

BLUE RIVERS AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL

Minutes

Annual Meeting

August 22, 2023

A regular meeting of the Advisory Council of Blue Rivers Area Agency on Aging was called to order at 1:00pm at the Beatrice Senior Center.

Council members present: Janice Price, Rhonda Dettmer, Cheryl Walsh, Jennifer Schell, Lana Likens, Tracy Wieckhorst and Karen Richardson

Absent: Jessica Gerdes

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 Likens; second by Wieckhorst; voice vote; motion carried.

MOTION to approve the minutes of April 20, 2023 as printed by Richardson; second by Walsh; 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 discussed what we have spent ARPA funds on thus far. Frase talked about going on client visits with some of the Care Managers. We will be starting up our Evidence Based Program "Stepping On" in September at the Beatrice and Fairbury Senior Centers. There is a suggested contribution of \$2 for the Stepping On classes.

COUNTY UPDATES

GAGE COUNTY: JANICE PRICE

Janice would like to retire as Gage Co Rep. Frase accepted her resignation. Her position of Chairman will need replacing. Election of new officers will be held today. Janice will try to help find a replacement in Gage County for her position.

JEFFERSON COUNTY: LANA LIKENS

Plymouth is happy with their meals they receive. They have great volunteers. Fairbury is doing good. The Cook/Site Manager wants to revert back to only Cooking and Agency is hiring a 4 hour/day site manager.

JOHNSON COUNTY: JENNIFER SCHELL

The cook in Tecumseh was wanting to retire in July. However, the new lady they hired only lasted one day. Loretta is still there for now. The Handy Bus has been shutting down earlier in the day and the hospital has been taking people to and from appointments.

NEMAHA COUNTY: NO REPORT

OTOE COUNTY: TRACY WIEKHORST

The Syracuse numbers are down. They only have about 4 people who come for the congregate meals. There are some new faces in the Nebraska City center. Nebraska City is needing more in home services and chore providers.

PAWNEE COUNTY: KAREN RICHARDSON

People in Pawnee are happy about getting meals delivered from Table Rock and the congregate meals on Wednesdays in Pawnee. The Assisted Living is full and doing limited respite. They also have volunteers helping do respite. Premier Estates has fewer than 20 residents. They are all younger and more demanding. The older residents have been going to Humboldt NF to avoid the younger residents.

RICHARDSON COUNTY: RHONDA DETTMER

Everything is up in the air about what is going on with the Falls City Senior Center. People are hearing rumors and getting nervous about what will happen. Frase stated that we are working on dates to meet and discuss it with the City of Falls City regarding our options. The city no longer wants to maintain the building the Senior Center is in currently. The auditorium they showed us has a great kitchen, however they are wanting more for rent than we are able to pay. At the end of the meeting Rhonda stated that she would be resigning from the council. She will try to help find a replacement.

THAYER COUNTY: CHERYL WALSH

Caring Friends have been coming to the Senior Center once a month to do bingo. Angel Care had been coming to do nailcare, which will be ending soon. The garden behind the center is doing good and producing vegetables. Chuck Bentjen will be there in October to do a presentation on Elder Scamming. They have new freezers and have sold the old freezers for \$150 and \$50. No one likes the Home Delivery Verification forms. They don't all do them, and it is hard to collect them every month. Carla agreed, but it is a requirement from the Auditor of Public Accounts to do them, unfortunately.

DANNY DELONG – NO REPORT, left at 1:45

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Price is stepping down from Chairman and plans to retire from the Advisory Council. Price volunteered to remain on the council until a replacement is found. A discussion about nominees as Chairman and Vice-Chairman was held. Lana Likens from Jefferson County was nominated for Chairman. Cheryl Walsh was nominated for Vice-Chairman.

MOTION to approve Lana Likens as Chairman and Cheryl Walsh as Vice-Chairman was made by Wieckhorst; second by Schell; voice vote; motion carried

NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The next Advisory Council meeting will be October 24, 2023 at 12:00pm at the Beatrice Senior Center.

MEETING ADJOURNED by Likens at 2:40pm.

Tracie Fossler