

Office for Aging Advisory Council

April 10, 2023

BC Library

In attendance: Maria Motsavage, Kathy Bunnell, Dr. Kang, Dr. Lee, Major Barnett, Rene Conklin, Suzanne Sullivan, Sally Hoffman, Robert Hoover

OFA staff: Mary Turbush, Lucia Esposito

Mary welcomed Major Barnett to the Advisory Council.

Meeting minutes from last meeting held on Feb 13th were approved.

Animatronic Pets Project update – recently posted info about this project on our FB and had a lot of people reach out. WBNG did a news story on this as well. We put in a new order.

Dr. Kang provided an update on his depression scale – he delivered the pets to 40 people. He is looking at the data and so far has seen a positive impact of having these pets around.

HEAP – Emergency HEAP remains opened.

Chenango Bridge Senior Center opened in middle of March – over 100 people attended the opening day. About 40 people attend lunch daily. Its currently opened Wed & Fri. The one staff who runs the CBSC is also doing evidence-based programming.

We are working on transportation to and from Deposit Senior Center – Getthere has secured an Americorps member to do driving in Windsor area and Deposit area.

We are expecting news on the new state budget soon. We would like to see an increase in EISEP funding. We have put on new clients and new cases on hold due to funding for the remainder of this program year being fully allocated.

Senior Picnics are planned now and will be held at local senior centers – about 2 picnics per month. Vendors will be at the picnics from 9am-11am. 94% of the surveyed seniors wanted to keep the smaller picnics.

Senior News – we had a staffing transition. Nicole Nordstrom is now the Senior News editor.

Caregiver Services – new guidelines will be implemented by October. A staff person in IHSU has taken on the Caregiver Services job duties and is our Caregiver Services Specialist. The Caregiver Corner will be going to Senior News starting in May. A staff person in I&A unit will continue offering Caregiver Training.

A new evening Caregiver group started this year and it has about 5-6 people attending.

Updates from Advisory Council Members:

- AgeOn is hosting a fundraising event Kentucky Derby on May 6th, 2023. There will also be a basket raffle event held at Weis. Mary will post about this on FB.
- Wellness Center Update – hoping for an opening this summer. Building is built but waiting for equipment.

- April 19th – first LGBTQ social group will take place at JC senior center; its been promoted in the Senior News and OFA FB.

Meeting adjourned at 1.30pm.

Next meeting will be held over Zoom on June 19th, 2023.