

Minutes of the  
Lake County Senior Citizens Advisory Panel  
Tuesday, December 15, 2020  
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.

The Senior Panel met via WebEx due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

Chairperson, Mr. Dreher, opened the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

Present-

Members: Tom Dreher, Ken Gauntner, Lisa Siciliano Miller, Spence Kline and Lyle Shull

Staff: Alyea Barajas, Donna Tyson and Jason Boyd

Public Comments – none.

**Nomination and Election of 2021 Officers**

Mr. Dreher stated that, according to the by-laws, every year a new chairperson and vice chairperson must be elected and can serve two terms. He stated he would accept nominations from the Board for the Chairperson and Vice Chairperson.

Mr. Gauntner nominated and moved for Mr. Tom Dreher as Chairperson, Mr. Kline seconded the nomination.

Vote: "Ayes": Mr. Gauntner and Mr. Shull

Abstain: Mr. Dreher

Motion carried.

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

Vote "Ayes": Mr. Gauntner and Mr. Dreher

Abstain: Mr. Shull

Motion carried.

Correspondence: none.

**Senior Services Coordinator Updates:**

Mrs. Barajas discussed the proposed 2021 Meeting Dates. At this time, it is unknown whether the meetings will be in person or via WebEx.

Below are the proposed dates:

Tuesday, February 23 at 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 20 at 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, September 14 at 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 16 at 2:00 p.m.

**2021 Budget:**

Mrs. Barajas provided the Panel with the proposed 2021 Budget and reviewed the below information. She pointed out that the top portion of the budget shows the cash carryover into 2020, as well as revenue to date. You will see the outstanding obligations for 2020; column 1 shows the remaining balance for the levy recipients. It is likely that there will be a decent carry over into 2021 from unused funds but this is not yet included in the estimated cash carryover into 2021.

The estimated levy revenue for 2021 is \$3,934,830.60. and she directed the Panel to move down the worksheet to the 2021 levy requests and recommendations. Mrs. Barajas explained that they have been divided into 4 sections: Senior Centers, County Wide Programs, New Programs, And Internal Expenses.

**\*Senior Centers:**

To date no request has been received from the Painesville Senior Center and therefore they have been removed from the list. The recommendation for the upcoming year is to keep funding levels the same as 2020. As you can see, in all cases, except Willoughby, the requests for 2021 were higher than what is typically awarded. However, as it is still uncertain when the centers will reopen in 2021 we feel funding the centers at 2020 levels is fair.

**\*County Wide Programs:**

In general, the recommendation is to award the agencies the requested 2021 amount. Many of these agencies will most likely not use all of their 2020 funds and their requests for any increases are modest.

- Council on Aging: Their 2021 request was less than what was awarded in 2020 and they will have some unused funds from 2020. Additionally, they are proposing to mail the Bridge publication to senior households in 2021.
- RSVP: They have approximately \$68,000 in reserve funds and will also be receiving grant funding through March 31, 2021. Assuming RSVP is transferred to the County on April 1, 2021, it's likely that there will not be a need to award any levy funds. There are allocated funds for salary, etc. for the last 3 quarters of 2021 in the internal portion of the budget.
- Adult Protective Services: They have requested a \$30,000 increase from their 2020 award.
- The Non-medical In-home Care contract has already been awarded for 2021.
- Western Reserve Community Development Corporation: Their contract does not expire until March 31, 2021 and \$150,000 has been estimated 2021. They have not yet completed an application for funding and appear to be on track to spend more than their 2020 award of \$130,000.
- Laketran: The 2020 contract with Laketran has been extended 2020 contract through 2021. Due to the closures of the Senior Centers, they have spent very little of their \$50,000
- Lake County General Health District: Mrs. Barajas stated that she is still waiting for some additional information regarding their request. A recommendation as to their award has not yet been made.

**\*New Programs:**

Both Lifeline for 211 and Project Hope for the Senior Hope House have requested funding.

- 211: They have estimated that they will serve 6,000 seniors in 2021. As of December 1, 2020, they received 5,820 calls from seniors and is about 28% of their call volume. This percentage does not account for any online activity. The top 3 call inquiries were for: information services, food/meals and housing.

- The Hope House: Hope House provides transitional housing for seniors 62+ and started in 2019. It had been funded by the Cleveland Foundation the first two years. Their funding request covers part of the salary for the service coordinator and the lease on a house for seniors.

**\*Internal Expenses:**

- The Contingency fund has not been replenished and the current balance is \$191,198.95.

**Adjournment:**

Mr. Shull moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:46 p.m. and Ms. Siciliano-Miller seconded the motion.

Discussion: none.

Vote: "All Ayes"

Motion carried.