

St. Lawrence County
OFFICE FOR THE AGING

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**St. Lawrence County Office for the Aging
Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
November 05, 2007**

Meeting called to order at 9:32 am by Florence Patterson. Members present were: Beatrice Woodward, Patrick Rourke, Florence Patterson, Donald Smith, Holly Capuro, Ruth Ayen, and Barbara Hance. Also present were: Robert Miller, Carlton Doane, Sylvia Despaw, Barbara McBurnie and Kathy Skelly. Excused were: Patricia Jones, Diane Burns, Patricia Kinne, Sister Donna Franklin, Cheryl Madlin, and Janet Kelly and Tedra Cobb. A quorum was established.

Public Comment/Correspondence:

- Sylvia D. announced that Janet Shatraw has been ill and would like all to be thinking of her.

Approval of Minutes:

- Holly C. moved to approve the minutes of the September 10, 2007 meeting. Seconded by Don Smith. All in favor- motion carried.

Old Business:

Office for the Aging Report: no questions or comments

Public Hearings:

- Barbara McB. Spoke about the Public Hearings. Barb went over the program and asked for comments and suggestions. None were forth coming. The next Public Hearing will be November 26th the last Monday of the month and it will go into detail on the County Budget. Don S. asked if the budget remained the same. Barb stated that she budgeted for a new employee for the nutrition sites but that was cut out. She is hoping to bring it up next year in a resolution instead.

PICEI Information:

- Florence P. passed out books to everyone so they could learn more about PICEI. It was built through the use of volunteers. The idea of this program was to teach the meaning of shared knowledge and friendship between the old and the young. PICEI is for both children and adults to help them bridge their lives together with a shared knowledge of diversity. It also helps them to accept and enjoy each other.

New Business:

StateWide Senior Action Report:

- Bob M. reported that the next North Country Chapter meeting will be November 16, 2007 at the Quality Inn, Massena. Sandy Tennekoon from Wells Fargo will speak on reverse mortgages and Sheryl Campbell on Medicare Part D. Barbara McBurnie Director Office for the Aging, Sister Donna Franklin, and John Eadie, Executive Director of NY StateWide, will also be attending. You don't have to be a member to attend, but they are always looking for new people to attend the meetings and get involved. Meeting runs from 10 am. until 2 pm.
- Bob announced that work has already begun for next year's Seniorama. They are already soliciting ads and vendor table sign ups for next year's event.
- StateWide Annual Convention Report: Florence thanked Bob for the invitation to the StateWide convention. She felt that it was very informative and would be a great help in extending the quality of

life for all senior citizens. Many topics were discussed: Healthy Living- Remaining Independent, Senior Housing, Medicare and EPIC, 2-1-1, Legislative Issues, and Universal Health Care. The North Country Chapter of StateWide is the largest in the entire state due to the hard work of its members in our area.

- Carlton D. announced that funding for StateWide has increased, but much of the money that is coming in is tied to Grants for specific purposes. Other ideas for financing are being looked into.
- Carlton D. went to a State meeting in Albany, hosted by NYSOFA Director Mike Burgess, with about 20 state and not-for-profit agencies. Most of them are out of the New York City Area. Mike Burgess invited this group to meet to find out what each one does and what services might overlap. This is to be a supportive network for the aging field. Mike Burgess wants to come to the North Country in the late fall or spring for another meeting. Mike would like Carlton to set a meeting up at one of the local colleges that have some courses in aging related fields. Ruth A said that United Helpers or Claxton Hepburn may have classes to support senior services.

AARP Report:

- Carlton D. apologized for Janet Kelly President of AARP not being able to attend. The AARP next meeting is on November 13th in Massena at the Lookout. Sheryl Campbell will be the guest speaker on Medicare Part D. The Christmas meeting will be on December 18th. He is hoping the lady that leads the songfest will be a guest at this meeting, but nothing is definite yet.

St. Lawrence County Council of Senior Citizens Report:

- Sylvia D. reported that the St. Lawrence County Council of Senior Citizens participated in the Office for the Aging survey that was given out at the Public Hearing in October.
- By-law amendments were approved at their September meeting and will be given to members at the next Council meeting on November 8, 2007, at the Potsdam American Legion on Rt. 345. The meeting will start at 10am, elections will be held for 2008 officers. The Board of Directors will meet at 9:00. Lunch is provided at a Cost of \$4.00, all Seniors are welcome.
- Speaker will be Brooke Madlin who is a Pharmacist at Rite-Aid Drugs.

Veteran's Services Report:

- Pat R. reported on the survey that was sent out regarding the Cold War Veterans' tax exemption to determine if the local Veterans community is in favor of the county enacting same exemption. The Public Hearing will be at the Special Board meeting on November 26, 2007.

Committee Assignments:

- **Nominating**
 - A nominating committee needs to be established to put together the slate of officers for 2008. Holly C. was the chair last year and was dismissed as per by-laws. The two other committee members, Pat Jones and Pat Kinne are not able to participate this year – Pat K. has moved to Syracuse and Pat J. is very ill. The entire committee needs to be appointed for this year. A new Vice Chair and Corresponding Secretary need to be nominated; the Chair can serve one more year in that position. There were no volunteers to serve – Chair will contact members to serve.
- **AIP Review**
 - The Advisory Council reviews the Office for the Aging's annual plan for services (AIP) and funding for the next year. This plan has additional requirements as it is the Four Year plan (2008-2012) comprehensive plan. The comprehensive Needs Assessment that was done in October is a requirements of the 4-year plan. Holly C., Florence P. and Carlton D. volunteered to be on the AIP review committee.
 - This year we have two Professors from Potsdam State helping with the Needs Assessment - one to help present the surveys and one to analyze them. We will get the statistical data back and report the results at the next meeting.
- **New Members for 2008**
 - New members are needed for the Advisory Council. Pat Jones and Don Smith have served their maximum two terms and Pat Kinne has moved permanently out of the area. Carlton D. is willing

to be reappointed to a new term, but new members are needed to represent the DePeyster-Morristown-Hammond area, Massena-Louisville-Norfolk area, and the Colton-Claire-Parishville-Pierrepont area. To maintain the "over 50% of the membership needs to be 60 or older" requirement, older persons are needed – if anyone knows of someone from one of these areas that may be willing to serve, let Barb know.

- Ron Frank of Star Lake and Gloria Zehr of Gouverneur will be appointed at the next Board of Legislators meeting.

Announcements:

- Next meeting will be February 11th at 9:30 a.m. The 2008 schedule will be February 11th, April 14th, June 9th, Sept 8th, and Nov 10th.
- Bob M. and Carlton D. are selling Calendars for StateWide at a cost of \$20.00 each.
- Barb McB. spoke about the service provided by out-going Advisory Council member Don Smith. Everyone admires Don for the time and caring responses to his constituents, both on the council and during his term as a Legislator for St. Lawrence County. He will be missed.

Adjournment:

- Carlton D. made the motion to adjourn, 2nd by Holly C seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11 am.