

**Marquette County Aging Services  
Advisory Committee Meeting**

**March 12, 2019 - 10:30 a.m.**

**Meeting held at the Marquette County Aging Services**

1. **Roll Call - Present:** Don Kristola (Chair), Lynn Emerick (Vice), Darlene Allen (Secretary) Joan Haara, Carol Holmgren, Karl Lehmann, Edith Prosen and Stephen Adamini

Also present: Elyse Bertucci, Kathy DeMarinis, Mary Harris, Kristy Malmsten, Tonya Pontel, Lori Stephens-Brown, Maureen Sullivan, Brian Veale, and Sue Vercoe,

2. Approval of Minutes February 12, 2019 Meeting. A motion was made by Edith Prosen to approve the minutes, supported by Darlene Allen, the motion was approved.
3. Additions/Corrections to the Agenda: Sue Vercoe requested that Additional UPCAP Homemaker allocations be added under New Business. A motion was made by Lynn Emerick to approve the agenda, supported by Darlene Allen, the motion was approved.
4. Informational Items: 2019 Committee Meeting Dates – Handed out to all members. 2019 Committee/Provider Contact Information-Handed out to all members, adjustment & corrections need to be made. Karl Lehmann motioned to approve the committee meeting dates as presented and Edith Prosen second, motion approved.
5. Old Business
  - a. Aging Service Directory Update: Lynn Emerick mentioned it is at a pause as help is needed with it to move forward. Lynn asked Mary Harris if there is a possibility of RSVP volunteers to call & get information that may be needed. Lynn will provide Mary with some information that a volunteer may call on.
  - b. 2019 Committee Visits: Don Kristola asked about a schedule and when they would be doing the visits, during scheduled meeting times or a designated time other than the scheduled meeting? Stephen Adamini suggested you treat them as a work forum. Darlene Allen has a calendar for signing up or coordinating which meeting or event that a member would be willing to attend. Sue mentioned to help coordinate that if any committee members are planning to attend any scheduled meetings they can contact Sue or Kathy. Various organizations may require a signed confidential agreement prior to participating. Sue Vercoe suggested input be reported back to Marquette County Aging Services Committee from board members attending various meetings, functions and receiving information in reference to aging services programs.

- c. Aging Services Support/Coordination: Priority needs- Darlene Allen provided a list of some of the coordination and support gaps (as identified by some of the Senior Center Directors) that may have been created by the loss of Aging Services Support hours. The group discussed the need for coordination and technical assistance and how to fill the gaps. Darlene asked if additional aging services hours is something we as a group should we be advocating for? Darlene suggested the centers continue to provide feedback about the gaps and needs. Lynn Emerick motioned to keep this item before the committee to re-visit as necessary. Edith Prosen second the motion, motion approved.

6. New Business:

- a. Service Providers Oral Service Reports-Chore Services

**Kristy Malmstren** (Negaunee Senior Center) passed out a handout that outlined their center's chore service program. Right now she has 73 clients, 38 snow removal clients and 2 chore workers, with one worker just giving a 2 week notice. Difficulty keeping the chore worker position due to some challenges such as sporadic hours and liability insurance.

**Elyse Bertucci** (Ishpeming Senior Center) mentioned she has some of the same issues as the Negaunee Senior Center. They recently lost a long time homemaker and it is hard to find a replacement. They used to be able to hire people who were on unemployment however the State of Michigan made changes and for every dollar you earn you lose on your unemployment compensation, so those people are no longer willing to work for them.

**Brian Veale** (Forsyth Senior Center) deals with 7 townships and has 3 chore workers at the present time. It has been difficult as they have been short staffed in the past and he was substituting as a fill in for the chore worker. They do offer shoveling services (sidewalks only), raking services, and lawn services. The client needs to be on site when this work is being completed.

**Maureen Sullivan** (Marquette Senior Center) Marquette is also having difficulty hiring a homemaker as they have been posting the position for 2 months and received only 2 applications. They have a long time employee retiring in 30 days so they extended the posting hoping to hire someone as soon as possible. Marquette does not have chore service workers.

**Tonya Pontel** (Lake Superior Adult Day Services) Spoke about their Adult Day Services. They have 15 participant maximum for their services. There are 12 individuals currently enrolled. They received a grant from the Superior Health Foundation. They have also increased volunteers 3 days a week. They are gearing up for their annual art show which is May 9<sup>th</sup> and will be held at the Marquette Historical Center.

**Lori Stephens Brown** (Community Action Alger Marquette) The weather conditions have made deliveries difficult. Recently there have been 11 cancelations, many more than usual. UPCAP has contacted her in reference to

funding for volunteers to help with those drivers who set up meals for dementia clients. CAAM is developing a program for a volunteer to assist clients with dementia.

b. Additional UPCAP Homemaker Allocations:

**Sue Vercoe** (on behalf of Marquette County Aging Services) UPCAP Allocation contracts for the four senior centers were completed although additional allocations were given to each senior center in January 2019. One of the senior centers indicated they would not be able to utilize the extra allocation. UPCAP said those dollars could be relocated to the other centers if they are interested. These units/allocations will need to be used up by the end of the FY2019, September 30, 2019. Please let Sue know if you are interested in additional allocations.

7. Public Comment: none

8. Committee Comments: Darlene Allen mentioned the public hearing on June 6<sup>th</sup> at SAIL in reference to the UPCAP 2020-2022 Annual Implementation Plan.

9. Meeting Adjourned at 11:59 by Don Kristola, Darlene Allen made a motion and Karl Lehmann second the motion.