

Minutes of the
Lake County Senior Citizens Advisory Panel
Thursday, February 19, 2019
2:00 p.m.

The Lake County Senior Citizens Advisory Panel hereby finds and determines that all formal actions were taken in an open meeting and that all deliberations of the Senior Citizens Advisory Panel, which resulted in formal action, were taken in a meeting open to the general public, in full compliance with applicable legal requirements of Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

Chairperson, Mr. Doberdruk, opened the meeting at 2:13 p.m.

Present-

Members: Tom Dreher, Ken Gauntner, Frank Doberdruk

Staff: Alyea Barajas and Donna Tyson,

From the Public: none.

Absent: Mr. Jason Boyd, Mr. Spence Kline and Kathy Russo

Public Comments -none.

Election of 2019 Officers

Mr. Dreher nominated and moved for Mr. Frank Doberdruk as Chairperson, Mr. Gauntner seconded the nomination.

Vote: "All Ayes"
Motion carried.

Mr. Gauntner nominated and moved for Mr. Tom Dreher as Vice-Chair, Mr. Doberdruk seconded the nomination.

Vote: "All Ayes"
Motion carried.

Approval of October 18, 2018 minutes:

Mr. Gauntner moved to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2018, Mr. Dreher seconded the motion to approve.

Vote: "All Ayes"
Motion carried.

Correspondence -

Public Information Request:

Mrs. Barajas stated that she received a request for information from Ms. Orosz pertaining to the 2019 allocations, how much each center received, and membership data. Mrs. Barajas stated that she has responded to her request and explained that the membership data was all self-reported information and taken from the 2019 application for funding

She also stated that she has not heard anything further regarding the information she provided to a Board member of the Willoughby Senior Center.

Senior Services Coordinator Updates-

2018 Funding Re-cap:

Mrs. Barajas gave an update on for 2018. She explained that all but one of the levy recipients have utilized all of their 2018 funding. Painesville Senior Center left \$935 unspent. Adult Protective Services actual costs were lower than projected and will be returning \$4,900 from their 2018 award and their request for 2019 was lower.

Mrs. Barajas discussed the collaborative grant projects (they were two year grants) which were completed at the end of 2018. RSVP and Council on Aging were each awarded \$50,000 and approximately \$25,000 was not spent. This funding amount will be placed back into the levy funds.

Mr. Dreher stated that he would like to discuss in a little more detail the contingency fund. Mrs. Barajas stated that currently there is \$382,000 in the contingency fund. There are a few items that she would like discuss that may be funded out of the contingency fund.

Marketing Piece

Mrs. Barajas explained that recently she has been working with a consultant (free of charge) to assist in exploring the idea of creating a marketing piece that would outline the various senior services in Lake County. The intent is to reach those isolated seniors living at home unable to go to the senior centers and provide them with knowledge of the various services and offerings that are available in Lake County. She stated that she has also been working with LBL Printing in Painesville to explore the cost of producing an 8-page booklet and the cost to direct mail it to senior households. This piece would be unique in that it will provide information about the many different senior services in the county in one publication; a piece like this currently does not exist. The cost for 51,000 pieces with direct mail to 49,560 (60+) households would cost approximately \$23,500. She stated that she has sent an email to our partners to garner some feedback. Thus far, some felt that it might be something that seniors would discard and not keep for reference. Others felt it would be an excellent tool for seniors to use and the direct mail would reach the intended population. Other opinions she received stated that they felt print wasn't the best way to go as programs are constantly changing, perhaps an additional online version would need to be available for caregivers. Mrs. Barajas asked if the Panel had thoughts they would like to share. Mr. Dreher stated that he would like to see it submitted to the Panel before it goes to print. Mrs. Barajas explained that the printer would provide two different versions to be reviewed by not only the Panel but senior services peers for suggestions, changes and approval. The Panel agreed that this may be a very valuable piece of information for not only the homebound seniors but their family members. Mrs. Barajas is discussing the marketing piece with the Commissioners.

New Programs

Mrs. Barajas provided the Panel with a several handouts of new programs happening. She also provided two flyers from Council on Aging for their upcoming events. (Community Champions Week and their annual March for Meals)

Below is a list of other handouts provided to the Panel:

- *Laketran Dial A Ride*: providing free rides to seniors back and forth to their Senior Centers

- *Grandparents Raising Grandchildren*: a free program provided by RSVP and Jobs and Family Services. Lifeline has offered to take the program over and more information will be provided below.
- *Connections through Music*: RSVP received a grant for this program and will offer the program twice a year utilizing their trained volunteers.
- *Guardianship Volunteer Recruitment*: funded through Lifeline and are looking to recruit volunteers for this program. Details for volunteer opportunities will be provided through the Probate Court. Mrs. Barajas stated that the data will be reviewed in detail for future funding.
- *Friendly Caller Program*: this program will provide calls to those homebound seniors. RSVP volunteers have been trained on this program.

She also reported that:

- Lifeline is making a lot of progress with the Volunteer Guardian Program. They have scheduled a launch meeting at the Probate Court on Wednesday, February 20 at 11:00 am if anyone is interested in attending.
- “Grandparents Raising Grandchildren Program”: The concept is to hire a navigator to assist grandparents with accessing services and support as they raise their grandchildren. This program would be housed at Lifeline. Lifeline has requested funding of \$12,000 from the ADAMHS Board and have indicated they (Lifeline) would also be able to contribute \$5,000. No formal request has been made for some funding through the senior levy at this point. Mr. Dreher suggested and the Panel discussed the possibility of a one-time funding offer. Mrs. Barajas expressed her thoughts about undertaking another program. She gave several details of the program that were listed in the provided handout and stated she will discuss several questions she has regarding the statistics that Lifeline included.
- Ms. Judy Burr from Project Hope, sent an email explaining that they plan open a “Senior Hope House” in the spring of this year. The Senior Hope House would provide housing to homeless seniors aged 60 and older. This is a temporary situation and there would be services provided to assist these seniors to find permanent housing. They have secured a Cleveland Foundation start-up grant in the amount of \$25,000. They have not requested any funds to date but may be looking for future funding dollars. Mrs. Barajas be meeting with Ms. Burr sometime in March to learn more about the project.
- Non-Medical Home Health Care Program: Mrs. Barajas stated that this is one of the top programs that the senior study outlined. She explained that she has been working with the Prosecutor’s Office on this and that they have stated there will need to do a competitive sealed proposal to solicit agencies to administer the non-medical home health care program. She stated that this should occur in next month.

2019 Aging in Lake County Conference

Mrs. Barajas stated that she is in the process of finding a keynote speaker for the 3rd Annual Aging in Lake County Conference. Several changes she is looking into are a new venue for the event possibly to the Four Points Sheraton in Eastlake; no final decision has been made. This year there will be the option

to register online and accept credit card payments. A potential topic she is considering is integrating social services or community-based organizations and healthcare.

Old Business – none.

New Business:

Mr. Gauntner asked if there is any discussion on Ms. Cantor’s replacement on the Panel. Mrs. Barajas stated that they are still looking for applicants.

General Discussion:- none.

Adjournment:

Mr. Doberdruk moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:25 p.m. and Mr. Gauntner seconded the motion.
Discussion: none.

Vote: “All Ayes”
Motion carried.

*The next meeting will be held Tuesday, April 16, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.