

WASHINGTON COUNTY

OFFICE FOR AGING

Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

Date | time December 5, 2022, 10am at Washington County Municipal Building | Meeting was facilitated both in-person and virtually via Zoom.

Roll Call/Sign In

In-Person Attendance: Max McDonnell, Gerald Foelsch, Julian Hadley, Dolores Mullen, Antonia Estrada, Val Baez, Linda Johnson, Nancy Carpenter, Kristen Hardy, Jodie Smith, Stephanie Raney, Stacey Barcomb, Mindy Dudley, and Gina Cantanucci-Mitchell.

Virtual Attendance: No one attended virtually

Call to Order

Meeting called to Order by President Max McDonnell at 10:10am.

Approval of Minutes of the Previous Meeting

A motion was made to approve the 9/12/2022 meeting minutes by Gerald Foelsch and seconded by Julian Hadley. Motion to approve the meeting minutes passed with no objections.

Program Updates

- ***OFA Advisory Council***
 - The Board of Supervisors approved the updated by-laws. Everyone received a copy in the mail with the announcement and minutes.
 - Patricia Provost, from Whitehall resigned from representing Whitehall. If you know of anyone who may be interested in the position, please contact Gina.
 - Supervisor Skellie from Jackson is recommending Quimby Mahoney to represent Jackson. She will need to be appointed by a Board of Supervisors Resolution.
 - We currently have opening in the following towns: Dresden, Easton, Hartford, Putnam and Whitehall.

- ***OFA Staffing***
 - Holly Rapp joined our nutrition team as an Aging Services Aide. She will be delivering meals and helping with the meal site.

- ***2023 County Budget Approvals***
 - The 2023 OFA proposed budget was approved to include 2 part time Aging Services Aids and 1 title change from Typist/Clerk to Senior Clerk.

- ***Nutrition Program***
 - Home delivered meal counts are increasing.
 - The Auction Barn Restaurant closed and is no longer part of our Restaurant Dining Program.

- ***NY Connects/HIICAP***
 - HIICAP is serving Medicare beneficiaries during this open enrollment period for Medicare until December 7th.

- ***Adult Services***
 - The Medicaid threshold will be increasing on January 1st, 2023. Income limit per month for a couple went from \$1,367 to \$2,106 and for a single it was \$934 to \$1,563.

- ***Ice Melt***
 - The Conkling Center generously provided us with several cases of Ice melt. We will be distributing the Ice Melt to Washington County residents age 60 and older. Ice Melt is also available at the Whitehall and Kingsbury/Fort Edward dining sites.

Action Items

- ***NYSOFA Older New Yorkers Day - Senior of the Year Vote***
 - There is no quorum at today's meeting for a vote. President Max McDonnell will contact voting members of the Advisory Council to get their votes for the 2023 NYSOFA Senior of the Year nominees.

- ***2023 Meeting date and locations***
 - March 6, 2023 – Whitehall Meal Site Main St. Whitehall (American Legion)
 - June 5, 2023 – Kingsbury/Ft. Edward Sr. Center – 78 Oak St. Hudson Falls
 - September 11, 2023 – Dolores Mullen Julian Hadley will look for a location near Cambridge
 - December 4, 2023 – Washington County Municipal Building

Recent Activities

- ***Health & Wellness Fair at the Kingsbury Fire Department***
 - We served 113 meals out of 190 prepped. We had 107 individuals sign in at the check-in table. The feedback that we received from the vendors was most of the people that came through were looking for giveaway items.
 - We recognized that the meal choice was not the best option, and we are going to do a fall type of meal at the 2023 event. We are also going to avoid the holiday

weekend and have signage to identify and highlight our HIICAP counseling area. The Council of Seniors tent will be closer to the entrance next year.

- *Public Hearing/Council of Seniors Fall Luncheon*
 - We had 123 people sign in. Public Hearing feedback was reviewed.
- *NYSOFA's 2022 Older Americans' Day*
 - The 2022 Older American's Day event was held virtually on Facebook. OFA staff joined the Kingsbury/Ft. Edward Senior Center with our Washington County honorees, Debbie Beahan and Dale Grinnell for the viewing.
 - The 2022 commemorative book from NYSOFA was shared with everyone.

Upcoming Events

- *Annual Implementation Plan/Annual Update*
 - The 2023-2024 Annual Update Plan was shared with Advisory Council members and feedback was sought.
- *Public events*
 - March for Meals, spring Council of Seniors luncheon, Argyle School Senior Dinner Theater, Council of Seniors - Senior of the year Luncheon in May , & Senior Picnic in July. Event details are still being finalized.

Open Discussion

- Stephanie Raney talked about our monthly newspaper, Community Connections. If you are interested in submitting an article, we would need to receive it by the first Friday of each month. The article will then be published for the following month. Community Connections comes out the last week of each month for the following month.
- Max McDonnell shared that the Council of Seniors will be starting back up their in-person meetings with senior club presidents. He also shared that Whitehall is going to restart a club. If any of the club officer's change, please provide Max with the necessary information.

Next Meeting

Date | time: Monday, March 6, 2023, at 10:00am, **Location:** Whitehall Dining Site – Main Str. Whitehall, NY (American Legion).

Adjournment

Max McDonnell made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:40am. Motion accepted.