

Minutes of the  
Lake County Senior Citizens Advisory Panel  
Thursday, April 16, 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 2:10 p.m.

Mr. Doberdruck introduced and welcomed the newest panel member, Mr. Lyle Shull.

Present-

Members: Tom Dreher, Ken Gauntner, Frank Doberdruk, Spence Kline, and Lyle Shull

Staff: Alyea Barajas, Donna Tyson and Kathy Russo

From the Public: none.

Absent: Mr. Jason Boyd

Public Comments -none.

Approval of February 19, 2019 minutes:

Mr. Dreher moved to approve the minutes of the February 19, 2019, Mr. Kline seconded the motion to approve.

Vote: "All Ayes"

Motion carried.

Correspondence -

**Public Information Request:**

Mrs. Barajas stated that she received a correspondence for information from Ms. Carol Fleck requesting a list of the 2017 and 2018 senior levy recipients, the amount that was awarded, and the total levy proceeds for those years. Mrs. Barajas has provided the information. The panel was provided a copy of Ms. Fleck's request. Mr. Dreher asked why Ms. Fleck has requested the information. Mrs. Barajas stated that Ms. Fleck is a Board member with the Painesville Senior Center but did not know why she may have wanted to the information. The Center has decided to stay in the Painesville YMCA rather than move to the First Church of Christ Church. They have applied for NRP project again which would bring a new 76 unit senior living residence to Painesville. Their previous application was denied and they should have a decision by May.

Senior Services Coordinator Updates-

**Marketing Piece**

Mrs. Barajas explained that after the initial project proposal, she reached out to the levy partners for feedback and received some mixed review but in general, all are supportive of the idea to try to reach senior households with this piece. Based on the feedback and subsequent conversations with LBL printing, she would like to consider the option to include a 2.5" x 5.5" magnet with the marketing piece as a quick phone reference guide. In addition, considering increasing the number of pages of the booklet to 16 to allow room for paid advertisers, such as independent and assisted living facilities, home

health care agencies, etc. She stated that eight pages would be dedicated for ad space which would help defray the cost of production and the ability to add the additional magnet piece. LBL would assist with setting ad price and selling ads. Mrs. Barajas reviewed the detailed breakdown of costs for this piece and the potential revenue from paid advertisers.

### **Non-Medical Home Healthcare**

Mrs. Barajas stated that the Request for Proposals for the non-medical homecare program were received and opened on Wednesday, April 10, 2019. Three proposals were received from Council on Aging, Faithful Companions and Home Instead. The Panel and Mrs. Barajas briefly reviewed the background of each bidder. The team (Mrs. Barajas, Mr. Boyd and Mrs. Tyson) will be meeting tomorrow to begin discussing and evaluating the agencies.

### **2019 Aging in Lake County Conference**

Mrs. Barajas stated that the date for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Aging in Lake County Conference will be held on Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Four Points Sheraton in Eastlake. The Keynote speaker will be Ms. Karol Tapias, Deputy Director of the Aging and Disability Business Institute for the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging in Washington D.C. The topic will focus on integrating healthcare and community based organizations. Evidence shows that the majority of healthcare costs are driven by factors outside of the clinical environment including the social determinants of health such as food security, housing instability and quality, and utility and transportation access. In order to meet older adults health needs and support their well-being, the healthcare system, must address the critical social needs that will ensure better health outcomes. Community based organizations can identify and address risk factors that can have a significant impact on health and healthcare spending. She found it interesting, that according to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, nearly 90% of physicians indicated they see their patients' need for social supports, but 80% of doctors said they don't fully know how to connect them to community options. She would like to get one additional speaker, possibly from Lake Health. Mr. Shull asked if the attendees would receive continuing education credits. Mrs. Barajas responded that she is working on that for this year's event.

### **Other**

Mrs. Barajas explained that at this time the decision has been made not to fund the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren initiative. There have been quite a few new programs launched recently along with working on the nonmedical home health care program. The Commissioners agree that it would be best to focus on new programs before moving forward with any additional funding initiatives.

Mrs. Tyson stated that the levy funding has not come through as of yet. She expects the deposit to be made in the near future and will update the Panel with final funding amount.

### **Old Business –**

Mr. Shull if the Senior Centers are seeing any increase in participants now that Laketrans is providing transportation to the seniors. Mrs. Barajas responded that Perry Senior Center had indicated they have seen quite an increase in attendance. She stated that all the Centers are very pleased that this service is being provided. Mrs. Tyson explained that LakeTran provides a very good and very detailed report every month.

Mr. Dreher explained that previously he had mentioned revisiting the balance of the contingency fund and that at this time he would like to discuss and reevaluate the fund further. He would like to hear from the Panel their opinions on the total amount in the contingency fund, reducing the balance,

raising the amount or eliminating the fund completely. Mr. Gauntner stated that the contingency fund was established in 2012 with a beginning balance of \$500,000. Mr. Dreher stated that the current amount in the account is \$382,000. Mrs. Barajas stated that was correct and that the fund is not being replenished as funds are being utilized. The Panel discussed several options for the contingency fund. The Panel agreed that it is not in the best interest to eliminate the fund and that reducing the balance of the fund might be an option. Mr. Kline explained that when the fund was created it was unknown what the needs may have been. They reviewed the senior centers that have utilized the funds and the guidelines necessary for use of the contingency fund.

Motion by Mr. Dreher, seconded by Mr. Gauntner, to reduce the contingency fund maximum to \$250,000.00.

Discussion: None.

Vote: "All Ayes"

Motion carried.

**New Business:** none.

**General Discussion:-**

Mrs. Tyson asked new Panel member, Mr. Shull, if there were any topics he would like to discuss or if he had any questions for the Panel. Mr. Shull responded that he would like to know if the collaborative grant initiatives have had success. Mrs. Barajas explained that the programs were funded through the collaborative grants. Mr. Kline explained the collaboration between Beacon Health and Council on Aging. Mrs. Tyson gave a detailed explanation of the collaborations. Mrs. Barajas updated Mr. Shull on the programs that are currently funded through the senior services levy including the services Western Reserve Community Development Corporation and Lifeline (partnered with the Lake County Probate Court) are providing. She also explained the Adult Protective Services, and the Matter of Balance Program that is run through the Lake County Health District in collaboration with Fairhill Partners.

Mr. Kline asked Mrs. Barajas if there would be input from the Commissioners regarding the focus of the Advisory Panel. Mrs. Barajas stated that she felt it would be a good idea to meet with them to get their thoughts and some direction.

Mrs. Barajas reviewed the Senior Levy funding request process.

The Panel continued to explain various senior services topics with newest Panel member, Mr. Shull.

**Adjournment:**

Mr. Dreher moved to adjourn the meeting at 3:06 p.m. and Mr. Kline seconded the motion.

Discussion: none.

Vote: "All Ayes"

Motion carried.

\*The next meeting will be held Tuesday, August 13, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.