

Minutes
Ashtabula County Senior Services Levy Advisory Board Meeting
May 10, 2023
Ohio Means Jobs, 2247 Lake Ave., Ashtabula

Present

Patrick Arcaro
Jerome Brockway
Bob Kenyon
Emory Moore
Joe Rapose
Mary Runyan
Cristine Rutz
Dianne Solebrino
Jane Wallace
Pam Zack
Lynn Zalewski

Absent

Veronica Hanna
Mary Pepperney
Sharone Sing

Staff

Alissa Drees
Darcy Mosier

BOCC

Call to Order

Chair, Joe Rapose called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

Joe Rapose asked the board to review the minutes from January 18, and March 15, 2023, meetings. After the board reviewed the minutes, Dr. Brockway made a motion to approve the minutes from January 18 and March 15, 2023. Mary Runyan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Chair's Report

The chair had no new information to report.

Funding

Alissa Drees presented the Revenue & Expense Report through April 30, 2023. Alissa shared the balance forward and actual current revenue is \$2,106,183.27. The grand total expenses year to date is \$671,053.73 leaving an available balance of \$867,328.73.

Contract Reports

Contract Report: Darcy Mosier presented the contract report. This report represents payments made against provider's contracts beginning in January through the calendar year. Darcy reported the providers goal to date is to have used approximately 25% of their annual budget which is through the month of March. Darcy brought the boards attention to Ashtabula County Community Action and Country Neighbor Program, Homemaker services. Currently ACCAA is using 13% of their funding. The provider explained, at this time staffing is stable and the homemaker numbers are increasing. CNP continues to have staff shortages. Provider employees two homemakers at this time and has hired three since the first

of the year. Unfortunately, all three staff have resigned since hired, leaving CNP with two homemakers to provide services. Country Neighbor Program, Companionship has used 0% of their funding. Barb Klingensmith was happy to share, two volunteers have been fingerprinted, background checked and were matched and scheduled with two seniors who requested Companionship services. Chore services provided by Conneaut Human Resource Center was at 0% and Country Neighbor Program at 1%, both below the estimated 25%. Darcy shared, both chore service providers historically provide lawn care needs during the mowing season. Previous years the percentage catches up during the summer season. ACCAA, Independence & Wellness; Information and Referral service is at 14%. Provider explained they were at limited capacity due to staffing, first quarter. She was confident, that would be resolved soon, and the number of contacts will increase. Ashtabula County Council on Aging, Independence & Wellness is at 50%. Darcy reviewed ACCOA's previous invoice pattern and shared Senior Levy funding is often exhausted by July. ACCOA then uses other resources to fund programming for the remaining of the year.

Wait List: Darcy Mosier reviewed the providers displaying a waitlist. The waitlist consists of seniors who qualify for services through the senior levy, but the provider currently is unable to provide services due to limited funding or unavailable staffing. This challenge often results in a senior client being placed on a prioritized waitlist. ARHHS Personal Care had forty-one (41) clients on their waitlist which is a direct result of limited in-home care staff and staying within their contracted monthly budget. Country Neighbor Program: Homemaker had forty-seven (47) clients on their waitlist for March which is the direct result of lack of staff.

Committee:

1. 2023 Senior Conference Planning Committee update: Chair, Joe Rapose shared the planning committee met on April 14, 2023, to finalize details for the 2023 Senior Conference. Joe expressed the speakers have been secured and promotional items received. At this time Darcy stated there are 128 senior attendees registered to attend the event. Alissa Drees added the registered attendees will be called a few days before the event, with a courtesy reminder and she was confident the number of attendees would increase once the press releases were in the local papers. Joe strongly encouraged all SLAB members to help set up on Thursday, June 8th and to plan on attending Friday, June 9th to help where needed. Darcy shared there are several volunteers lined up to help in all areas of the event including set up the day before the event and take down the day of the event. Discussion continued covering board members and volunteer duties as well as timelines.

2. RFP Committee; Review process and timeline: Joe Rapose brought to the attention of board members that the proposed timeline for the 2024 Senior Levy RFP release, the evaluation committee groupings by provider and program, and the schedule for the evaluation committee meetings was provided in their SLAB packet. Joe reminded committee members if their availability might be conflicting with the evaluation meeting process, to please contact Darcy as soon as possible.

Old Business: 2025 Senior Levy Campaign Timeline. Joe Rapose thought a timeline would be helpful for the board to follow the process leading up to the 2025 campaign year. Darcy confirmed she had been in contact with Lisa Hawkins, Clerk of the Board, seeking a timeline. Lisa Hawkins responded she would gather information on that request. She did forward information from the auditor's office that the campaign committee will need to review regarding changes to levies. The board continued discussing levy policies and procedures.

New Business: Feed the Hope date set for September 8th, 2023, at Mt. Carmel Community Center.

Adjourn

Bob Kenyon made a motion to end the meeting. Dianne Solembrino seconded the motion. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned.

**Next Board Meeting
July 12, 2023, at 10 a.m.
Ohio Means Jobs, 2247 Lake Ave.**