

**Downers Grove Township
SENIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

May 1, 2023

MINUTES

A MEETING of the Senior Advisory Committee was held at The Community House, 415 West 8th Street, Hinsdale, Illinois 60521, on Monday, May 1, 2023.

1. Call to Order. Chairperson Gaye Wagner called the meeting to order at 1:35pm.

2. Roundtable Introductions. Roundtable introductions were made. Following is the meeting attendance:

Board Members: Pat Klebenow, Heather Lippe, Robert Petranek, Linda Rush, Gaye Wagner, Bruce Wright

Members: Angela Bentsen, Paul Coultrap, Mark Davis, Lynn Dralle, Janet Garreau, George Goodwin, Marquitta Harris, Julie Larson, Susan Mistretta, Kerry Quirin, Karen Spencer, Jillian Spizzirri,

Guests: Cassie Vanderklok from Peace Memorial Manor, Yvette Pleimling from Immanuel Residences, Dave Zalesiak from Westmont Fire Department

Lynn Dralle announced that this was her last SAC meeting since she will be retiring June 1. Dralle also introduced Dave Zalesiak, who will be taking her place on the SAC.

Jillian Spizzirri, the host of this month's SAC meeting, welcomed everyone to The Community House and gave a brief history of the services provided.

3. Review and Approve Minutes. Upon review, Gaye Wagner made a correction to the April 3, 2023 meeting minutes. Terri Geppner was incorrectly listed as a Board Member. Geppner's name should appear in the "Members" section. A Motion to Approve the Minutes of the April 3, 2023 Meeting, as Corrected was made by Pat Klebenow and seconded by Heather Lippe. The following voice vote was unanimous, and the Motion passed.

Board Member Linda Rush asked for clarification regarding the tenures of Board Members mentioned in Section 5 of the Minutes of the April 3, 2023 meeting. Karen Spencer will verify the information and present her findings at the June 5, 2023 meeting.

4. Public Comment. There was no public comment.

5. SAC Member Reports.

A. Chairperson's Report. Regarding nominations for Board Member positions, all current Board Members who are interested in serving another term should notify Gaye of their interest. Further, if anyone knows of a person willing to serve on the SAC, please notify Gaye of their interest. Board Member elections will take place at the July 10, 2023 meeting.

(ii) Gaye Wagner indicated that she is delighted to attend meetings at different locations and learn about the host organizations. She encouraged all members to consider hosting an SAC meeting in the future. Marquitta Harris commented that she would check availability at Indian Prairie Library to perhaps host the July SAC meeting. Likewise, Angela Bentsen offered to host the September SAC meeting at the AgeGuide offices.

(iii) Gaye Wagner emphasized how important it is to "get the word out" about the various programs being held at the Township Center. Wagner would like to have SAC Board Members take the lead in getting the monthly newsletters distributed.

6. Township Officials Updates.

A. Paul Coultrap announced that the new sound system will be installed in the Township Center in June. Also, LIHEAP will end on May 31; however, Coultrap added that an additional two to three months will be added to the LIHEAP assistance period during 2024.

B. Karen Spencer announced that the Community Dining Program is not well attended. Spencer shared current marketing avenues and asked for suggestions to get more people interested in attending Community Dining. A lengthy discussion was held to brainstorm ways to attract new attendees. It was reiterated that more help with distributing the newsletters will alert more people about the program.

(ii) With regard to the Township, Spencer mentioned that Downers Grove Township will be hosting a Flag Day celebration on June 10, at the Oak Crest and Oak Hill Cemeteries, at 11:00am. Spencer also mentioned that she would like to get the word out about other Township services, such as notary, passport applications, resource referrals and financial assistance programs.

7. Presentation. Heather Lippe, Social Worker for the Village of Downers Grove, gave a presentation summarizing her client interactions in 2022. The majority of assistance was given to older adults. Topics frequently needing assistance were related to transportation and housing. The committee discussed the findings and will use this information when considering future township services.

8. Member Updates.

A. Robert Petranek gave an update on FFDGTS, detailing upcoming fundraisers.

B. Janet Garreau announced that ICP has two new volunteers, aged 95 and 96, who have become very popular with the riders. Informationally, ICP drivers are covered by their own auto insurance.

C. Julie Larson announced that LIHEAP is ending on May 31, although LIWAP will continue through August. The County is now taking Saturday appointments. The new County Housing Directory is finished and ready for distribution.

D. Lynn Dralle that this is her last SAC meeting as she is retiring on June 1. On behalf of SAC, Gaye Wagner thanked Dralle for all she has done to help promote SAC, as well as the superior service she always provided to her community. Dralle inquired if the Car Care Clinic hosted by Downers Grove Township in the past will continue. Spencer shared that no plans are currently in place to hold this event.

9. Motion to Adjourn. Upon Motion made by Pat Klebenow and seconded by Robert Petranek, the meeting was adjourned at 3:00pm.