

# **BLUE RIVERS AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Minutes

Regular Meeting

April 20, 2023

A regular meeting of the Advisory Council of Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging was called to order at 12:33pm at the Beatrice Senior Center.

Council members present: Janice Price, Rhonda Dettmer, Cheryl Walsh, Jennifer Schell, Jessica Gerdes.

Absent: Lana Likens, Tracy Wieckhorst and Karen Richardson

Guests: Danny DeLong

Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging staff members present: Carla Frase, Executive Director and Tracie Fossler, Administrative Assistant.

Price, Chair, presided over the meeting and Fossler recorded the minutes of the meeting.

**MOTION** to approve the agenda as printed by Gerdes; second by Dettmer; voice vote; motion carried.

**MOTION** to approve the minutes of January 31, 2023 as printed by Walsh; second by Schell; voice vote; motion carried.

## **DIRECTORS REPORT**

A copy of the Director's Report was distributed to all members via email and the members present. The report included calendars and a list of meetings that Frase attended since the previous meeting. Frase reported that she signed the order for seven new buses yesterday. They all will have child's seats in them. They are smaller than our other buses and the lift is in the rear with removable seats to make room for more. They have a 90 day turn around. We will have the decals put on them first when we get them. Tai Chi is being provided in Hebron. A person is training on the IIID Evidence based program "Stepping On". We are also researching a new IIID program called Bingocize. The Nutrition manager would train and then go out to the centers to train the site managers. Care Management and the Choices Manager have been going out to places promoting our services. May is Older Americans Month. We will be doing things for veterans in Hebron, a picnic in Table Rock. All volunteers will receive a shirt from us. We continue to have foot clinics in some of our centers. We have an opening for a Service Coordinator position open due to one of our Service Coordinator's retirement. We are ready to interview for the Grant Writer position. We are brainstorming statewide to figure out how to draw more people into the centers. Ideas are to use social media such as Facebook and Instagram to promote the centers.

## **COUNTY UPDATES**

**GAGE COUNTY: JANICE PRICE** – nothing to report

**JEFFERSON COUNTY: LANA LIKENS**

Fairbury Senior Diners is in the midst of a remodeling project and also has had a staffing change. They are working on some new ideas and I'm excited to see them come together. I know they still need volunteers and are working on some ideas for recruiting. I've also given Brenda some entertainment ideas. Brenda is trying to get more photos for me to put on Facebook and for Deanna to have in the newsletter. I apologize I have not had a chance to touch base with Plymouth.

**JOHNSON COUNTY: JENNIFER SCHELL**

The Tecumseh SENCA center served 900 meals last month. They have a big group of people who come in for coffee in the mornings. They are having a Baked Potato Bake tonight to raise funds for the Emergency funds to help out people in Johnson County. There will be a town hall meeting on the 24<sup>th</sup>. They will be having a free pantry day where they will be giving away fresh food. That was obtained by a grant. Loretta, the site manager/cook is going to be retiring in June.

**NEMAHA COUNTY: JESSICA GERDES**

The Senior Center had three more title xx and three more private pay people for meals this week. The kitchen helper is leaving, so they need to hire someone for that position. Jessica, the site manager is expecting in June.

**OTOE COUNTY: TRACY WIEKHORST**

Absent

**PAWNEE COUNTY: KAREN RICHARDSON**

Absent

**RICHARDSON COUNTY: RHONDA DETTMER**

Linda at the Falls City Senior Center is concerned about the new forms that were sent out for home delivered meals. She feels that people will not take meals if they are not delivered.

**THAYER COUNTY: CHERYL WALSH**

Deshler staff reported that the new cambro's are not as good as the old ones and don't keep the food as hot. Hebron is doing Tai Chi, Toe Nail clinic once a month, Art Class and in May will be starting a garden behind the center for clients to help with. The food will be served in the center. They will be painting rocks to put in the garden to identify what is planted.

**DANNY DELONG**

DeLong reported that at the legislation there is a filibuster going on. They are working on the Voter ID bill. Everyone will need a state identification to vote. They are going to try to work on waving the fee for people to renew their identification. To get a state id you must have proof that

you are a US Citizen and proof of your physical residence. You can go to a DMV anywhere in the state to get an id. They are also working on Home Equity Theft.

**NEXT COUNCIL MEETING**

The next Advisory Council meeting will be July 13, 2023 at 12:00pm at the Beatrice Senior Center.

**MEETING ADJOURNED** by Price at 1:45pm.

*Tracie Fossler*