

COMMISSION ON AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES

Wednesday, May 8, 2018

William Hoekstra called the Commission on Aging and Disability Services meeting to order at 9:00 am

Roll Call

Dianne Birkholz, Judy Braun, William Hoekstra, Shirley Kitchen, Lorna Negen

Also Present

Sheila Drays, Amy Ewerdt, Kris Schefft, Jackie Wendlandt

Excused

Judy Braun, Judy Patenaude, Gary Schmidt

Absent

None

Roll Call and Introductions

Introductions commenced.

Public Forum

Kris Schefft stated that we need a bigger input from both the public and the board in order to write the aging plan which is due to the state on November 2, 2018. There have been listening sessions throughout the county earlier this year already. A couple questions to ask: Where is the best place to get input? What are the needs of older adults in the community? The following is a list of topics with brainstorming from the board:

Caregiver Support

- Self-identification is a problem
- Get more information out there – train businesses
- Caregivers need a variety of services – start a support group for caregivers
- Dementia Live is a tool started for support and understanding
- Dementia Friendly Dodge (DFD) is a coalition that was created to become more dementia friendly in the community
- Have trainings for new caregivers
- Post caregiver information for those who don't have time to attend support groups
- Have a series through the morning show with Brenda Murphy (WBEV) as well as Community Comment
- Have information available at the Waupun Senior Center/in their newsletter, doctors' offices, etc
- Caregiver respite program with volunteers
- Work more with Volunteer Dodge
- Pet therapy
- How to access the caregivers?

Local Priorities

- How to improve information from the ADRC – keep simple
- Simplify information on the webpage
- Bring information to churches, pharmacies, hair salons, librarians, etc
- Present to the County Board

Disability Services: Disability Benefit Specialist (DBS) Ashley Sanborn

Ashley Sanborn is currently at an all-day training for disability benefit specialists. Kris reviewed items as written in the *Momentous Day for Wisconsinites with Disabilities* article provided for members of the board. Brief discussion followed.

Supervisor's Report:

- Follow up on Stockboxes: Kris provided the *Stockboxes for Seniors* handout to all members. She will find out if they also have stockboxes in Waupun.
- Our role in the Beaver Dam explosion: Kris stated that the Human Services and Health Department and the ADRC were involved to help in the recent apartment explosion. A presence was there to provide resources for the displaced tenants. From this explosion, the ADRC was also involved in getting an elderly woman some long term case management.
- Introduction of Rob Griesel, Dementia Care Spec. and Dementia Live: Kris introduced Rob Griesel as our new Dementia Care Specialist. Rob explained that Dementia Live is an experience based training that focuses on what those with dementia live with on a daily basis in hopes for better understanding by those who care for them. Dementia Live will be expanded by first offering to all of Human Services employees, then transportation drivers and dining center managers, and eventually public. Rob explained that people are receiving training to be able to teach health literacy classes. Rob and Amanda Higgins both were trained yesterday. Rob stated that work is in progress with the Milwaukee Public Museum to provide SPARK! training in May at the Watermark.
- Marketing Events for 2018: Kris stated that the ADRC is currently involved in many events open to the public. On April 27, the Dementia Concerns Coalition (DCC) is sponsoring a dementia event at the Watermark focused on alcohol induced dementia and the correlation before head injury and dementia. The ADRC will be facilitating a Book Club at the Juneau Public library in the near future. Walk with Ease is an evidence based program to support those with arthritis is taking place at the Watermark starting April 16. Discussion followed.
- Results from meetings on Aging Plan and community input; next steps: Kris stated that we will need to have an additional brainstorm meeting to discuss the writing of the aging plan goals. This meeting was unanimously approved and will be held on May 8 at 9 am.
- Data: Kris reviewed items as written in the December to January and January to February Statistics provided for members. Brief discussion followed.

Next Meeting

The next meetings of the Commission on Aging and Disability Services will be held on **Tuesday, May 8, June 12, August 14, and October 9** at **9:00 am** at **199 County Road DF** in **room G046** on the **ground floor** of the Henry Dodge Office Building.

Adjournment

Jeffrey Duchac, Chairperson, adjourned this meeting of the Commission on Aging and Disability Services at 10:13 am. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,



William Hoekstra, Secretary

Disclaimer: The above minutes may be approved, amended, or corrected at the next committee meeting.