

**ADVISORY COUNCIL to
GREENE COUNTY DEPARTMENT for the AGING**

FEBRUARY 10, 2015 MINUTES

Call to order at 2pm by Vice-Chairperson Linda VanEtten followed by Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

Present: 8 of 15 members: Linda VanEtten, Florence Ohle, Phyllis Beechert, Lynn Brunner, Ernie Harris, Larry Krajewski, Lillian Moore and Dawn Wallant. Dept. Staff: Ken Brooks, Ruth Pforte & Tezera Pulice

Excused: Richard Golden, Walter Thompson, Dept. Staff: Terry McGee Ward & Connie Bentley

Absent: Michelle Black, Larry Gardner & Kim Kaplan

NOVEMBER, DECEMBER & JANUARY MINUTES: Motion to accept all minutes by Lillian Moore, seconded by Phyllis Beechert. Approved

PROGRAM REPORTS & UPDATES:

Ruth Pforte, RSVP:

- Health Fair to be held in Catskill on March 26
- "Officials Day" In lieu of Mayors for Meals to be held on April 7; working with Danielle on coordinating
- Volunteer trainings to be held in March
- Meeting with various organizations in an attempt to recruit new volunteers; if advisory members have any suggestions, see Ruth
- Planning MtnTop Health Fair for August or possibly in Windham, hoping to incorporate "*Farm to Table*"

Tezera Pulice, Nutrition Report:

- Bill Heinrichs from Alzheimer's Association will be conducting presentations
- Several weather related closures so far this year; have already distributed 2 rounds of blizzard boxes
- Several bus runs to Albany scheduled for future

Connie Bentley, Aging Services: No report

Ken Brooks, Finance:

- Working on BIP (*Balance Implementation Plan*) & NY Connects; "No Wrong Door"
 - Terry presently on phone conference regarding; she has met with other agency directors regarding funding
 - Many provisions need definite answers
 - Do we have enough current staffing to do?
 - What about an implementation team with other agencies involved?
 - County Administration does not see as a good idea to accept funds due to penalties attached to policy
 - County wants in writing that not responsible for penalties; NYSOFA would be responsible
 - New deadline set, 3/2016
- Roundtable News
 - Daily Mail print shop in Catskill has closed

- Researching other options
 - Other printers
 - County doing printing
- Looking to increase circulation via email
- No longer bulk distributing to stores, etc
- New bus ó Harry (Highway Dept.) and Janet looking at options; money already put aside

Terry McGee Ward, Executive Director:

- Recent Daily Mail article regarding Catskill contract not accurate
 - No dispute with town ó was all part on ongoing negotiations
 - We are õHomebound Mealsö not õMeals on Wheelsö
 - Contract yet to be signed
 - No food prepared at Catskill ó brought in from Athens & distributed
 - Kitchen not 40% of building
 - County offered 1 month notice if town needs space ó not vice versa
- 5th Annual Senior Day ó Friday May 15 at the Point; Luøau Theme

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Richard Golden: No report

Linda VanEtten, **DSS**:

- Senior Recognition awards decided - Will announce winners at March meeting

Phyllis Beechert: No report

Michelle Black, **Veterans Affairs**: Absent, no report

Lynn Brunner:

- Rivertown Center ó Feb 27, 11:30am Mardi Gras

Larry Gardner, **Legislature**: No report

Ernest Harris: No report

Kim Kaplan, **Public Health**: No report

Larry Krajeski **Catskill Mtn Housing**:

- Getting ready for trailer replacement program

Lillian Moore, **RSVP**: No report

Florence Ohle, **Community Action**:

- Tax season starting; available Tues & Thurs by appointment only
- Government proposing eliminating funding for domestic violence services
- Weatherization program ó In contract negotiations
- 2015 Prom Dress program ó hoping to increase numbers in 2015; if not might discontinue
- Food Pantry ó busy
- Wheels for Work - Decreasing

Wally Thompson ó No report

Dawn Wallant, **Common Ground:**

- Looking for clerical volunteers
- Suggest informational workshops for services benefitting NY Connects

OLD BUSINESS:

- Elections tabled to March
- Vacancies (2) on council tabled to March
 - Several names suggested ó If members have someone in mind they are to contact Terry who will handle paperwork (form letter)
- Senior Awards
 - No response from public
 - All nominees from staff
 - Is program dying?

NEW BUSINESS: None

On motion of Lillian Moore, seconded by Lynn Brunner, meeting was adjourned as no further business to discuss.

Next meeting: Tues March 10 at 2pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Murphy, GCDHS Administrative Assistant