

**ADVISORY COUNCIL TO
THE GREENE COUNTY DEPARTMENT FOR THE AGING**

JUNE 13, 2017 MEETING

Call to order at 2:00 p.m. by Richard Golden with Pledge of Allegiance, and followed by a moment of silence in memory of Phyllis Beechert

ROLL CALL:

Present: Richard Golden, Linda VanEtten, Florence Ohle, Lyn Brunner, Ernest Harris, Larry Krajewski, Dorothy True, Dawn Wallant, Patty Caporta, Terry McGee Ward, Connie Bentley, Ruth Pforte, Ken Brooks

Excused: Kim Kaplan, Barbara Lindsay, Lillian Moore, Tezera Pulice

Absent: Larry Gardner, Michelle Black

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS: NA

MAY MINUTES: Motion made by Florence Ohle seconded by Ernest Harris, to accept May 2017 minutes with no changes.

PROGRAM REPORTS & UPDATES:

Ruth Pforte, RSVP:

- Three new volunteers announced to the Council for their review.
- Recognition Committee has had their third meeting. The band will be Dusk to Dawn (same as last year).
- 5/11/17-Congressman Faso, CNCS service's Acting Director of Senior Corps Erin McGrath and NYS Dir. Of Senior Corps Jessica Vasquez came to the Catskill Center. The congressman spoke to volunteers and administers the Senior Corp oath. He assisted with packing homebound meals and then he and Erin McGrath delivered the Spring St. route. We later went to lunch to discuss RSVP programs in the 19th district.
- There were 3 previous Senior of the Years that attended this year's Senior Day.
- Attended NYS Older New Yorkers Day with Richard Brooks & Ed Bloomer.
- Fill The Trolley Food Drive was June 3rd at the Catskill Commons, 9:00 am to 6:00 pm; raised \$2000 and 125 lbs. of food donated. Community Action loaned T-shirts, aprons and a banner for the day. The trolley was out of commission.
- Crafter's Tea was held on 5/16/17 in Athens. The tea was a great success with 24 crafters attending. They enjoyed desserts, exchanged patterns and supplies. They also discussed 2 new projects: Knitted Knockers and War Dog Heroes Project.
- Rec'd a thank you letter from the VA for the 9 Afghans and 4 hats that were made by the crafters.

- Attended the 2017 Atlantic National Service Training Conference in Baltimore on 6/4/17-6/7/17; Erin McGrath discussed her visit with Congressman John Faso in her speech. President Trump has named the new Director of Senior Corp. She is Debbie Cox-Roush.

Tezera Pulice, Nutrition Coordinator: Absent Terry Read:

- Farmers Coupons will be available the end of June 2017.
- The seniors are having issues with the current menu. Tezera will be having a discussion with the nutritionist.

Connie Bentley, Aging Services Coordinator:

- May has been very busy with Conferences and trainings.
- Still dealing with the new Senior Adult Daycare Service in Greene County.
- Gwen Stark's last day is 6/16/17. She is retiring.

Ken Brooks, Business Manager:

- AIP (Annual Implementation Plan) is in final stage of approval. .
- Discussed the cancellation of three grants, NY Connect, MIPPA & Transportation as of 9/30/17 & 12/31/17. How it impacts the current staff and the remainder of the year.
- Suggested contributions are down between 10-15%.
- Announced that CDPHP has taken a full page ad out in the Round Table for the next 12 months, and they are also willing to be corporate sponsors for this year's Thanksgiving Dinner.

Terry McGee, Executive Director:

- ACUU Conference 6/6/17 & 6/7/17, was a bit of a disappointment. Will discuss with the Board at the next meeting
- Discussed the 4 week training class that the staff had.
- Discussed the new staff member that will be replacing Gwen.
- Senior Day was a huge success, discussed future plans with council. The next two dates are 5/18/19, 5/19/19.
- Went into more detail regarding the transportation grant and explained to the council the issue we are having with Medical Transportation, pertaining to the number of rides per client versus the number of volunteers available.
- Discussed the reduction of donations. Florence suggested we run an on-going article in the Round Table showing how much each services cost, as a constant reminder to the clients as to what we spend. The article will start in the July issue.

OLD/UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

- Ruth announced that this year's summer luncheon will be on 7/11/17. Details to follow.
- We have two people (possibly more) that are interested in joining the Advisory Council. We will send them a letter to confirm.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Richard Golden, Coxsackie Area Representative:

The Athens Food Pantry is on Rte. 385 next to the playground.

Linda VanEtten, DSS: NA

Michelle Black, Veterans Affairs Director: ABSENT,

Lynn Brunner, Athens Area Representative:

- 5/12/17 11:00 AM. Spoke to Rich from Sitcer Construction and spoke to Mike. Gene Hatton also present at the meeting. We discussed the location of the automatic door openers for both the Thrift Shop and the Senior Center. Also, discussed the possibility of an Air-lock to be designed to enclose the 2 doors in the front of the building. Phase one is the installation of the Auto doors. Phase two is the design and installation of the air-lock. Rich and Mike said they have designs and specifications for 2 types of systems. One is composed of wood and the other design is made of aluminum channels and Plexiglas. They will submit both designs for us to look them over and decide which one we want and submit to the County.

Larry Gardner, Legislature: Absent

Ernest Harris, Catskill Area Representative:

- Wanted to know about getting rides for clients who were on Chemo. Four names were given to him.
- Also inquired about the services we provided.
- Also asked if we deliver meals to 385.

Kim Kaplan, Public Health: Absent / Patricia Caporta Present:

- NYS DOH paid a visit to audit the Article 28 Funding for Diagnostic Treatment Centers. Went very well, only 2 minor things.
- Working on DSRIP and re-designing Medicaid.
- Public Health will be participating in this year's Youth Fair
- Family Planning is working on a 5 year grant.

Larry Krajeski, Director Catskill Mountain Housing:

- Catskill Mountain Housing Trailer Replacement Program is still available for anyone that is interested. The applicant must own the Trailer and the land that the trailer sits on.
- Emergency Home repair funding is still available for qualified applicants 60 years and older.

Barbara Lindsay, Mobility Mgr. the Arc of Ulster County: Excused

Lillian Moore, RSVP: Excused

Florence Ohle, Director Community Action:

- May is now complete all events went well. 150 people came to the drive-in Family night. 45 people attended the Poverty Simulation Event, Patty Caporta commented it went well.
- Community Action is applying for an AmeriCorps grant for vita where the volunteers will be split between us and Columbia Opps.
- Have noticed a very large increase in number of families served through the food pantry it has doubled in size twice over the past 10 years. Working with a local radio station to get the word out on the need for food pantry assistance.

Dorothy True Cairo Area Representative:

- Took a safe drivers course, and rec'd a Yellow Dot package and thinks this would benefit all. She is going to see if we can get 1600 copies to put in a Round Table mailing.
- Also wanted to let everyone know that the 518 area code article in the Round Table was very informative.
- Brought in a copy of the SENIOR TIMES provided by Central Hudson. It's just another source of news that the seniors should know about. Maybe we can put in the Round Table (we will).

Dawn Wallant, Director Common Ground:

- Elder Abuse Task Force is now the Elder Abuse Task Force of Greene & Columbia Counties. (See attached Flyer).

Meeting was adjourned by Linda Van Etten & seconded by Dawn Wallant @ 3:15 pm.

Tuesday, July 11, 2017 - This is the Summer Luncheon; brief minutes will be taken and included with the Sept. 2017 minutes.

Next Meeting will be Tuesday, Sept. 12, 2017 @ 2:00 PM in the Greene County Staff Training Room.

Respectfully submitted,

Kenneth L. Brooks Jr. Business Manager GCDHS