

Aging Partners Areawide Advisory Council Minutes
April 13, 2017

Present: Cathy Rauch, Steve Egglund, Harold Simpson, Gloria Aron, Shari Busch, Keith Larsen, Marsha Ward, Adree Rut, Kathy Stokebrand, Vern Schulte

Audio Conference: JoAnn Sieck

Absent: Esther Bailey, Dorothy Schultz, Linda Heinisch, John Wyviill, Alan Gissler, Jacob Kruse, Marty Stones

Staff: Randy Jones, Denise Boyd, Martha Hakenkamp, Sandy Lutz, Mitch Sump, Jennifer Hartman, Peggy Apthorpe, Joyce Kubicek, Susan Keese

Marsha Ward welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m. Self-introductions followed.

Marsha Ward asked for a motion to approve the minutes of March 23, 2017. Steve Egglund made the motion and Harold Simpson seconded. All were in favor and the motion was adopted.

I. Aging Partners Nutrition Programs: led by Denise Boyd

Denise presented on the various nutrition services offered through Aging Partners in their eight county service area including Congregate Meals, Home Delivered Meals, Nutrition Education, Nutrition Programing, Nutrition Counseling, Inter-local Contracts to provide services, and various funding sources promoting these services. Nutrition services have many purposes- end hunger and food insecurity for older adults; promote socialization; promote health and well-being; and delaying adverse health conditions.

Q&A

- Steve Egglund asked who sets the standards for Home Delivered Meals and are these standards reviewed regularly. Denise replied that Aging Partners sets standards based off mobility criteria and ability to prepare meals themselves. Eligibility is reviewed every six months. Randy added that there are two steps of monitoring added to insure accountability by Aging Partners in Lancaster County to Home Delivered Meal consumers. First, consumers are on Aging Partners Monitoring List to ensure their nutrition needs are met. Second, consumers provide written documentation via Aging Partners Intake Form which provides satisfaction rating, demographics, Nutrition Risk Assessment, Activities of Daily Living Assessment, and other functional status.
- Steve Egglund asked if there are monetary requirements to participate in nutrition programs. Denise answered that there are none if eligible consumers are participating in Older American Act Nutrition Programs (i.e. congregate and home delivered meals, nutrition counseling).
- Keith Larsen asked how soon we will find out if Federal Budget cuts will impact Meals on Wheels. Randy answered that only one portion of the Tabitha Meals on Wheels Program (Lancaster County) is paid for by the Community Services Block Grant Program (which has been eliminated on the proposed Federal "skinny budget"). Luckily, Aging Partners contract with Tabitha Meals on Wheels would be able to pay for some meals with moneys from the Older Americans Act and moneys from USDA which are not affected by Trumps budget cuts. Also, donations and contributions they receive help make up the difference.
- Ardee Rut noted that there is a difference between *Meals on Wheels of America* and *Tabitha Meals on Wheels* and that these two entities have different funding sources.
- Ardee asked will the Federal budget affect other counties Meals on Wheels Programs. Martha answered that *Meals on Wheels of America* (which is impacted by the "skinny budget" proposal) does not fund any of Aging Partners Home Delivered Meals. The Meals on Wheels Programs providing Home Delivered Meals for Aging Partners consumers have good county support and consumer support. The funding for Home Delivered meals is diversified which helps ease stress of various Federal, State, and

Local budget cuts.

II. Area Plan Approval: led by Randy Jones

Aging Partners budget is very complex. Jennifer Hartman is our Administrative Officer who develops and oversees Aging Partners budgets and financial records. Jennifer has been able to restructure Aging Partners extensive budget to accommodate for revenue shifts while increasing services provided to the public. Overall, Aging Partners is operating on a 1% reduction in Federal funding and a 1% reduction from City of Lincoln funding.

Martha emphasized that Aging Partners runs off of an allocated budget. Services have to come from specified “money pots” per State and Federal regulations.

- a) Older Americans Act Federal Funding:
 - III-B: Supportive Services
 - III-C(1): congregate meals
 - III-C(2): Home Delivered Meals
 - III-D: Disease Prevention & Health Promotion
 - III-E: Family Caregivers Support Programs
- b) CASA: State Funding
- c) Other Programs: does not contain either State or Federal funding.

Noteworthy shifts in the budget and discussion highlights:

Title III-B: Guidance from the State recommended shifting part of Aging Partners budget into Title III-B, which accounts for increase in Title III-B budgeting and a reduction in other portions of the budget. Title III-B budget has a 9% increase in service by shifting Health Education (formally III-D), Health Clinic (formally III-D), and ADRC (formally CASA Only) into III-B.

Title III-C(1 & 2): IIC’s experienced a shift in the budget by moving Sack Lunches funding, provided by Lancaster centers, from III-C(1) into III-C(2). This change was needed because it was discovered that most diners were taking their sack lunch’s home rather than eating them at the center. By exiting with their sack, this meal cannot be considered an OAA meal which means that the funding source had to change.

- There is also a projected dip in Nutrition Education due to a change in the Taxonomy which will be counting Nutrition Education differently-by Session, rather than by individual attending.

Title III-D: Peggy Apthorpe explained that III-D can only be spent on “highest tiered evidenced-based programs” that have been proven to save healthcare dollars. III-D money is strictly controlled. Programs and supportive services that did not meet the strict perimeters of “highest tiered evidenced-based programs” were shifted into III-B to make sure that Aging Partners counties were still able to get these beneficial services.

Title III-E: Mitch Sump explained that this funding helps pay for keeping seniors in their home through services such as the Handy Man Program, Lifeline, Durable Medical Equipment Program (non-disposable appliances such as walkers, wheelchairs, and lift chairs available to lower-income individuals who cannot afford to help keep them safe in their homes).

Title III-E: Joyce Kubicek informed the council that III-E funding is also used for Caregiver Access. This is an educational tool used to reach out to and speak with caregivers to let them know what is available to them as primary caregivers. This includes respite care for caregivers. Also, it helps fund payment for caregiver support for individuals who have at least 2 *Activities of Daily Living* impairments (including cognitive and/or mental

impairment) they need assistances with which includes supplemental services such as incontinence supplies; adaptive equipment; caregiver information options out there; and caregiver health promotions to keep caregiver healthy.

Community Aging Services Act (CASA): this is State of Nebraska funding-The dip in CASA funding is the result of moving ADRC (Aging and Disability Resource Center) into III-B funding.

Title VII: Ombudsman. Aging Partners does not operate an Ombudsman Program, but does continue to educate on preventing and stopping elder abuse. The State has cut funding for this.

Randy reviewed a breakdown of moneys spent at Aging Partners and Jennifer Hartman reviewed and defined budget line items as seen on page 46 of the updated Area Plan. Randy emphasized that even with 2.5% decreased funding; Aging Partners is still able to increase services to the public.

Q&A

- Cathy Rauch asked why personnel cost (at 64% of budget) is less than other organizations. Randy replied that Aging Partners is able to utilize contractual work to complete service delivery which is accounted for differently under the budget. Also, Aging Partners staff is very service driven which promotes above-average job performance and efficacy. Martha commented that Aging Partners has a huge volunteer pool that steps up across the counties which saves on personal costs such as Polk County senior centers are ran by volunteers.

Randy asked Areawide Advisory Council members for their endorsement of the updated Area Plan after reviewing priorities of the strategic Area Plan; sharing service unit goals; and sharing the financial breakdown of the budget over the last three months. Keith Larsen made the motion to endorse the updated Area Plan budget and Kathy Stokebrand seconded. All were in favor and the motion was adopted. Chair Marsha Ward signed and dated the Advisory Review Statement to be submitted with the updated Area Plan.

III. Areawide Advisory Council Nomination Reminder: led by Randy Jones

Areawide Advisory Council member nomination committee will be established at the May 25, 2017, meeting. All new members need endorsement from the Mayor and County Boards. Needed appointments include president and second vice chair (current second vice chair Gloria Aron will be moving to first vice chair). Areawide Council needs five county volunteers to participate on the nomination discussion. July 2017 meeting is when new positions take effect.

Q&A

- Steve Egglund would like incorporating more ethnic, religious, disabled, and minority representation on the Areawide Advisory Council.
- Cathy Rauch asked if the number of persons representing each county is decided/set. Bylaws dictate how many representatives each county gets based on population (each county gets one rep for each 4,000 60+ residents). Cathy stressed the importance of avoiding tokenism. She also suggested that bylaws are written to be amended and that it should be intentionally written into bylaws to require equal representation/ intentionally inclusive.
- Harold Simpson recommended going to different organized minority groups and invite them to be on the Areawide Advisory Council.

IV. Lancaster County Pop-Up Centers Planning: led by Sandy Lutz

Pop-Up Centers aim to provide a sample of different services available through Aging Partners to increase

Updated: 5/2/17 sck

awareness to the public as well as get input from the community on other services needed. Lincoln has underserved areas lacking centers (specifically the southeast, southwest, northwest corners of Lincoln). On the schedule provided to council is a map showing where pop-up centers will be hosted in Lincoln over the next year. Aging Partners first pop-up center was hosted at the East Lincoln Christian Church (70th & Edenton) in November, 2016, with a great turnout. Aging Partners will host one pop-up center a month in Lancaster County. Saline County has also incorporated pop-up centers into their programming and the other counties are on their way to beginning their own pop-up centers as well.

Adree Rut would like advertisement to put up at Walters for the upcoming pop-up on May 17th Pop-up center to be held at the Walters Community Room.

V. County Board Visits Briefing: led by Randy Jones

Randy will be visiting each of the county boards accompanied by the local County Program Manager. It is always helpful to have advisory members attend. The date of each county board visit has been provided to each Areawide council member. Marsha Ward added that it helps the county board members see that there is support for the ageing services programs in their community and that it is a valued asset.

Other Items

- See if Mitch can arrange small bus to take Areawide Council members to York for May 25th meeting.
 - Mitch needs RSVP list
- Randy will look at perimeters of the by-laws
- Martha will check the county Census to update headcount for county Areawide Advisory Council representation/membership
- Look at demographic data of clients served by Aging Partners

Adjournment: 3:03 PM

Next Meeting: May25, 2017, location at York Senior Center 725 Nebraska Ave. York, NE 68467

Respectfully Submitted,
Susan Keese
5/2/2017
Amended by Randy S. Jones

Handouts: Agenda, March 23rd Meeting Minutes, County Board Visit Schedule, Areawide Programs & Nutrition PowerPoint Handout, 2016 NE Meals-On-Wheels Handout, IIIB IIIC1 & IIIC2 Handout, Area Plan Handout, Pop Up Schedule