



Commission on Aging

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***MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
May 21st, 2025, at 1:00pm***

Call Meeting to Order: Roberta Kary – Chairperson @ 1:00 pm

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call: **ALL IN ATTENDANCE**

- Roberta Kary – Chair
- Kimberly Daniels – Vice Chair
- Kim Warner
- Kathy Jernigan
- Marc Milburn
- Chuck Corwin
- Phyllis Piotrowski
- Peggy Poynter

Intro of Guests: **N/A**

Excused Absence: Janette Butler

Reading of Mission Statement:

The purpose of the Roscommon County Commission on Aging is to promote the welfare, independence, safety, and health of our senior citizens through various programs

Approval of Agenda:

Motion by: **Kimberly Warner**

Second by: **Marc Milburn**

Approval: **ALL IN FAVOR**

Approval of Consent Agenda:

- Minutes, Board Meeting, April 16, 2025
- Financial Reports
- Day Lodge Report
- In-Home Service Report
- Food Service/MOW's Report
- Director's Report

Motion by: **Kimberly Daniels**

Second by: **Chuck Corwin**

Approval: **ALL IN FAVOR**

Public Comment: *(please limit your comments to not more than 3 minutes)*

Emil Bellenbaum – Would like the agency to use a pilot program for carry out meals and commented on the “Grab-N-Go” option at the Crawford County COA.

Tom Date – Would like the option to buy soup for the evenings and weekends.

Donna – Disappointed in the cold croissant for the Mother’s Day Luncheon. Mother’s Day lunch was very good but expects better.

Kathy Pardo – Commented that Joyce, center manager at Roscommon, is doing a fabulous job with activities and Becky, center manager at St. Helen, is doing a fabulous job with cardio drumming program. Stated that she provided Kentucky Fried Chicken meals to the Mother’s Day Luncheon and it was a well-balanced meal for 13 people. She would like the soup option.

Nila Mason – Commented that the sandwiches on the menu are a disappointment, the Mother’s Day Luncheon was a disappointment, and wants hot meals on the menu for Fridays and Mondays.

Director’s Report: Debra Looney

- Thank you to St. Helen Center and Staff for hosting lunch for the trip to Dow Gardens.
- Report on trip to Soaring Eagle concert with Peter Moen.
- Cinco de Mayo celebrated at all 3 centers with a delicious meal and a good time.
- Older Michiganians Day May 7th attended by 15 seniors in Lansing, thank you to each person that signed the letters, 100s, which were given to our representative.
- Mother’s Day Luncheon was a success – 64 meals at the Houghton Lake Center, 27 at the St. Helen Center, and 12 at the Roscommon Center. Letters of disappointment from the Roscommon Center have been received and compliments on the luncheon were received from both the Houghton Lake and St. Helen Centers. The same meal as last year’s luncheon was served this year with success.
- Discussion on the purpose of a lighter meal on Fridays.
- Discussion on the 32 people signed up in advance for the Mother’s Day Luncheon knowing what the meal was and only 22 attended. What happened to the 10 people who signed up for the lunch but did not “attend”. Any person who had the side dish or dessert offered with the center meal must be counted as a congregate meal.
- Report on trip to Holland Tulip Time.
- Report on attendance at the advisory board meetings.
- Gordon Food Service Open House was attended by many community members. Thank you for a great job to Becky, Heather, and Raven. Bill from the Roscommon Center will be meeting with the Gordon Food Service representative, Jessie, to discuss plans for a food presentation at the center.
- Quotes for the repair to the Roscommon Center kitchen floor is being obtained and reviewed.

Controller Report: Tracy Baker

- Reviewed Income and Expenses for April 2025 and Year to Date
- Reviewed meal numbers, in-home service units, and Serenity Day Lodge units
- Cash Flow Projection is stable
- The Agency is successfully operating within the budget parameters

Old Business: Report the Pay Down or Pay Off Houghton Lake Loan
MOTION TO PAY OFF THE MORTGAGE NOTE FOR THE HOUGHTON LAKE CENTER USING PROPOSAL A.

First: Kathy Jernigan

Second: Chuck Corwin

Roll Call: Kim Warner – YES
Phyllis Piotrowski – YES
Kimberly Daniels – YES
Kathy Jernigan – YES
Marc Milburn – YES
Peggy Poynter – YES
Chuck Corwin – YES
Roberta Kary – YES

New Business: Menu (Peggy Poynter) & June's Board Meeting in St Helen (Roberta)

Menu

Peggy Poynter - upset with the Mother's Day Luncheon, comments on the nutritional value of hot meals, wants the ability to make decisions about the menu.

Kim Warner - wants the ability to make decisions about the menu and the Houghton Lake Center shouldn't have control over the Friday choices of a light meal.

Debra Looney – Menu selection falls under day-to-day operations. Board members will not make changes or control the menu choices.

Kathy Jernigan – statement that it's hard to keep everyone happy.

Roberta Kary – What solution are you seeking? Peggy – no sandwiches and less carbs

June's Board Meeting in St Helen

Roberta Kary – Reminder that the next board meeting will be held at the St. Helen Center, there will be no meeting in July, and the remainder of the meetings for this calendar year will be held at the Annex.

County Commissioner's Report: Marc Milburn

Frustrated with the continuous public comments regarding Carry-Out Meals at every meeting.

Attended the Older Michiganians Day in Lansing. Spoke with Michele Hoitenga.

Region 9 Advisory Committee Report: Chuck Corwin

Attended the NEMCSA in Alpena on Monday, May 19th.

Attended the Older Michiganians Day in Lansing. As no mention was made of senior focused programming north of Bay City at Older Michiganians' Day, I felt the programs we provide were neither valued nor worth noting. Ken Borton and Michele Hoitenga showed some interest in our concerns.

Senior Center Reports:

Houghton Lake: (Phyllis Piotrowski & Kimberly Daniels)

- Holding monthly raffles to obtain new bingo cards
- Every 3rd Monday there is live music at the center and going well
- Line dancing on Mondays at 1pm
- June 3 – MSU presentation of Garden Tips and tomato plants will be available if anyone wants to take one home to grow
- June 9 – Guest Speaker, JoJean, from Up North Prevention will present on Suicide Prevention and prescription drug take back will be available

Roscommon: (Peggy Poynter & Kim Warner)

- Wii bowling is going great – would like another Wii system
- Cardio drumming is doing well
- June 1 – Project Fresh begins
- Euchre is getting bigger and the room is too small; room dividers would help to have Euchre in the lunch room

St. Helen: (Roberta Kary & Kathy Jernigan)

- Mother's Day Luncheon food was great (warmed up the croissant), especially the hearty slaw
- Open House well attended
- June 28 – Car Show (breakfast, penny bingo to benefit "meals on wheels", and lunch)
- July – there will be a picnic
- Attended the Older Michiganians Day and so moved by the volunteer and stress the importance of volunteering

Public Comment: *(please limit your comments to not more than 3 minutes)*

Kathy Pardo – Comment regarding Mother's Day Luncheon, making soup with leftovers, suggestion to move special meals to Mondays, and would like to have Potlucks on Saturdays at the Roscommon Center.

Donna – Comment regarding soup

Emil Bellenbaum – Comment regarding wait lists, Cheboygan uses soup/salad as fundraisers; Crawford uses "Gran-N-Go", no meals available for congregate on agency closures.

Rhonda Cross – Had a blast at Older Michiganians Day, thank you. Astounded by the barriers the COAs face and will work to help address some of them.

Phyllis Piotrowski (not as a board member) – Talked with Amie, HL center manager, and Joyce, Roscommon center manager, and Joyce about starting another Family Feud. Would also like to see another “No Talent Talent Show” and clarified that it is an event for people from all three centers and suggests looking into having it at either Roscommon or St. Helen this year.

Board/Director Comments:

Marc Milburn – Would like to have a celebration for the payoff of the Chase Note

Roberta Kary – Celebration will be held at the Annex

Chuck Corwin – Comment regarding Crawford County vs Roscommon County that each county is not a cookie cutter. Crawford County does not offer the services that Roscommon County offers. The main focus is to keep folks in their home for as long as possible. Wait lists are due to hiring challenges. Interviewees are not showing up for interviews.

Kimberly Daniels – Very proud of the COA. Wants all centers to feel the same and important. There is always room for improvement within the agency. Tired of To Go Meal Program being brought up with cheap shots at the board and staff.

Phyllis Piotrowski – Encouraged people to talk about their complaints and concerns for the centers at Board meetings during public comment; and Board members should also bring up their concerns at Board meeting so that all can be heard and addressed.

Debra Looney – Clarified the “Grab-N-Go” offering at Crawford County by reading an email from their director. Food fundraisers will be looked into.

Roberta Kary – The only complaints received are from the Roscommon Center. Will be leaving the board at the end of her term.

Adjournment: 2:46 pm

Motion by: Chuck Corwin

Second by: Kimberly Daniel

Approval: ALL IN FAVOR