

CITIZENS ADVISORY COUNCIL
For GREENE COUNTY DEPARTMENT of HUMAN SERVICES
SEPT 13, 2016 MINUTES
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

Call to order at 2:00 p.m. by Richard Golden followed by Pledge of Allegiance

ROLL CALL:

Present: Richard Golden, Linda VanEtten, Phyllis Beechert, Lyn Brunner, Ernest Harris, Lillian Moore, Walter Thompson, Connie Bentley, Ken Brooks, Ruth Pforte

Excused: Florence Ohle, Kim Kaplan, Dorothy True, Dawn Wallant, Terry McGee-Ward, Tezera Pulice

Absent: Larry Gardner, Michelle Black, Larry Krajeski

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: NA

JUNE MINUTES: Motion made by Ernest Harris, seconded by Linda Van Etten, to accept June 2016 minutes with no changes.

PROGRAM REPORTS & UPDATES:

Terry McGee, Executive Director:

- Senior Day next year's date is 5/19/17 some themes were discussed and most liked the GOOD OL' SUMMERTIME. Comments were made that the seniors did not like the Casino Royale because of the gambling innuendo.
- Bethany Village's budget could not support a full time case manager. So Andrea Benjamin-Legg will continue the 3 day assignment (Tue-Thurs).
- Requested an update from Ruth on the Volunteer packages.
- The staff is now training for the Peer Place switch over scheduled for 9/15/16. The switchover has proven to be willing stressful. The staff is trying to work with the new system but changes are being made daily. Other counties are expressing the same frustration. So much that the State has asked for a grievance report from each county. A chart has been created to give the Council an idea on how we will handle phone calls (see attached).
- Copy of Bus Wrap to be presented to Council. **Connie was absent for most of the meeting. Will present in October.**
- 2017 Budget was submitted to the County. No major changes. Ken reported on the budget.
- Trends on Clients. **Both Connie and Tezera were not here for this. Will put on October's Agenda.**

Ruth Pforte, RSVP:

- 13 New volunteers. Ruth read off names and areas they would be volunteering in.
- Ron Gabriele will once again be presenting lectures to the Centers in Oct – Dec 2016. History of War Dogs, Old Time Radio, 80 year old Widow of Civil War General and History of Lionel Trains are the subjects he will be lecturing on.
- Recognition luncheon plans are going well. Date is Oct 6th, doors open at 12:30.
- Congressman Chris Gibson is planning on attending.

- RSVP received an additional \$3500 supplement for the current grant, this money will be used to help get more community knowledge of the RSVP program and for some new equipment for doing presentations.
- Name tags for volunteers has been distributed.
- Networking: Community Action has a Back to School Program with vouchers for shoes for students. They also have assistance available to students who wish to rent musical instruments. The food pantry is now back on winter hours. They also have an electricity grant (see attached flyer). The weatherization program (WRAP) is now up and running. Healthy Homes, a way to teach clients to clean and to understand that children need adequate living space.
- REMINDER: Health Insurance through the Navigators needs to be renewed each year.

Tezera Pulice, Nutrition Coordinator:

- Flu Clinics will be from 9:30 am – 11:30 am at the following Athens 9/26, Acra 9/27, Coxsackie 9/28, Jewett 9/29 & Catskill 9/30.
- Fall Prevention classes will commence in Catskill on 9/28/16.
- Walk with Ease programs will start in Catskill, Athens & Coxsackie the week of 9/19/16.

Connie Bentley, Aging Services Coordinator:

- Andrea Benjamin Legg will now be reporting to Bethany Village Tue-Thurs., helping the residents with HEAP, HIICAP, Nutrition and misc. /general questions from clients. Andrea's time here is limited and others will cover when necessary.
- EISEP-Home Care Crisis/Aide situation continues across the state.
- EISEP Ancillary – trying to promote
- HIICAP – Numerous hours of training for staff. Challenging this year due to Peer Place consent requests.
- HIICAP – open enrollment is 10/15/16-12/7/16. Appointments must be made cannot take walk-ins.
- HEAP – Busy with early mail outs. Clients are already inquiring about payments.
- NY Connects/BIP – on going training with NYS.

Ken Brooks, Business Manager:

- Budget is done and in the hands of the County Administrator.
- Community Action has asked if they would be able to insert their flyer in the Home delivered meals. Terry will review and approve.
- Ken talked about two grants that he and Terry worked on before he went on vacation.

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Richard Golden, Coxsackie Area Representative:

- Building new food pantry in Coxsackie. It will be next to the Firehouse by the Village Bldg. (Metal Bldg.).

Linda VanEtten, DSS: N/A

Phyllis Beechert, Greenville Area Representative:

- In Interfaith Council will be distributing backpacks for schools.

Michelle Black, Veterans Affairs Director: Absent

Lynn Brunner, Athens Area Representative:

- The Athens Planning Committee are planning a Halloween and Octoberfest Party

Larry Gardner, Legislature: Absent

Ernest Harris, Catskill Area Representative: NA

Kim Kaplan, Public Health: Absent

Larry Krajeski, Director Catskill Mountain Housing: Absent

Lillian Moore, RSVP:

- Busy working on the Recognition Luncheon

Florence Ohle, Director Community Action: Excused

Wally Thompson Mountaintop Area Representative:

- Thank you for all the cards and special “get well” wishes while I was at The Pines.
- The meals have improved. The vegetables are still a little mushy.

Dorothy True Cairo Area Representative: Excused

Dawn Wallant, Director Common Ground: Excused

Meeting was adjourned by Linda Van Etten and seconded by Lillian Moore

Next meeting: Tuesday October 11, 2016, 411 Main St. Conference Room @ 2:00 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth L. Brooks Jr. Business Manager GCDHS