

**Minutes**  
**Ashtabula County Senior Services Levy Advisory Board Meeting**

**January 12, 2022**

**Zoom Meeting**

**Present**

Patrick Arcaro  
Jerome Brockway  
Emory Moore  
Mary Runyan  
Dianne Solembrino  
Virginia Walker  
Jane Wallace  
Pam Zack  
Lynn Zalewski

**Absent**

Willietta Bunch-  
Marbury  
Christine Litweiler  
Mary Pepperney  
Joseph Rapose

**Staff**

Ronald Smith  
Alissa Drees  
Darcy Mosier

**BOCC**

Kathryn Whittington

---

**Call to Order**

Chair, Lynn Zalewski called the meeting to order.

**Approval of Minutes**

Lynn Zalewski asked the board to review the minutes from November 17th, 2021. After the board reviewed the minutes, Mary Runyan made a motion to approve the minutes from November 17th, 2021. Virginia Walker seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Chair's Report**

Chair, Lynn Zalewski welcomed back the Senior Levy Advisory Board to a new year and returning board member, Joe Rapose, as he begins serving a new term on the advisory board. Lynn acknowledged and asked the board to join in sending thoughts and prayers to the family of Reverend Neroy Carter who passed away in December. As a result, there is an opening for a Senior Levy board member and Lynn advised the board to forward information to Darcy Mosier if they know of anyone interested in applying. Lastly, Lynn brought attention to the Conflict-of-Interest form that was in the email packet and asked the board members to fill out the form and return to Darcy either via email or USPS.

**Funding**

Ron Smith presented the Revenue & Expense Report through December 31, 2021. Ron shared; 2021 the Senior Levy began with \$934,161.77. The levy collected \$1,864,933.68, a total available for FY 2021 of \$2,799,095.45. The cash balance for the end of FY 2021 was \$994,021.17. Ron then presented the Ashtabula County Senior Levy 2022 Proposed Budget to the board. Ron stated the balance forward is \$994,021.00. The estimated revenue from the Senior Levy, which was reported by the County Auditor's office, is \$1,889,111.00 with a total amount available of \$2,883,132.00. Ron showed total expenses for the year is \$1,942,746.00, less obligations with a potential available balance of \$231,759.00.

Lynn Zalewski asked the floor for a motion to approve the proposed FY 2022 Senior Levy budget. Dr. Brockway made a motion to approve the FY 2022 proposed budget and Dianne Solebrino seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **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 the providers goal to date is to have used approximately 92% of their annual budget which is through the month of November 2021. ACCAA; Homemaker services was below the target at 66%. Darcy shared the correspondence with ACCAA which explained the low expenditure is due to lack of available labor. Chore service providers, ACCOA; 100% and CNP; 100%. Both providers have currently exhausted their contract funding for FY 2021. CHRC; Chore service has used 16% which is well below their target percentage. This has been the trend throughout FY 2021. YMCA was below target at 72%, yet over-all units up from FY 2020. GASC was at 68%. Darcy shared GASC's invoices since July 2021 reflected a one-third use of their available budget, simply due to COVID and lack of client participation.

Wait List: Darcy Mosier reviewed the providers displaying a waitlist. ARHHS Personal Care had twenty-eight (28) clients on their waitlist. Darcy contacted Connie Fox at Ashtabula Regional Home Health regarding the waitlist, and she supported that ARHHS does not have enough units in their grant to eliminate the wait list and as of Decembers invoice ARHHS will have exhausted their funding for FY 2021. ACCAA; Homemaker had twenty-five (25) clients on their waitlist in November. When Diana Brooks of ACCAA was contacted regarding the large increase in the waitlist, she reported there were staffing issues in November due to COVID and resignations. CNP; Homemaker had two (2) clients on their waitlist. Darcy explained those are the same two clients from the previous months and technically should not be on the waitlist as one is selecting not to be serviced at this time due to health and safety concerns with staff coming into their home and the other client is rehabilitating in a facility at this time. ACCOA; Chore had two on their waitlist and those clients have since been provided services.

### **Committee:**

1. SLAB Committee reappointments: Lynn Zalewski brought to the board's attention a list of SLAB reappointments to committees, in the SLAB Packet. Lynn added if there are any questions or concerns about the committee list, please contact Darcy Mosier.

2. Independence & Wellness/Technology Committee Quarterly meeting update: Pam Zack, Vice Chair, updated the board summarizing the last quarterly committee meeting with the four senior center directors on January 5th, 2022, via Zoom. Three of the four directors of the senior centers attended the meeting. Ryan Tattrie of Conneaut Human Resource Center sent in an updated report. Darcy Mosier started off the meeting explaining that moving forward, in 2022 the SLAB is interested in the centers entire programming package, how the

centers are collaborating and the centers measurable outcomes. Previously the committee had only addressed how the centers were incorporating technology into their programming. The directors shared how COVID continues to impact each center not only their clients, but their staff as well. The directors agreed they were all weathering the storm to the best of their abilities. Ryan Tattrie from Conneaut Human Resources emailed a report, sharing he has been working on a Schedules Plus survey. Ryan added, his goal is to achieve measurable outcomes by utilizing this survey as a tool. The committee all agreed, measurable outcomes is an area that has either been lacking or non-existent in the RFP packages. Since this committee met in November, the centers have collaborated and collectively presented a Facetime Live presentation from Pro Seniors on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>. Lisa Dalga from Pro Seniors presented information about Medicare Fraud, Senior Scams, and the Grandparent Scam. Moving forward into the New Year all directors of the senior centers plan to continue their collaboration. Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm Lisa Summers, Attorney at Law will be speaking on estate planning, power of attorney, and other elder law topics. There are plans for something similar with Hospice of the Western Reserve on January 19<sup>th</sup> regarding grieving. Darcy shared many ideas on how to promote the centers and their programming regarding Facebook along with encouraging the centers to share each other's pages. By doing so, the hope would be to generate interest outside of the centers general programming. She encouraged the directors to take 15 minutes and look at the Virtual Senior Centers through, AARP, Senior Planet and The National Council on Aging, to name a few sites that offer several online courses in a large variety of areas. The centers shared their seniors have their very own interests. For example, Bob Gruber expressed if it is Bingo day most of GASC seniors do not want to be drawn away for an educational event. Barb Klingensmith of Country Neighbor said their Andover seniors' interests are very different from the Orwell seniors and added it can be a challenge to educate some seniors on technology. All directors agreed some of that challenge is the senior's fear and so creating excitement in all that technology has to offer would be helpful to try and overcome that fear. The SLAB committee was interested in the feedback from the Wellness calls that the centers make. Lisa Bruckman from the Ashtabula Senior Center said when making the wellness calls many of the seniors talk about socialization, groceries, and handyman services, especially the homebound seniors. The directors all agreed that their clients all represent pieces of the pie and all those pieces have different interest, needs and limitations. The committee and directors brainstormed on how the centers might be able to reach more seniors with Wellness calls to identify specific needs. The committee agreed collaborating with discharge teams at local hospitals, EMS, Safety Forces along with local Pastors might be great resources. Mary Pepperney as well as the Senior Levy Independence & Wellness Committee, applauded all the directors and their efforts as they continue to explore and investigate options during these challenging times. The next quarterly meeting will be in March.

3. Senior Conference Committee: Lynn shared at the Pre-SLAB meeting it was determined the Senior Conference Committee should meet to determine if it was feasible to plan on hosting a Senior Conference this

year, in any form i.e., virtual, hybrid, or in person and how to proceed. The committee will plan on meeting before the end of the month of January.

No public available for comment.

**Adjourn**

Dr. Brockway made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mary Runyan seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.

**Next Board Meeting**  
**March 16th, 2022, at 10 a.m.**  
**TBD**