

St. Lawrence County Office for the Aging (OFA)
Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
April 13, 2015

Meeting called to order: 10:00 AM by Patrick Rourk, Vice Chair

Present: (*voting members*): Roger Bennett, Ron Frank, Bob Mead, Joyce Persons, Elaine Porter, Patrick Rourk, Ada Santaferra, Linda Wilkinson. Quorum established

Present: (*non-voting members*): Gail Bisonette, Michael Boprey, Andrea Montgomery

Excused: Sylvia Despaw, Carlton Doane, Bob Mead, Steve Putman **Absent:** Frank Carter

Public Attending:

Meeting Location: Morristown Fire Hall, Morristown, NY

◆**Introductions:** Meeting brought to order by Patrick Rourk; Pledge of Allegiance led by M. Boprey. Prayer by P. Rourk. Moment of silence for recently departed member Ruth Bogardus.

◆**Guest Speaker** – Michele Catlin, *Claxton Hepburn Hospital Community Outreach Coordinator*. Michele described all of the outreach programs at the hospital, who is qualified, and how to access them. Distributed brochures regarding programs.

◆**Public Comment** – No public comment.

◆**Approval/Minutes** – R. Bennett moved to approve minutes, seconded by E. Porter. All in favor.
Motion passed.

◆**Correspondence** – A. Montgomery reported. Condolence cards sent to E. Porter and R. Bogardus family.

◆**Old Business** – OFA Work Reports / no questions or comments

◆**New Business** – Advisory Council Nomination Committee appointed. R. Bennett (*Chair*), Ron Frank, and Ada Santaferra. Discussion regarding appointment of Corresponding Secretary. It was agreed to appoint at this time to fill the position. L. Wilkinson volunteered and was appointed Corresponding Secretary. R. Bennett made the motion. Seconded by R. Frank. All in favor, motion passed.

County Council of Senior Citizens Report (*Sylvia Despaw*)

Dan Washburn reported for S. Despaw. County Council By Laws have been updated. They are back up to 16 senior clubs. Reported on upcoming MayFest on Saturday, May 2nd at the Massena Community Center. The United Way request has been submitted for \$1,000 for 2015-2016. The only bid for the County –Wide Senior Picnic thus far is Morristown Fire Department. G. Bisonette and D. Washburn will look over the facility today and report back to County Council.

StateWide Senior Action Council Report (*Linda Wilkinson*)

- Reported on the 5 regional meetings which were held throughout the state to gather information to inform the White House Conference on Aging. Three went to speak from this Chapter. Four main areas were Retirement Security, Healthy Aging, Long Term Services and Supports, and Elder Justice.
- there was Advocacy Training in Albany on March 24th concentrating on Safe Staffing for Quality Care
- there will be a telephone teach-in on April 21st on Preventing Medical Errors and Improving Patient Safety
- Reported on Livanta, new Beneficiary and Family Centered Care Quality Improvement Organization for Medicare Case Review. They have asked StateWide to assist them in testing a new smartphone application that will help medicare beneficiaries and their families more easily file complaints.

- Grassroots Advocacy Day is May 12th. Anyone interested in going can sign up with Linda.
- next meeting May 7th

Veterans Services Report (*Mike Boprey*)

The VA Clinic is no longer at the Massena Hospital. New clinic will be on East Orvis Street in Massena. Discussed home-based healthcare availability and dental care.

Public Health Report (*Laurie Maki*)

The flu shot is still available. Reminder about tick season and the rabies clinics.

County Legislator's Report (*Steve Putman*)

S. Putman not present. A. Montgomery encouraged everyone to go to the BOL meetings. The Board is looking closely at the budget. P. Rourke suggested inviting the new County Administrator to be a guest speaker.

AARP Report (*Gail Bisonette*)

Reported on Defensive Driving Training Program and classes being held. The next meeting is Tuesday, April 21st, at the Potsdam American Legion. The public is welcome.

Office for the Aging Report (*Andrea Montgomery*)

- Health Promotion Programs / Walk With Ease (*Star Lake*) and I Can Feel Better (*Massena*)
- there is an exercise guide being worked on with locations of programs throughout the county
- computer classes continuing
- RCI Reach Program
- Social Adult Daycare
- BIP (*Balancing Incentive Program*) and NY Connects
- Public Transit Schedule
- MayFest and Older Americans Month Resolution
- Caring for the Caregiver Event June 11th at Hospice and Palliative Care Facility
- Need for new members for the Advisory Council

♦**Adjournment** – Motion to adjourn by R. Bennett, seconded by R. Frank, all in favor.
P. Rourke adjourned at 11:20 AM.

♦**Next Meeting** – Monday, June 8th, 10 am at the Massena Community Center.

(Minutes respectfully submitted by Christine Fobare)