

St. Lawrence County
OFFICE FOR THE AGING

80 State Hwy. 310, Suite 7
Canton, New York 13617-1497

Barbara R. McBurnie
Director

e-mail: bmcburnie@co.st-lawrence.ny.us

Telephone
315-386-4730
FAX
315-386-8636

**St. Lawrence County Office for the Aging
Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
June 9, 2008**

Meeting called to order at 9:30 am by Florence Patterson. Members present were: Barbara Hance, Holly Capuro, Florence Patterson, Carlton Doane, Robert Mead, Diane Burns, Ruth Ayen, Ron Frank, Gloria Zehr, Sr. Donna Franklin, Elaine Porter, and Tedra Cobb. Also present were: Robert Miller, Sylvia Despaw, Maria Alexander, Judy Feigenbaum, Pat Rourk, and Barbara McBurnie. Excused: Roger Bennett. Absent: Beatrice Woodward. Cheryl Madlin has submitted a letter of resignation. A quorum was established.

Introductions and Welcome:

- Florence made opening remarks as Chair. All members and guests introduced themselves.

Public Comment/Correspondence:

- None

Approval of Minutes:

- Bob Mead moved to approve the minutes of the February 11, 2008 meeting. Seconded by Ron F. All in favor- motion carried.

Guest Speaker:

- Maria Alexander, Senior Outreach Services Coordinator at Catholic Charities explained what she is doing to help seniors: hopes to help recruit and train volunteers to help HIICAP coordinators (comment made that volunteers need to be trained on how to build relationships with clients so clients feel comfortable sharing personal information with them); want to provide information on the toll-free help lines, how to contact help; provide assurance for those struggling with Medicare decisions and problems. She looks forward to working with all the region's counties.

Old Business:

Office for the Aging Report:

- No comments or questions

StateWide Senior Action Report:

- Bob Miller is going to Albany tomorrow morning to attend the NY StateWide Board meeting on Wednesday.
- Next North Country Chapter meeting is June 20, 2008 at Gallagher's Restaurant in Malone at 10:00a.m. Jan Henderson, Phyllis Noble, Mary Degone and Lawrence Fregoe will be recognized for their work with seniors and with StateWide. They will vote on the Chapter's nominees for StateWide's annual awards.
- The Bingo Palace has committed to hosting next year's Seniorama. It will be on Monday as Thursdays are a busier day for normal Bingo Palace business.
- Elaine P. reported on the Seniorama plans. There will be tents set up outside the Bingo Palace for Health Care providers (smoke free area) and it will allow for more seating area for those attending.

AARP Report:

- Carlton D., presented the report for Janet Kelly, Chapter President. The speaker at the May meeting was from Hospice.
- Next meeting will be June 17 at the Canton Methodist Church. Someone from the Rite Aid drug store will be speaker.

St. Lawrence County Council of Senior Citizens Report:

- May Fest held on May 3, 2008 the K of C Hall in Massena was deemed a success. Florence P. mentioned dinner had too much salt – Sylvia D. said that was a common complaint. The 2008 senior awards were given out at the banquet: Laura Jandrew of Massena won the Senior Citizen of the Year; Cheryl Madlin of Lisbon won Outstanding Contribution by a Senior Citizen and Cynthia Hennessy of Colton won the Jacqueline Sears Volunteer Award.
- Myrtle Butterfield of Canton will be the speaker at the June County Council meeting. She will be representing the American Legion and will give a presentation on the American Flag and flag etiquette.
- Ads for the summer picnic will be out shortly.
- August Council meetings will be on August 21 – one week later due to the Seniorama falling on the normal meeting day.

Veteran's Services Report:

- National VA Health Care conference providing new information today. Benefits may be changing. New GI bill similar to the one after WWII. It's a great package for veterans to attend college. NYS passed legislation that NYS Veterans can attend SUNY colleges for free – the State pays tuition.

Other:

- Sr Donna inquired about the Nursing Home transition waiver – Holly C. explained a bit. Discussion about waivers, consumer choice, consumer directed care, need for supportive housing, social adult day care was held.

Announcements:

- North Country Chapter StateWide Senior Action Council meeting June 20, 2008 at 10 AM – Gallagher's Restaurant, Malone
- John A. Karlberg Memorial Picnic July 11, 2008 – Dominic W. Zappia Community Center, Norfolk
- Seniorama August 14, 2008 – Mohawk Bingo Palace, Hogansburg

Adjournment:

- Meeting adjourned at 11:00 am.
- Next meeting will be September 8th at 9:30 a.m.