) Support Group – 2nd Thursday of the month, contact Deb Scharper at dscharper@theaftd.org, Iowa link: <https://www.theaftd.org/iowa/>
- 5.7 Older Iowans Legislature – September 16, 2024, 8:30 a.m. at the State Capitol in Des Moines or by Zoom
- 5.8 Elderbridge 50th Anniversary Celebration – October 8, 2024, 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., Fort Dodge Elderbridge office
- 5.9 Elderbridge 50th Anniversary Celebration - November 1, 2024, 8:00 to 10:00 a.m., Carroll Elderbridge office

6.0 Adjournment

6.1 Adjournment

There being no further business before the Advisory Council it was moved by Dan Skelton and seconded by Diana Elbert that the meeting be adjourned at 11:05 a.m. Motion carried.