# **St. Lawrence County Office for the Aging (OFA)**

# **Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**

# **September 10, 2018**

**Meeting called to order:** 10:00 AM by Patrick Rourk, Chairman

**Present:** *(voting members):* Roger Bennett, Linda Wilkinson, Patrick Rourk, Russ Backus

 Gail Teele, Bob Mead, Kathy Skelly, Gail Bisonette, Carlton Doane

**Present:** *(non-voting members):* Larry Denesha, Peg Walrich, Vicki Clark, Michael Boprey, Christiana DeForge

 Brenda Sanderson, Christine Fobare, Chiara Delosh, Andrea Montgomery

**Present:** *(New Members/Pending BOL approval)*

**Excused**: Barb McBurnie, Frank Carter

**Absent:**

**Public Attending:**

**Meeting Location:** Human Services Building

**♦Introductions:** Meeting brought to order by P. Rourk. Opened with Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Reflection. Welcome and introductions.

**♦Guest Speaker –** A. Montogmery introduced speaker, **Carrie Conger, St. Lawrence County Traffic Safety Information Specialist.** Carrie explained car fit, which moves side to side to help individuals that are having difficulty getting into and out of their vehicle. She explained that she is working to try to get driver education classes back into schools. Also, she will be going for a ride along with the sheriff’s department. She described that there is a texting and driving with speed classes that have been going on in schools. This class has helped some schools to reduce the death rate when it comes to speeding and driving. The next school that will be holding this class will be Parishville-Hopkinton.

Carrie then opened it up for questions and discussion.

* Pedestrian safety.
* Younger generation needs to be educated on when you age your reflexes may become slower than what they use to be. Carrie said that this is a topic that could be stressed to the younger generation.
* Schools not offering driver education courses anymore.
* Following the speed limit.
* Anything to give up license. Carrie said that she is talking with the Office for the Aging. Also, to call your local DMV. A. Montgomery stated that there needs to be a medical statement from doctor to say that they can’t drive.
* Move over law.

**♦Public Comment** – no public comments

♦**Approval/Minutes** – motion to approve minutes by L. Wilkinson, seconded by B. Mead, all in favor.

#  Motion passed.

♦**Correspondence** *(L. Wilkinson)* – Sent out sympathy card to Mike Boprey. Also, sent out get well card.

**♦Old Business**– no old business

**♦New Business** –

**County Council of Senior Citizens Report** *(Brenda Sanderson)*- Senior picnic in July had quite a few people show up at the Gouverneur Community Center. It was estimated that there was 207 or more people registered there. There were three nursing homes that sent buses to this event. A. Montgomery said that they estimated that there were 300 served. There aren’t many facilities that can accommodate that many people. Trying to have meetings at different locations throughout the county. Next two meetings are in Star Lake.

**StateWide Senior Action Council Report** *(Barb McBurnie)* A. Montgomery gave the report in B. McBurnie absence. Seniorama went well. She was pleased with the amount of vendors and individuals that came out to this event. Annual convention in Saratoga.

**Veterans Services Report** *(Mike Boprey)* If veterans have any questions or issues regarding healthcare plans getting expensive, or they are getting ready to retire, they are able to go see him. If an individual is eligible for hearing aids, Veterans will help pay for this. The dental program is the same through Tricare. Any veteran that has V.A. health insurance can sign up for supplemental insurance. Veterans may be eligible for pension depending on their income. P. Rourke stated that military retirees Tricare Dental Plan will go away November 3. Will cover vision through FEDVID. This is open from November-December12. If individuals don’t sign up during this time, they won’t have the coverage for 2019.

**Public Health Report** – *(Dana McGuire)* No report.

**County Legislator’s Report** *(Larry Denesha)* Addressed and urged that individuals need to take advantage of the meal sites in DeKalb and Star Lake. Won’t have to borrow money this year. No discrepancies in audit finding found in August. This is the first time since 2005.

**AARP Report**- *(Peg Walrich)* Medicare workshop in May for changes on federal program. Attending Patti Richie’s Senator Health Fair in October. There will be a fundraiser on September 25 at the lobster house. It is open to the public and there will be dinner and music. If anyone is interested, see Vicki Clark for tickets.

**Office for the Aging Report** *(Andrea Montgomery)*

* Employee appreciation ice cream social was two weeks ago. Ruth has brought back years of service pin.
* Has to take a look at the Advisory Council membership list because it has to be covering certain areas.
* Since February OFA Office is now fully staffed.
* Cindy Ayer from DSS is our Senior Advocate.
* Julie Pavone from Nutrition Program is our Advocate Worker.
* Renee Lomoglio from CPH is our Advocate Worker.
* Chiara Delosh from CPH is our Keyboard Specialist.
* Walk with Ease is being held in Morristown, and Tai Chi is being held in Potsdam. These classes are free. If you would like to sign up call Julie Pavone at our office.
* Cyber Seniors will start on October 4. Tablets 1 & 2 are being held. When signing up you will be going to 2 classes.
* Medicare enrollment begins October 15.
* Cindy Ayer will be going to a HIICAP training in Saratoga Springs.
* In need for volunteers for home delivered meals.
* If a site doesn’t have regular attendance, then it can’t be justified to keep that site location opened.
* Up 13,000 more meals than a year ago. Budget modification to help with this.
* 40+ individuals show up at the Gouverneur site for a meal.

**♦Adjournment** – Motion to adjourn by R. Bennett, seconded by R. Backus, all in favor.

 P. Rourk adjourned meeting at 10:50 AM.

**♦Next Meeting** – November 5, 2018, Clifton Fine Community Center at 10AM

*(Minutes respectfully submitted by Chiara Delosh)*