

Downers Grove Township
SENIOR ADVISORY COMMITTEE
November 6, 2023

MINUTES

A **MEETING** of the Downers Grove Township Senior Advisory Committee was held at the Township Center, 4341 Saratoga Avenue, Downers Grove, Illinois 60515, on Monday, November 6, 2023.

1. **Call to Order.** Chairperson Gaye Wagner called the meeting to order at 1:33pm.
2. **Roundtable Introductions.** Roundtable introductions were made. Following is the meeting attendance:

Board Members: Janet Garreau, Pat Klebenow, Heather Lippe, Robert Petranek, Lisa Rasin, Linda Rush, Susan Sinderson, Gaye Wagner, and Bruce Wright.

Members: Sara Behrens, Angela Bentsen, Deb DiPasquale, Julie Larson, Susan Mistretta, Claire Nass, Kerry Quirin, Dave Ricordati, Karen Spencer, Ralph Stompanato, and Dave Zalesiak.

Guests: Phil Painter and Laurie Tsukuno.

3. **Review and Approve Minutes.** Karen Spencer requested amending the October 2, 2023 Minutes, correcting "Yolandus Roundy" to "Ylandus Roundy". Upon review, a Motion to Approve the Minutes of the October 2, 2023 Meeting, As Amended, was made by Pat Klebenow and seconded by Heather Lippe. Upon voice vote of the Board Members, the Motion was unanimously approved.
4. **Public Comment.** There was no public comment.
5. **SAC Member Reports.** Chairperson Gaye Wagner brought to the Committee's attention the list of community liaisons listed in the October 2, 2023 meeting, as well as the mention of the Senior Center's phenomenal growth. A reminder was also issued regarding the holiday party that will immediately follow the December 4, 2023 SAC Meeting at Neat Kitchen & Bar located at 246 North Cass Avenue, Westmont. Neat has agreed to donate a portion of the evening's proceeds to FFDGTS. Finally, the Resource Guide is in draft form to be printed. Please send your contact information to Karen.

There were no other Board Member reports.

6. **Township Officials Updates.**
 - A. There was no report given by either Paul Coultrap or Dave Ricordati.
 - B. Karen Spencer asked all community liaisons to take the November Newsletter and advise her how many copies have been taken. Township Center events are continuing to fill up quickly and waitlists are created. The Township is continuing to work on the parking

issue. The Township is looking for community partnerships to host activities offsite and asks that all Members to spread the word about Township services and programs. Spencer also mentioned that Age Guide is hosting a forum for community feedback on November 21, 2023 in the Township Center. An RSVP is preferred, but not required. The proceedings will be recorded, but for in-house use only. Spencer also noted that the FFDGTS Annual Fall Fundraiser was held on October 12 and was very successful, both financially and in attendance. She thanked FFDGTS' hard work to make the event so successful. Oak Trace has volunteered to host next year's fundraiser. Spencer also noted that Facebook is becoming a popular source for senior activities and encouraged all Members to both follow and post regarding SAC events and activities. Finally, Spencer is also concerned about the low attendance numbers at Community Dining. Several Members offered suggestions on how to remedy the situation.

7. Focus Area Discussion: Caregiving and Dementia.

Karen Spencer led the discussion of the two focus topics. Suggestions were made for executive functioning training for those who are just beginning to exhibit symptoms. It was ultimately decided that we can only help one person at a time and to do that we must have input of the family as well as community resources. Several Members participated in the discussion.

8. Adjournment.

Upon Motion to Adjourn made by Janet Garreau and seconded by Susan Sinderson, the meeting was adjourned at 2:59.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, December 4, 2023.

Respectfully Submitted by Susan R. Mistretta