

Minutes
Ashtabula County Senior Services Levy Advisory Board Meeting
March 15, 2023
Ohio Means Jobs, 2247 Lake Ave., Ashtabula

Present

Patrick Arcaro
Veronica Hanna
Bob Kenyon
Emory Moore
Mary Pepperney
Joe Rapose
Mary Runyan Zoom
Cristine Rutz
Pam Zack Zoom
Lynn Zalewski Zoom

Absent

Jerome Brockway
Sharone Sing
Dianne Solembrino
Jane Wallace

Staff

Alissa Drees
Darcy Mosier

BOCC

Kathryn Whittington

Call to Order

Chair, Joe Rapose called the meeting to order.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from the January 18, 2023, meeting could not be approved, since there were not enough board members present to form a quorum.

Chair's Report

The chair had no new information to report.

Funding

Alissa Drees presented the Revenue & Expense Report through February 28th, 2023. Alissa shared the balance forward and actual current revenue is \$968,732.67. The levy has not collected any revenue thus far from real estate taxes. The total contracted expenses year to date is \$345,811.99 leaving an unobligated available balance of \$50,014.18.

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 8% of their annual budget which is through the month of January. Darcy brought the boards attention to Chore services provided by Conneaut Human Resource Center at 0% and Country Neighbor Program at 1% which are below the estimated 8%. Country Neighbor Program Companionship services was also at 0%. All other services and providers are within a reasonable range of the approximate percentage.

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 thirty-four (34) clients on their waitlist which is a direct result of limited in-home care staff and staying within their contracted monthly budget. ACCAA; Homemaker had seventeen (17) clients on their waitlist in January. ACCAA anticipated January's waitlist would be elevated due to reduction in staff. Country Neighbor Program: Homemaker had fifty-three (53) clients on their waitlist for January 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 March 3, 2023, to finalize details for the 2023 Senior Conference. Joe expressed the speakers have been secured. He also pointed out the committee agreed to increase the vendor fee to \$75.00 a table and increase the sponsorship fees to keep in line with the increase in over-all cost. Next meeting is scheduled for April 14, 2023, at 10:00 am, JFS Conference Rm.

2. Independence & Wellness/Technology Committee Quarterly meeting update: Chair, Joe Rapose shared the committee met on March 9, 2023, via Zoom. Lisa Bruckman, Barb Klingensmith and Ryan Tattrie were present. Carolyn Holden was unable to attend.

Lisa Bruckman shared there has been a small increase in the in-person attendance since December. ACCOA had fifty-three seniors attend their Valentine's Party. ACCOA continues to collaborate on Wednesdays with County Neighbor Program via Facebook Live and their cooking segment using the ingredients from the CSFP boxes. Lisa added, ACCOA is leading the planning for the Senior Prom which will be held in June at the Norman-D Banquet Center in Ashtabula. CHRC, GASC and Jefferson Community Center will be assisting Ashtabula with planning for the event. Additionally, ACCOA is having monthly Pinochle Tournaments, a St. Patrick's Day party and has been interior painting with funds acquired from grant monies. ACCOA's goals continue to be working on awareness for the senior centers. Lisa Bruckman would like to collaborate with the other senior centers on an awareness campaign that gives a true picture of what today's senior centers have to offer.

Barb Klingensmith of Country Neighbor shared she was invited by the state of Ohio/JFS to present her CSFP nutritional education program. Barb stressed the importance of getting the information out there for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program because there are available slots to be filled. Barb added she would deliver if necessary to get the food out there to those in need. Darcy said she would send Senior Levy providers the flyer to hand out to their clients who might qualify for the program. Barb continued sharing that CNP has Wednesday Cooking Class on Facebook Live, invited all centers to join them in their "Walking with Ease" program, the history group, and chair exercises. The arts and crafts group is pulling in new attendees. Barb

concluded by sharing over-all, both centers participation numbers are up, and are anticipating more participants once the snowbirds head north.

Ryan Tattrie of Conneaut Human Resource Center shared his numbers were stagnant. Ryan did say that they had received grant funding for replacing ceiling tiles and lighting and they have been working on that in the senior center area.

Senior Levy Board member, Mary Pepperney praised the senior centers for their desire to collaborate with each other and believes it is making a difference.

Old Business: Joe Rapose points out to the board the spreadsheet included in the SLAB packet which provides the complete Contract Report for FY 2022. This information shows the providers expenditures and unused balances.

New Business: 2025 Senior Levy Campaign Timeline. Senior Levy Campaign Committee will schedule a meeting to discuss when the campaign process needs to begin, set a timeline, see when ballot language is due and discuss the Budget Commission process. Darcy will follow up by gathering information from Lisa Hawkins, Clerk of the Board, for information regarding the 2025 Senior Levy campaign.

No public available for comment.

Adjourn

Chair, Joe Rapose ended the meeting.

Next Board Meeting
May 10th, 2023, at 10 a.m.
Ohio Means Jobs, 2247 Lake Ave.