

Minutes
Ashtabula County Senior Services Levy Advisory Board

March 17th, 2021

Zoom Meeting

Present

Patrick Arcaro
Jerome Brockway
Willietta Bunch-
Marbury
Neroy Carter
Christine Litweiler
Mary Pepperney
Joseph Rapose
Mary Runyan
Dianne Solebrino
Virginia Walker
Jane Wallace
Pam Zack
Lynn Zalewski

Absent

Rhonda Rodriguez

Staff

Ronald Smith
Alissa Drees
Darcy Mosier

BOCC

Kathryn Whittington

Call to Order

Lynn Zalewski called the Zoom meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

Lynn Zalewski asked the board to review the minutes from January 13th, 2021. After the board reviewed the minutes, Mary Runyan made a motion to approve the minutes from January 13th, 2021. Neroy Carter seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chair's Report

Lynn Zalewski reminded the members of the board to sign and return the Conflict of Interest forms that need to be obtained annually and return them to Darcy Mosier.

Funding

Ron Smith presented the Revenue & Expense Report as of February 28th, 2021. Ron notes, as of the end of February there was no current revenue, however in March he did receive the first real-estate settlement of \$1,054,087.00. Ron showed in total expenses at the end of February was \$335,108.04, with an available balance of \$62,302.73.

Contract Reports

Contract Report: Darcy Mosier presented the contract report. This report represents payments made against provider's contracts beginning in January through the calendar year. Darcy reported that the providers goal to date, is to have used approximately 8% of their annual budget which was for the month of January 2021. ACCAA; Homemaker services was

below the target at 4%. Joey Savel of ACCAA confirmed this percentage below the target was due to staffing. Joey added she continues to seek qualified staff for the vacancies through several employment seeking sites. ACCOA, Chore services was high at 14% of their funds used in January. Darcy reviewed that ACCOA provided chore services for those clients that were on the waitlist in December in addition to the January chore clients. Chore services for CNP and Conneaut Human Resource Center are below the target at 1% and 0%. Lynn Zalewski questioned if that was due to no client services request. Darcy confirmed that was the reason behind the low percentage.

Wait List: Darcy Mosier reviewed the providers displaying a waitlist. CNP; Homemaker had twenty-two (22) clients, and Personal Care; four (4) clients on the waitlist for January. Darcy shared at the beginning of February the waitlist had declined to four (4) for homemaker services. Barb Klingensmith, Executive Director of Country Neighbor Program, Inc. reiterated that clients for both homemaker and personal care services are rated on a scale of need and prioritized for services. Barb and her staff then review the priority list to make sure those clients assessed at a level one is moved to the top of the list for services. Barb also confirmed many of the homemaker and personal care clients receive other services through CNP, allowing staff the ability to observe changes that are reported. Alissa Drees added she spoke to Barb Klingensmith that morning and she was interviewing two new potential employees that day, and was hopeful to fill the two vacant positions.

Committee:

1. Senior Conference Committee: January 27th, 2021 committee met to discuss holding the Annual Ashtabula County Senior Conference in person at Lakeside High School. Due to the CDC Guidelines for Events and Gatherings, along with limit of 15% venue capacity and no food could be served, the committee unanimously agreed it would not be in the best interest for health and safety reasons to host an in person event for the 2021 year. The committee did discuss a virtual option for the event and agreed Senior Scamming and Senior Mental Health are two topics the committee would like presented in some capacity. The committee also would like to incorporate the Senior Centers, if possible for some of the presentations using their new technology purchased by the Senior Levy funds. The committee would also like to explore a way to reach those seniors who are not connected through technology with the same material that will be presented virtually. The committee asked that the vendors and presenters that had taken part in the Senior Conference previously be contacted about the cancellation of this year's conference and let them know the Senior Conference will be held in the Spring of 2022.
1. Independence & Wellness/Technology Committee: Lynn Zalewski summarized that last year the board approved funds to upgrade technology for the senior centers to insure they could reach as many seniors as possible while the centers were closed due to COVID. The deadline to submit was originally for December 31st, 2021. Centers submitted their requests and were approved after committee review and discussion. Neroy Carter questioned if there was going to be a follow-up meeting for updates and collaboration among committee and senior center directors. Lynn confirmed there is a quarterly meeting scheduled for March 31st, 2021, to share updates on the center's technology equipment, how they are using it and feedback. The remaining quarterly meetings will be in June, September, and December.

Old Business

There was follow up on Ashtabula County Community Action; Home Delivered Meals waitlist discussed at the January SLAB meeting. ACCAA was requested to clarify questions proposed by SLAB. ACCAA submitted the information requested and that information was shared with the Senior Levy Advisory Board via email and hard copy.

New Business

1. Geneva Area Seniors Corporation Independence & Wellness, additional funding was discussed. Lynn Zalewski and Dr. Brockway summarized previous meetings discussing the direction the center was taking and their continued progress serving the seniors of that center. Dr. Brockway made a motion to extend Geneva Area Seniors Corporation, Independence & Wellness contract, 4/1/21-6/31/21 and fund another quarter at \$18,444.00. Mary Runyan seconded the motion. Motion carried. Dr. Brockway added that GASC should be notified that the Senior Levy Advisory Board acknowledges the progress they are making and the board is very pleased with the direction they are going.
2. Senior Center cost reimbursement for unit of service was discussed verses the current monthly payment of 1/12th of 2021 contracted amount due to COVID-19 and centers being closed. The Board discussed the cost for service provided and the services the centers are providing to their clients. Dianne Solembrino made a motion for the senior centers to collect for one more quarter the monthly 1/12th of the contracted amount and beginning July 1st, 2021 go to cost reimbursement for units of service submitted. Joe Rapose seconded the motion. Motion carried. The board requested the senior centers be notified immediately of the change to occur beginning July 1st, 2021.

Public Comment

No public available for comment.

Adjourn

Mary Pepperney made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Dianne Solembrino seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.

Next Board Meeting
May 19th, 2021 at 10 a.m.
Zoom Meeting