

WARREN/HAMILTON COUNTIES OFFICE FOR THE AGING
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Deanna Park ♦ Director

WARREN/HAMILTON COUNTIES ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING

DATE: October 24, 2018

LOCATION: Chestertown Nutrition Site

ATTENDANCE: Deanna Park, Rose Ann O'Rourke, Denise DiResta, Sharon Grisenwaite, Roy Grisenwaite,
Julie Smith, Abigail Eichler

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 11:00AM

MINUTES: Accepted.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Senior Picnic – Wednesday, September 12th at the Fish Hatchery in Warrensburg. See attached flyer.
2. NY Connects program will be restructured at the Warren/Hamilton Counties Office for the Aging. Instead of filling a recently vacated NY Connects Aging Services Specialist position, the entire office will be trained on NY Connects. This will be a cost savings to the County.
3. NYSOFA Annual Evaluation scheduled for September 25th and 26th.
4. NYSOFA Nutrition Evaluation scheduled for July 30th and 31st. Postponed till further notice.
5. Menu Review – The WHCOFA recently sent out questionnaires to the congregate meal site participants, as well as the HDM clients, to get feedback on the current menu. Based on this, and an analysis of the cost for different planned meals, the Director, Coordinator of Services and Dietitian will be reviewing and revising the current menus.
6. Farmer's Market Checks are now available at the office, as well as during several outreaches scheduled in both Warren and Hamilton Counties. The majority of the specific outreaches have been completed, and the remainder will take place at the Farmer's Markets themselves based on availability of staff.
7. Legal Assistance contract signed with Legal Aid Society of Northeastern New York. Signed and will come in quarterly to the office to meet with clients. Referrals will be sent to Legal Aid for all others.
8. Cancer Study – Recent article in The Post Star was reviewed, as well as a synopsis given of the meetings held at SUNY Adirondack on July 19th. A copy of the handout given during these meetings is attached. The focus is now to try to find a correlation or contributing factors that can be linked to the high rate of cancer in Warren County. The next step will be how to address such.
9. Warren/Hamilton Counties Office for the Aging website will be revamped in the near future. Hopefully it will be more user friendly and informational.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. NYSOFA Annual Evaluation – went well.
 - a. NSI Score >6 = Referral to Dietitian
 - b. Targeting – no specific population this year, but always a topic
2. Flag/Quilt Fundraiser for Hamilton County Seniors in Need [see attached]
3. Menu Review – Completed and will be working on. Will put an article in the next newsletter with results. [See attached]
4. NYSOFA Nutrition Evaluation – went well
 - a. HDM Temperature Monitoring Form - Need to include the time and temperature of foods when we are finished cooking.
5. Blizzard Packs – being distributed this month to HDM clients. Each pack includes two shelf stable meals to be used when the meal sites are closed due to bad weather, etc. We plan on doing another distribution in January.

6. EISEP (Expanded In-Home Services for Elderly People) Program – we are looking into ways to expand the services offered by this funding source in Warren and Hamilton Counties, such as finding more providers, social adult day care option, consumer directed option.
7. Website & Brochure Revisions
 - a. Website revision has been completed at OFA, just waiting on the IT department for it to go live.
 - b. Draft brochure was distributed at meeting and asked for any suggestions from the council. Please send any suggestions to Dee by 11/2/18. Thank you. We will then distribute to public.
8. Senior Picnic Held September 12th, over 200 seniors in attendance.
 - a. Suggested no DJ next year.
 - b. Rite Aid was not there to do flu shots. Rite Aid was scheduled to be there. OFA will confirm with them next year and/or arrange for Public Health to do the flu shots as well.
 - c. Liked Tai Chi class.
9. Public Hearing – Should dates, times, locations be revised? General feeling was no, but a suggestion was made to include this question in the Needs Assessment below.
10. 2018/2019 Needs Assessment – The intent behind the needs assessment is to get suggestions, ideas, etc. from the public, seniors and providers, as to what the needs of this population are, so we can ensure we are addressing these. OFA will be drafting and distributing around January. Suggestion was made to see if an electronic version could be an option.
11. Open Enrollment for Health Insurance started 10/15/18.
 - a. Fidelis is no longer providing one of their plans for this area in 2019, so a lot of seniors are having to find an alternate plan.
 - b. Seniors can call WHCOFA to schedule an appointment, call PH#1-800-MEDICARE or go to medicare.gov to get information on what health insurance plans will work for them.
12. HEAP Open Enrollment – Early outreach has already started, but the HEAP season officially starts in November.
13. Article in The Post Star regarding contributions and volunteer drivers. Reviewed that at no time did anyone intend to imply that there were any wrong doings on the part of the drivers, staff, etc.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS REPORT:

Senior Transportation Contracts with Towns

- a. Reviewed purpose of contracts, eligibility requirements (60+), etc.
- b. Concern that one town is not allowing seniors from another town to participate in their trips. WHCOFA will look into this, but encourages collaboration amongst towns
- c. Current contracts with: Chester, Hague, Horicon, Johnsbury, Lake George, Lake Luzerne, Lake Pleasant, Long Lake, Stony Creek, Thurman, Warrensburg, Wells.

RSVP of Hamilton County

- a. Very active in Wells. Collaboration is working well throughout Hamilton County.
- b. Looking to coordinate delivery of meals from Indian Lake to Inlet.

Greater Adirondack Home Aides

- a. Have an aide class starting next week.
- b. Hoping to do three classes a year.

Warren County Veteran's

- a. Distributed informational flyers. [See attached]
- b. Veteran's Emergency Trust – still developing, but are looking to provide services to vets, and their spouses, such as appliances, ramps, railings, painting, etc.

TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

MEETING ADJOURNED: 11:50AM

NEXT MEETING: January 23rd at 11:00AM, Lake Luzerne Meal Site