

Minutes of the  
Lake County Senior Citizens Advisory Panel  
Tuesday, September 2, 2025  
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.

Mr. Sterk called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present:

Members: Thomas Dreher, Emily Koenig, Jenna Bing, Greg Giegerich, Larry Sterk, Lyle Shull

Staff: Alyea Barajas, Cristen Kane

Public: Joseph Tomsick, Lake County Council on Aging; Adam Sheldon, The Osgood Group; John Hamila

Approval of the March 4, 2025, minutes:

Ms. Bing moved to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2025; Mr. Dreher seconded the motion to approve.

Vote: "All Ayes"

Motion carried.

Public Comments: None.

Correspondence: None.

Volunteer Services Coordinator – Lake County Volunteer Network (LCVN)/AmeriCorps Update:

Ms. Kane reported that the LCVN continues to make progress toward the objectives of the AmeriCorps RSVP grant by successfully recruiting new volunteers. Recently, the Phone Pal program has welcomed a wave of new volunteers, and current efforts are more focused on recruiting additional Phone Pal clients.

The latest federal grant update indicates that the AmeriCorps agency remains included in the current version of the Senate budget, and we are awaiting confirmation whether it will remain in the final budget passed by the House of Representatives.

On Wednesday, September 3, the LCVN will be hosting the annual volunteer recognition celebration at the Lake County Captains in partnership with the Lake County Council on Aging. 173 volunteers are expected to attend and each volunteer will receive a hot dog, chips, and beverage. Thank you to the City of Eastlake for providing free parking in the Blue Lot, and to Laketran for providing a free shuttle service to and from the Blue Lot parking to the stadium.

Senior Services Manager Updates:

Ms. Barajas presented information on two upcoming events, the September 14 Support Our Seniors Pancake Breakfast and the October 29 Annual Lake County Caregiver Forum.

The Panel had previously received a copy of the 2026 application for funding. This year there is only one application, rather than a separate application for senior centers. Also different this year are the four priority areas previously identified by the Panel using the most recent Lake County Needs Assessment. These include Home & Community-Based Supports, Healthy Living, Housing & Financial Security, and Caregiver & Social Support. Applicants will need to indicate how their requests fit into these priorities. Additionally, we have cleaned up some of the unit definition and cost details to get a better handle on

understanding cost per unit. Outcome data has also been added in more detail than what has been done in previous years.

Ms. Barajas provided the Panel with the following timeline related to the 2026 applications for funding.

- Levy applications will be emailed to all previous applicants no later than Tuesday, September 9, 2025
- Applications are due back Friday, October 10, 2025
- Ms. Barajas will distribute copies to all Panel members no later than Friday, November 7
- Recommendations will be presented at the Tuesday, November 18, 2025, Panel meeting
- Award letters will be emailed to all recipients no later than Friday, December 12, 2025

On August 12, 2025, the Board of Commissioners entered into an agreement with the Osgood Group as the consultant to lead Lake County's strategic initiative for the future of senior services. Ms. Barajas introduced from The Osgood Group including Adam Sheldon, Partner and Senior Consultant, and Nancy Osgood, President, to lead an engagement exercise with the Panel. Jason Boyd opened the exercise with a brief introduction as to how we arrived to this point.

The Osgood Group presented an overview of their anticipated work, timeline, and led the Panel in a brief exercise.

Old Business: Ms. Kane informed the Panel that the Lake County Mobile Food Pantry is scheduled to end at the end of September. She also informed the group of the LCVN volunteers were recently honored with Laketrans's Millie Waterman award.

New Business: None.

General Discussion: Joe Tomsick addressed the Panel and gave an update of the some of the programming that the Council on Aging is currently engaged in.

Adjournment:

Mr. Shull moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:41 p.m. and Mr. Giegerich seconded the motion.

Vote: "All Ayes"

Motion carried.

\*The next meeting will be held Tuesday, November 18, 2025, at 2:00 p.m.\*