



Watertown Commission on Aging

Chris Boerner – Commissioner

Andrea Plahn – Commissioner

Richard Schimmel – Commission Vice-Chair

Terry Gallagher – Commission Chair

Deb Favorit - Commissioner

Lucinda Raymond - Commissioner

Kay Thul - Watertown City Council

Margaret Reisdorf – Administrative Services Director – City of Watertown

Paul Ericsson – Carver County Library – Branch Manager

Amy Dimmler – Watertown – Mayer Community Education – Education Director

Dawn Plumer – Carver County Health and Human Services – Public Health Program Director

Jake Foster – City Administrator

4/5/2023 - Minutes

1. Call To Order

The Commission on Aging meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm on April 5, 2023.

Members Present: Richard Schimmel, Chris Boerner, Terry Gallagher, Paul Ericsson, Margaret Reisdorf.

Members Absent: Deb Favorit, Andrea Plahn, Amy Dimmler, Kay Thul, Dawn Plumer and Lucinda Raymond, and Jake Foster.

Others in Attendance: Pat Stieg, Carver County Public Health.

2. Adopt Agenda

Ericsson moved to adopt the agenda as presented. Boerner seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

3. Approve Minutes

3.A. March 8, 2023 Commission On Aging Meeting Minutes

Schimmel moved to adopt the March 8, 2023, Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes as submitted. Boerner seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

4. New Business

4.A. RFA Treasurer Report

Reisdorf reviewed the treasurer report with the Commission. She informed that since the last meeting in March, that the Commission on Aging has not spent or taken in any money. She stated that the current balance remains at \$2,364.39.

4.B. Pat Stieg

4.B.i. Carver County Community Health Assessment

Pat Stieg introduced this item to the Commission on Aging. Stieg explained that Carver County does a Community Health Assessment every five years to get input for the County's community health improvement plan (CHIP). He informed that the next CHIP would cover the years 2025 – 2029.

Stieg reviewed the process of the Community Health Assessment, and that the upcoming assessment will have an increased emphasis on equity and meeting the needs of those with more health needs; physical/mental. He informed that the assessment would also investigate the populations of aging, youth, and color.

Stieg informed that the process includes three steps. He explained that the first step is called the "Community Partnership Assessment" that allows all community partners that are part of the Carver County public health network to critically look at their own individual processes, systems, and capabilities, as well as the partners' collective capacity as a network to address health inequities.

Stieg stated that the second step is called the "Community Context Assessment" that is the process of a qualitative data assessment aimed at harnessing the unique insights, expertise, and perspectives of individuals and groups directly impacted by social systems, to improve the functioning and impact of those systems.

Stieg said that the third step is called the "Community Status Assessment" that is the process to quantitatively describe the status of the Carver County community; including health outcomes, health behaviors, social determinants of health, and systems of power, privilege, and oppression – across all these variables, for any existing inequities.

Gallagher asked if the report is broken down between communities as well as Carver County as a whole.

Stieg explained that they are hoping to do separate community analysis if possible.

Stieg reviewed how the County sends out surveys through the mail with the hope that enough people will respond to have confidence in the data.

The Commission asked questions about specific populations such as those with dementia, food insecurities, lack of internet services, and facing homelessness. Stieg said that report would cover these populations and supporting organizations.

Gallagher asked when the information would be complete and accessible to the public.

Stieg estimated the end of 2023 or the beginning of 2024.

Gallagher asked about the partnerships that the County looks to connect with.

Stieg listed many sectors including cities/townships, hospitals/clinics, nonprofits/businesses, school districts, churches, other Carver County departments, and more.

4.B.ii. Community Of Belonging Summary

Stieg provided the Commission on Aging with information on a "Communities of Belonging" program. He informed that the goal of the program is to increase wellbeing and ensure that people are fully accepted within their community regardless of status.

Stieg said that regardless of whether people disagree or have different opinions, the goal is to have healthy and thriving communities that are respectful and support the foundations of optimal physical and mental health.

Stieg said that the program works through a "grass roots" process and members of the community choose how they are going to create a "community of belonging" where all feel welcome.

Stieg informed that the Carver County Public Health Department provides support and resources to those interested in getting started and involved. He informed that the City of Watertown does not have an active group at this time. He offered to present the information at a church, a City Council meeting and/or the Chamber of Commerce to try and educate community groups and residents on the program.

The Commission on Aging agreed that this would be a great idea.

4.B.iii. 2019 CHA Executive Summary

NA

4.C. RFA Census

4.C.i. Census Age Data

Tabled.

4.C.ii. Census Household Data

Tabled.

4.C.iii. Census Housing

Tabled.

4.D. RFA Senior Survey

The Commission reviewed the included draft survey within their packets. Reisdorf said that at the next meeting she would provide a more detailed explanation for each section to explain the importance of each section.

Schimmel stated that survey should be simple and is preferred.

Boerner asked if there could be a comment section placed under each section.

Gallagher asked if social groups/faith communities could be added under Section 2.

Ericsson asked if "Services" could be added to the library under Section 2 and recommended adding "Email" at the end of the document.

4.D.i. Senior Survey Draft_COA

4.D.ii. Senior Survey

4.E. RFP Senior Dance

Reisdorf introduced this item to the Commission. She informed that the Commission on Aging agreed to host a fall dance.

Reisdorf informed that the best date would likely be September 30, 2023, at the City Community Center.

Reisdorf said that at this time, she is recommending that the Commission on Aging discuss securing a band. Reisdorf explained that Commissioners Boerner and Plahn reached out to the band, Hillbilly Cadillac, for information on performing for the event. Reisdorf said that the band confirmed that they could perform for the cost of \$600. Reisdorf asked for the Commission on Aging to vote on the cost.

ERICSSON MOVED TO APPROVE SIGNING THE CONTRACT WITH HILLBILLY CADILLAC TO BE THE BAND AT THE FALL DANCE FOR THE AMOUNT OF \$600. SCHIMMEL SECONDED. MOTION PASSED 5-0.

5. Other Business

5.A. General Info

Reisdorf provided information to the Commission on the City Council's recent awarding of grants to local community programs including programs that support local seniors including WeCAB, Watertown-Mayer Community Education, and St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

5.A.i. 2023 Watertown Prog Request

5.A.ii. WeCAB Watertown Proposal 2023

5.A.iii. St Paul's Church 2023

5.B. Miscellaneous Information

Reisdorf provided information on a local dementia support group.

5.B.i. Conference Poster 2023

6. Adjourn

A motion by Boerner to end the meeting at 4:42 p.m. was made. Schimmel Seconded. Motion passed 5-0.

309 Lewis Avenue S, Watertown, MN 55388