

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL  
For GREENE COUNTY DEPARTMENT of HUMAN SERVICES  
FEBRUARY 10, 2016 MINUTES  
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

Call to order at 2:00 p.m. by Linda Van Etten followed by Pledge of Allegiance

**ROLL CALL:**

Present: Phyllis Beechert, Michelle Black, Lynn Brunner, Larry Krajewski, Nancy Martin, Lillian Moore, Walter Thompson, Dorothy True, Linda VanEtten, Dawn Wallant

Staff: Terry McGee-Ward, Ken Brooks, Tezera Pulice

Excused: Richard Golden, Florence Ohle, Connie Bentley, Ruth Pforte

Absent: Larry Gardner, Ernest Harris

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:** N/A

**JANUARY MINUTES:** Motion made by Nancy Martin, seconded by Phyllis Beechert, to accept January minutes with no changes.

**PROGRAM REPORTS & UPDATES:**

**Terry McGee, Executive Director:**

- NY Connect & RSVP grant applications are done and submitted, waiting for notification of award.
- Still waiting on the results of the Annual Evaluation.
- Still waiting to see what budget cuts will be requested (if any) due to Taxes for winter activities.
- Any Advisory Council Member interested in joining the 2016 Work Place Violence training on 10/6/16, 9:00 a.m. at the Athens center please let Tezera know.
- CADER – Case Managers will be required to take a 20 hour on line training course, consisting of 5 subjects between now and September 1, 2016. Terry is requiring Connie, Cortney, Carol, Pat, Andrea, Gwen & Danielle to take this course. There will be a monthly monitoring report sent to Greene County keeping us up to date on how everyone is proceeding.
- The County Website is in the process of being updated with new ICONS and Quick Links.
- Tai Chi classes will be offered in Coxsackie and Catskill or Acra once Renee Raffiani & Carol Meltz becomes CPR qualified.
- At the last quarterly Caucus (Leatherstocking) Meeting, The Commissioner Corinda Crossdale and her Deputy Greg Olsen announced that if there are any funds unspent by the end on the Grant period, not only will the individual County be penalized by the leftover monies will be deducted from the total pool of funds for all the counties.

**Ruth Pforte, RSVP: Absent**

- No report provided

### **Tezera Pulice, Nutrition Coordinator:**

- Athens Valentine Party was today; very successful John handled the big crowd very well.
- Renee Raffiani has been trained to become a Tai Chi Instructor and is now doing her CPR training.
- Athens has rec'd a new Milk Cooler thanks to the Thrift Shop. The cooler was delivered damaged and we are waiting for a replacement.
- During the Nutrition staff meeting, it was decided that the HDM clients will receive a birthday package consisting of a cupcake, balloon, card and a holiday napkin.

### **Connie Bentley, Aging Services Coordinator: Absent: Terry read her report**

- Medicare Minute Handout – New Preventive Services distributed to Council
- Wait list: 5 Level II, 4 Level I, 1 Caregiver, 0 PERS
- Is anyone familiar with Care & Respect – answer NO speak to Nancy Martin about concerns
- Case managers assessed 15 new HDM clients in January 2016. Higher than usual most avg. 6 – 9
- HIICAP Comparison: Jan 2014-Dec 2014 362 Total Client contacts, Jan 2015-Dec 2015 533 Total Client contacts
- QUESTION: ( on survey) How many learned about HIICAP through a friend or relative:
  - 2015 – 35 2015 – 71
- Annual Monitoring and Evaluation being scheduled – many ways to monitor
- Client satisfaction surveys arriving soon
- Telephone interviews
- Observations etc
- Expanded NY Connects
  - NYState calls with few major updates, Equipment, Implementation team update, LTCC many new members invited to join, LTCC meets April 13 3pm CGCC.
- May 10 – State Volunteer recognition of Outstanding Sr. & Sr. of the Year

### **Ken Brooks, Business Manager:**

- Currently working on the AIP review. NYSOFA has the AIP for 2016 and is reviewing it and asking many questions.
- Questions were brought up about the shortage of spending on grants that Terry mention. Terry assured the Council that all the reports that can be done to try and prevent this are being done. Ken reports via email monthly the amounts spent per category versus the amount budgeted, and also brings this up at the Monthly Unit head meeting. He also meets with the Case Mgrs. Once a month at their weekly meeting to update them as well. All this information is on share point for anyone to review.

### **OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

- SENIOR OF THE YEAR: Linda Van Etten announced that the Committee has voted on a senior of the Year and an Outstanding Contributions Winner as well. The Advisory Council will be advised of the winners after the winners have been notified.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

- Implementation Team – Terry briefly went into description what an I-team was and the requirements of such.
- Senior Angel – Ken asked if any of the Advisory Council members could suggest ways we can help seniors that have asked for assistance:
  - Michelle Black mentioned that Veterans can get assistance with Rent and eviction prevention through a program with DSS. Part of their Public Assistance Program.
  - Dawn Wallant offered the Common Ground services. Common Ground will mediate and sit down with clients to help them with financial budgeting.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**Richard Golden, Coxsackie Area Representative:** Excused

**Linda VanEtten, DSS:** NA

**Phyllis Beechert, Greenville Area Representative:**

- Wanted to acknowledge Acra Senior Center for helping to make a friend of hers 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration a huge success.

**Michelle Black, Veterans Affairs Director:**

- VA clinic will be closed from March 15<sup>th</sup> to March 17<sup>th</sup>, to allow them time to move the office to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. They will reopen on March 18<sup>th</sup>

**Lynn Brunner, Athens Area Representative:** NA

**Larry Gardner, Legislature:** Absent

**Ernest Harris, Catskill Area Representative:** Absent

**Kim Kaplan/Nancy Martin, Public Health:**

- Adult Immunizations DTAP, to vaccinate against Pertussis (Whooping cough). GCPH still has some available DTAP vaccine. Call 719-3600. – important to get done, especially if you are caring for children
- Shingles shots not available at Greene but still important to take care of
- Hepatitis A & B talk to your provider
- Hepatitis C we are the age group that should be concerned. Talk to your provider.
- Lyme disease – Greene County is the highest in the area.
- Zika Virus – went into detailed information. Please see attached for information
- Flu is on the rise, if you haven't had your shot please do so.

**Larry Krajeski, Director Catskill Mountain Housing:**

- Catskill Mountain Housing has been awarded a new Restore Grant. This grant is for large emergency repairs for Senior Home Owners. There is an income eligibility and the grants range from \$5000 - \$7000.

**Lillian Moore, RSVP:** NA

**Florence Ohle, Director Community Action:** Excused

**Wally Thompson Mountaintop Area Representative:**

- Has received positive comments regarding the meals coming out of Jewett.
- WAJPL starts back up again in March 2016, the grants have been approved and the Club will offer their Art, Ceramics and Stained Glass classes once again.

**Dorothy True Cairo Area Representative:** NA

**Dawn Wallant, Director Common Ground:**

- Vera Proper from NYSOFA will be speaking at the March Directors Meeting. The subject will be Elder Care & Mediation.
- Received funds from Dyson, resulting in a Full Time position needed to run the grant.

Meeting was adjourned by Lillian Moore and seconded by Lyn Brunner.

**Next meeting: Tuesday Mar. 8, 2016 Aging Training Room 411 Main St. Catskill NY 12414.**

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth L. Brooks Jr. Business Manager GCDHS