

Office for Aging Advisory Council

June 12th, 2023

Zoom

In attendance: Kathy Bunnell, Dr. Kang, Dr. Lee, Major Barnett, Rene Conklin, Sally Hoffman, Dr. Lee, Dr. Miklouchich, Carolyn Price, Amy Pessarchik, Katie Legg,

OFA staff: Lucia Esposito

Carolyn called for minutes to be approved from our previous meeting. Motion was made by Kathy Bunnell, seconded by Katie Legg.

Meeting minutes from last meeting held in April were approved.

Lucia Esposito provided an overview of the 2022 Annual Report. She discussed highlights from 2022 including:

- OFA focused on activities/proms that battles social isolation: Friendly visiting program, Walk with Ease, Animatronic pets, Personal Robots, Virtual Senior Center, tablets, technology assistance, activities at centers including the Memory Maker and Armchair Travel series.
- Two students who provided friendly visiting and completed 144 home visits to 21 clients. They also distributed animatronic pets, helped with technology, enrolled into the Virtual senior center platform, distributed ElliQs personal robots and support programming such as intergenerational age friendly senior dances and Walk with Ease program at the mall.
- Update on Age Friendly Project – new survey is included in June Senior News and also online on our website. Its asking to collect data for planning of the new 2023-2026 Age Friendly Action Plan
- Update on Senior centers and Meals on Wheels. In Home services, Transportation, NY Connects, Adult Day Care, Foster Grandparent Program.

Lucia also provided an update about the newest 2020 Census data showing the continuously growing population of older adults when comparing 2020 to 2010.

Lucia mentioned that 4 new interns will be joining OFA in the fall to continue the Friendly Visiting program, distribution of robotic pets and other projects.

We are also focusing on bringing programming to the senior centers to attract new participants. Senior Picnics are planned for the summer and will continue in the same format as previous year. Each center will host its own senior picnic.

Lucia mentioned that Robert Hoover continues to facilitate the LGBTQ social group that meets once a month at JC senior center. More meetings are scheduled, and Robert will provide an update in September.

Carolyn opened the meeting to other comments/questions.

Meeting was adjourned: motion made by Rene Conklin, seconded by Dr. Miklouchich. Next meeting will be held over at the BC library on September 11th, 2023.