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**AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER (ADRC) BOARD
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2020
MINUTES**

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Aging & Disability Resource Center Board was called to order at 9:03 AM by Chair Tom Borgkvist. The meeting was legally advertised. A quorum was present.

ROLL

ADRC BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Allan Baumgartner; Danny Beard; Tom Borgkvist; Shelby Carter; Sarah Lochner (via phone); Sharon Peterson; Karen Schluter; Jolene Wheeler.

H&HS STAFF PRESENT: Kathleen Cummings; Heather Gove; Ashley Jahn; Becky Mulhern.

OTHERS: Cathy Karls, Accounting.

Chair Borgkvist appointed Sharon Peterson to Acting Secretary in the absence of Marilyn George Burton.

PUBLIC HEARING on 85.21 DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION GRANT APPLICATION

The public hearing on 85.21 Department of Transportation Grant Application opened at 9:04 AM.

No one from the public spoke or was present.

Public Hearing on 85.21 Department of Transportation Grant Application closed at 9:05 AM.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 19, 2020 AGENDA OF THE AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER BOARD.

Motion by Danny Beard, second by Sharon Peterson. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2020 MINUTES OF THE AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER BOARD MEETING.

Motion by Danny Beard, second by Jolene Wheeler. Motion carried.

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PUBLIC COMMENTS AND CONCERNS

None.

FINANCIAL REPORTS & COMPENSATORY TIME

Director Becky Mulhern presented the Finance Report and Compensatory Time Report to the Board. It was noted that due to being grant funded, the financial reports data is typically delayed by three months.

ADVOCACY/EDUCATION UPDATE

Director Mulhern reported that October 1st, was the 30th anniversary of the International Day of Older Persons, The U.S. Department of Justice awarded grants totaling \$9.4 million to combat elder abuse and financial fraud across the United States. The Governor's Task Force on Caregiving has published a policy to help improve the conditions for family caregivers and paid direct care workers. October was National Disability Employment Awareness month and 2020 marks the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. The concern regarding social isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic continues. The ADRC encourages people to contact their U.S. Senators and U.S. Representatives to ask for bipartisan legislation from both houses of Congress that will provide robust emergency funding for the Older American Act programs and support for state and local programs. Senate appropriators have proposed increasing Alzheimer's and dementia federal research funding by \$354 million for fiscal year 2021. The Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS) has drafted a waiver amendment proposal for CMS to add vaccine coverage to Wisconsin's popular SeniorCare Prescription Drug Assistance program. Under the proposed amendment SeniorCare would provide vaccine coverage for diseases like Diphtheria, Tetanus, Pertussis, and Shingles.

TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM DISCUSSION/UPDATE

Director Mulhern reported the ADRC is continuing all safety measures due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The ADRC submitted the 5310 Federal Transportation Grant seeking two new vehicles. The 85.21 grant will be submitted which will seek an additional van. GWAAR (Greater Wisconsin Area on Aging Resources) is working with the State of Wisconsin Office of the Commission on Insurance and the President of the Wisconsin Insurance Alliance to help protect Volunteer Drivers from surge pricing and denials from their Insurance companies as a result of getting reimbursed for mileage. In February Wisconsin Department of Health Services issued an intent to award Veyo, LLC the contract to manage the Non-Emergency Medical Transportation Program. The current provider, MTM, submitted a protest to the award, which is being reviewed. The ADRC is seeking another member to The Ride Improvement Program (TRIP) Council. The next TRIP meeting will take place at H&HS on January 19, 2021 at 2:00 pm in Meeting Rooms 2 & 3.

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NUTRITION PROGRAM DISCUSSION/UPDATE

Assistant Director Ashley Jahn reported all of the ADRC congregate dining sites remain closed due to the COVID-19 pandemic and will remain closed through the end of the year. Everyone 60 years of age or over is currently eligible for home delivered meals. All home delivered meal drivers and meal site managers continue to wear masks and gloves to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. Two hundred twelve Senior Farmers Market Vouchers were handed out by the ADRC this year. All Home Delivered Meal participants received three masks from the ADRC and will be receiving a personalized card, letting them know that people are thinking of them and to reach out if they need any additional assistance. The ADRC is in the midst of the annual food drive and is accepting non-perishable, microwaveable food for the over 200 home delivered meal participants. The substitute meals are meant to be used when the ADRC is unable to deliver meals due to inclement weather.

NUTRITION WAITLIST UPDATE

Assistant Director Jahn reported the waitlist has not been implemented at this time.

PREVENTION PROGRAM UPDATE

Assistant Director Jahn reported Stepping On, Powerful Tools for Caregivers and Relatives Raising Relatives prevention programs are going to be offered in small groups until they are able to go virtual. The Bureau of Aging and Disability Resources has approved Aging Units to utilize money for the technology needed to implement workshops on line.

CAREGIVER PROGRAM UPDATE

Assistant Director Jahn reported the ADRC has many tools, resources, and products available to help caregivers. The ADRC encourages Columbia County caregivers to call to see if the ADRC can meet their needs. Due to the cancelation of the Caregiver Retreats, the ADRC is exploring dropping off items at caregiver homes.

BENEFIT SPECIALIST UPDATE

Assistant Director Jahn reported Medicare Open Enrollment opened October 15 and goes through December 7. The ADRC has done more telephone and mailings to alleviate face to face appointments during the pandemic.

ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES UPDATE

Director Mulhern reported the ADRC is continuing to update and educate the public on different scams. Reports of scams regarding COVID-19, Medicare, and voting have been received by the ADRC.

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The Wisconsin Senior Medicare Patrol has seen an increase in calls to their helpline, mainly complaints or concerns about durable medical equipment scams and billing questions and concerns. The State of Wisconsin Elder Abuse Hotline has been running for four and a half months. Calls are directed to the county Adult Protective Services Unit or the Division of Quality Assurance.

ADRC DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Mulhern reported that the ADRC volunteers continue to do amazing work helping prepare the ADRC Grapevine Newsletter for mailing. The ADRC received CARES funding to assist in making sure staff can continue to serve the public outside of their office. Some of the funding has also been used to purchase masks and hand sanitizing stations for the office to use when people come in for services. A variety of handouts are available including the updated Resource Guide, the Grapevine Newsletter, Calendars for next year, a list of dates for the ADRC meetings in 2021, flyers regarding the Food Drive and recruitment of ADRC drivers and the latest COVID-19 weekly update from the Division of Health. Director Mulhern shared a handout and explained Wisconsin ADRC's are asking for a reinvestment in ADRCs.

NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Aging & Disability Resource Center Board will be on Thursday, January 21, 2021, 9:00 a.m. in Meeting Room 2 and 3 at Columbia County Health & Human Services.

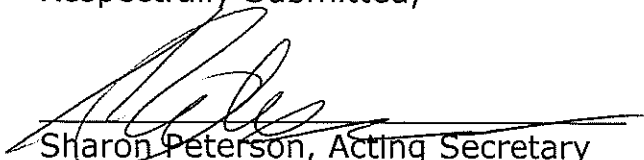
ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:35 a.m.

Motion by Sharon Peterson, second by Danny Beard. Motion carried.

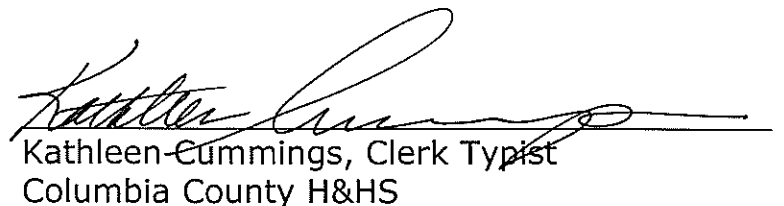
The Columbia County Aging & Disability Resource Center Board will reconvene on Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. in Meeting Room 2 and 3 at County Health & Human Services Building, located at 111 East Mullett Street, Portage, WI.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sharon Peterson, Acting Secretary
ADRC Board

cc: County Board Chair Vern Gove
County Board 1st Vice Chair James E. Foley
County Board 2nd Bob Koch



Kathleen Cummings, Clerk Typist
Columbia County H&HS