

WYANDOTTE / LEAVENWORTH AREA AGENCY ON AGING

RUTH E. JONES, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

849 NORTH 47TH STREET, SUITE C, KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66102 • PHONE: (913) 573-8531 • FAX (913) 573-8577

February 9, 2024

Dear Advisory Council Member:

The next meeting of the Areawide Advisory Council will be held on Wednesday, **February 28, 2024** at 10:00 a.m. The meeting will be held virtually, and the meeting notification/link will be sent to the email I have on file.

Excused absence requests should be made at least 24 hours prior to the meeting date to assure the excuse is recorded. Please keep in mind that 3 or more unexcused absences may result in termination of your term on the board.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding the meeting, please contact Linda Ramirez at 913-573-8531.

Respectfully,



Linda Ramirez
Advisory Council Liaison

/LR

Enclosures

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AREAWIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL

WYANDOTTE/LEAVENWORTH AREA AGENCY ON AGING

FEBRUARY 28, 2024

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

CHAIRMAN'S COMMENTS

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

COUNCIL CONCERNS

Leavenworth County
Wyandotte County

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Leavenworth County
Wyandotte County

OTHER BUSINESS

NEXT MEETING

March 27, 2024

ADJOURNMENT

WYANDOTTE/LEAVENWORTH AREA AGENCY ON AGING
AREAWIDE ADVISORY COUNCIL
January 24, 2024

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pam Blood, Denise Dias, Cindy Hopewell, Jammie Johnson, Anita Krondak, Mary Mack, Susan McGinnis, Jessica Pontbriant and Jamey Rodriguez.

EXCUSED: None.

ABSENT: Carlen Davis, Jason Hussey, and Charles Williams.

STAFF PRESENT: Ruth Jones, Connie Harmon and Linda Ramirez.

GUESTS PRESENT: None.

CALL TO ORDER: Jamey Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 10:04am. Jamey said that she enjoyed serving as Chair this past year and thanked everyone for their trust in her.

MINUTES: The November meeting minutes were approved as written.

**CHAIRMAN
COMMENTS:** There were none.

Before the meeting commenced, elections for the Chair and Co-Chair for 2024 were held. Jessica Pontbriant (LvCo) was elected as Chair and Jamey Rodriguez (WyCo) was elected as Co-Chair for 2024.

COUNCIL CONCERNS: Leavenworth County:

➤ No concerns.

Wyandotte County:

➤ No concerns.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Leavenworth:

➤ Connie Harmon announced that the Assistant Director of Leavenworth Council on Aging (LCOA), Scarlett Ross will be retiring after 28 years. A retirement celebration for Ms. Ross will be held on February 9, 2024, 11a-2p.

- Connie shared that two Occupational Therapy students from the University of St. Mary's will be leading exercise classes.
- Connie mentioned that the VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) Program will begin February 1, 2024. The LCOA will be assisting with tax filings for those whose income is less than 60k annually.
- The LCOA will be receiving a "drop box" from the LvCo Sheriff's Office to be used to collect unwanted prescriptions.
- The LCOA will be sharing Valentine Bags with the Home Delivered Meal participants.

Wyandotte:

Ruth Jones, Executive Director of Wyandotte County made the announcement that on December 7, 2023, the Wyandotte County Aging office was notified by the Unified Government Transit office that they will no longer deliver meals for the Meals on Wheels Program. The decision from Transit is to transition "hot" meals back to the Aging Administration by March 31, 2024 and "frozen" meals back by September 30, 2024. Currently, there are 55 Hot Meals being delivered daily with a limit of 100 which was changed by the former Transit Director. All other (frozen) meals are delivered weekly. Ruth expressed her concerns regarding the UG Charter that was written during its Consolidation. Prior to the Consolidation, the Area Agency on Aging oversaw the Transit Department as it regards to Senior Transportation and Meal Delivery. The current plan is to move all Home Delivered Meal customers to *Moms Meals*.

Other concerns, are:

- Can the budget sustain the delivery of *Moms Meals* while the Request for Proposals (RFP) process takes place.
- Is it an option to re-negotiate with Guadalupe Centers (our current meal provider) to include meal delivery.

The members of the council are encouraged to speak to their commissioners and make them aware of the upcoming changes.

Linda Ramirez then provided the other Director announcements for Wyandotte County.

- Linda shared that a group of seniors converged on the Capitol in Topeka on Monday, January 22, 2024 for *Older Kansans Day* along with the other 10 Area Agencies on Aging across the State. The visiting delegation from Wyandotte County included members of the Silver Haired Legislature, Advisory Council members and some staff. The day long event provided an opportunity to present issues and concerns to the legislative body. There were speakers regarding senior issues and lunch served in the Rotunda. Appointments were made in advance to meet with the local elected officials.
- Linda announced that she is currently assisting the UG Clerk's Office with Utility and Sales Tax Rebate applications on Tuesday morning, by appointment only.

OTHER BUSINESS:

The newest member of the Areawide Advisory Council, Jacqueline Browne was recognized as being in attendance.


NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting of the Areawide Advisory Council will be held virtually on Wednesday, February 28, 2024 10am.

ADJOURN:

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:35am.

Respectfully submitted:



Linda Ramirez
Recording Secretary