

**Commission on Aging Disability Board Meeting Minutes
February 14, 2024**

The Commission on Aging and Disability met via ZOOM or in person in Conference rooms A/B of the Community Services Building, 221 W. Seminary St., Richland Center.

Members present: David Scribbins, Sandra Kramer, Carolyn Denman, Virginia Wiedenfeld and Julie Fleming
Members absent: Angela Metz, Larry Engel and Linda Symons
HHS Staff present: Roxanne Klubertanz-Gerber, Glenda Loomis and Linda Batten
Others present:

- 1. Call Meeting to Order: COAD Meeting** was called to order at 1:03 p.m. by David Scribbins.
- 2. Approval of Posting and Agenda:** Sandra Kramer made a motion to approve the agenda; Virginia Wiedenfeld seconded. Motion carried.
- 3. Approval of January 10, 2024 Commission on Aging and Disability Meeting Minutes:** Julie Fleming made a motion to approve the January 10, 2024 Commission on Aging and Disability meeting minutes; Sandra Kramer seconded. Motion carried.
- 4. Citizen Comments:**
 - Sandra Kramer said the 40 & 8 Pancake Breakfast will be March 4 at the American Legion. This will be a Free Will Donation.
 - Sandra Kramer said the donkeys will be coming in 2 ½ to 3 months.
 - Julie Fleming told the board that she spoke at the Gotham Lions Club about the need for volunteers for Meals-on-Wheels. 2 members expressed an interest in being volunteers.
- 5. Board Education: Veteran's Outreach Recovery Program – Seth Reynolds:**
 - Seth Reynolds introduced himself to the board as the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs – Region 2 that consists of Richland, Vernon, Juneau, Sauk and Crawford counties.
 - Seth reported that he connects veterans to benefits. Seth went on to say that he can help any veterans as long as they were not dishonorably discharged. They could have been in the National Guard, a reservist or a veteran.
 - Seth informed the board that anyone can make a referral.
 - Seth went on to say he has small pot of money and what he receives is dependent on grants.
 - Seth said that there is a Veterans Housing Recovery program that veterans can stay at, up to 24 months. There are 3 facilities in the state. The veteran would pay 10% of their income. If they have no income, they would not have to pay anything.
- 6. Program Update – Transportation Program end of year report:**
 - Linda Batten reported the Transportation program volunteers did 4049 one-way trips. 2455 were passengers over 60, 1529 were disabled and 65 did not meet our target group. 3557 of these were for medical, 481 shopping/personal business, 3 nutrition and 1 employment.
 - Linda went on to say report the program provided 1498 bus trips.
 - Linda informed the board the volunteer program has increased by 23% and the Richland Public Transportation (bus routes) has increased by 27%.
 - Linda discussed we did 5 special bus trips.
 - Linda said that 1 new bus driver has been hired for a total of 4 bus drivers. There are also 25 volunteer drivers.
 - Linda reported that outreach was completed to the different apartment buildings, meal sites, WRCO morning show, local papers and billboards.
 - The Transportation Program was awarded the 2024 grant for 5310.
- 7. Approve new committee members:**
 - Roxanne said that since Jodi Hines left Schmitt Woodland Hills, Ellen Alvin at Schmitt has expressed an interest in being on the board.
 - Virginia Wiedenfeld made a motion to approve Ellen Alvin for a new COAD board member; Sandra Kramer seconded. Motion carried.

- Roxanne then read letters of interest to be on the COAD board from: Terry Berg, LeeAnne, Borkowski and Kevin Keister.
- Julie Fleming made a motion to approve all three members to start at the May meeting; Sandra Kramer seconded. Motion carried.

8. Advocacy: Aging Advocacy Day – May 14th:

- Roxanne reported that Kayla Williams will be going to the state capital to speak with legislatures.
- Roxanne also told the board that we could utilize our large bus to take people, if there is enough interest.

9. ADRC Update:

- Roxanne reported that 2/26 Kayla Williams – DBS (Disability Benefit Specialist) started as the new EBS. (Elder Benefit Specialist) Kayla will fill both position until a new DBS is hired.
- Roxanne said that Friday 2/14/2024 will be the close for applications for the DBS (Disability Benefit Specialist). She hopes to have interviews next week.
- Roxanne reported that she is working with Symons Recreation to organize this years Wellness Stride which will be 3K walk/5K Run on May 23rd.
- Roxanne said the ADRC continues to offer and expand Health Promotion programs. Bingocize is the newest offering and will be held at the Richland Center meal site this spring.
- Roxanne stated that the Nutrition program will be a part of “Meal Prioritization Pilot Group”. This will be a work group throughout the state. They will be prioritizing Elder Nutrition that will go along with the Older American Act.
- Roxanne reported that the new ADRC Specialist (Glenda Loomis) started on January 15th and has made it through most of her trainings and is currently shadowing staff. The hope is, that she can start doing intake between March 1st and March 15th.
- Roxanne said that outreach has started for the Aging Plan. The survey is on the website, in the newsletter and on Facebook. Listening sessions has been held at some of the apartment buildings and more are scheduled.

10. ADRC Budget Review:

- Roxanne said the 2024 budget is only a couple months old, so she can say everything looks good at the point. As for last year’s budget, every one of the budgets are at or under budget except for Nutrition. Nutrition is over budget.
- Virginia Wiedenfeld commented that the meals are better.

11. Reports from Aging and Disability Organizations:

- None

12. Schedule Next COAD Meeting: March 13, 2024, 1:00pm.

13. Adjourn:

- Motion to adjourn until March 13, 2024 at 1:00 was made by Sandra Kramer; Julie Fleming seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Batten
ADRC of Eagle Country - Richland Center Office