

Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 19, 2024 - 9:00 a.m.
Government Center Veterans Memorial Auditorium

Members present: Patti Anderson, Stacey Wenzel, Bob Heil, Kathy Krug, Diane Vaughn, Cheryl Hakseth, Karen Novotny, and Deb Neuheisel
Absent: None
Others present: Jennifer Jako, Alisa Lammers, Darby Smith, Mary Updike, and Leanne Grover

Chair Patti Anderson called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Public Notice Compliance: Jennifer Jako stated we were in compliance with the open meeting Public Notification Laws.

Approval of the Agenda: Stacey Wenzel made a motion to approve the agenda, Karen Novotny seconded, motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes (October 15, 2024): Diane Vaughn made the motion to approve the minutes as written, seconded by Deb Neuheisel, motion carried.

Public Comment: None.

Fiscal Report: Jennifer Jako reviewed the October 2024 fiscal summary report and reviewed the program's revenues and expenditures.

2025 82.21 Grant Application (vote): The 2025 Barron County Specialized Transportation for Persons Age 60+ and Adults with Disabilities handout was distributed. The budget consists of grant funds of \$148,200 with a required match of 20% in the amount of \$29,640.00, over-match of \$26,188.00, estimated passenger revenue of \$21,000 for a total of \$225,028.00. Darby reviewed eligible passengers, transportation priorities, types of service, collaborators—CILWW and Namekagon Transit and ridership trends. Darby reported on the Public Hearing held on Wednesday, November 6th and reviewed the input received, including hours of operation, operating outside of Barron County, and transporting children under 18. Discussion held. Deb Neuheisel made a motion to submit Barron County's 85.21 Grant application, seconded by Stacey Wenzel, motion carried.

2025 Meeting Dates: It was decided to continue meeting at 9 a.m. on the 3rd Tuesdays of the month. 2025 meeting dates would tentatively be: March 18, May 20, July 22 (4th Tuesday), August 19, October 21, and November 18.

Advocacy and legislative issues: Jennifer Jako discussed the upcoming state biennial budget advocacy with top network focus areas being ADRC funding, Home Delivered Meal funding, and transportation funding. 2025 Aging Advocacy Day in Madison at the capital will be May 13th.

Staff Report & Program Updates: (a) Nutrition & Transportation Programs – Darby reported she is still giving tours of the new kitchen to civic groups, which helps bring awareness of our need for volunteers. We will once again be participating in the "Share the Love" Event in conjunction with Subaru. We will be putting out bids for a MOW vehicle replacement. (b) Daybreak/Family Caregiver/Health Promotion Programs – Alisa Lammers reported that the Rice Lake Senior Center is assessing plans to renovate bathrooms that our Daybreak program uses in the Stage Room. This may result in program displacement on Tuesdays during the renovation; our Monday/Thursday site is considering allowing our program to operate 3 days a week at that location during this anticipated renovation. Enrollment steady, and anticipate uptick in referrals around the holidays. Alisa and Katrina attended the Brookdale National Respite conference in October. Alisa is planning family caregiver

programming for 2025, working with the Caregiver Coalition in Barron County, focused on family and professional caregivers. DCS and Alisa have been working with local employers to get more information out to working caregivers. Alisa gave an update on the Multi Agency Resource Event (MARE). These are held quarterly at UW-EC- Barron County with multiple agencies in Barron County focused on assisting low resourced residents. Served 53 households on Nov 7th, 2024. Alisa reported the 2024 Health Promotions programs have ended and she is planning for 2025. We had about 130 people participate in 2024. Looking at starting a fall prevention coalition in 2025 with EMS, healthcare, public health to improve referral systems. (c) ADRC report – Mary introduced Leanne Grover as the new ADRC Supervisor. Mary gave up overview on how the ADRC can assist customers with Medicare Part-D open enrollment and both Elder Benefit Specialists (EBS) are completely booked. The ADRC will give other resources such as Medigap hotline to get help. Mary gave updates on the new documentation system PeerPlace, the upcoming statewide resources database, and the new logo and how the ADRC is getting staff up to speed. The state is implementing a statewide 800 number. (d) Director's updates – Jennifer updated the board on the Men's Shed project, the Centenarian Celebration, and EBS recruitment. Chair Anderson informed the COA about Lona's meal site breast cancer awareness event in November and the upcoming holiday fun in December. On December 19th Wisconsin Counties Association leadership is coming to Barron County with Chair Anderson and Sheriff Fitzgerald to highlight Lona's meal site experience. Bob Heil suggested we consider restaurant-model expansion, discussed what goes into considering expansion.

Future Agenda Items – 2024 Year End Fiscal Report

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 18th, 2025 at 9 a.m. at the Government Center Veterans Memorial Auditorium in Barron.

Motion by Diane Vaughn to adjourn, second by Bob Heil, meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Wenzel, Secretary

Recording secretary: Jennifer Jako

Minutes are not official until approved at next meeting.