

DSS/OFA/PUBLIC HEALTH/COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING
September 19, 2018

OFA Director Kelly Hecker–

Legislator Lehman made a motion to recommend filling a Nutrition Services Coordinator due to a resignation, seconded by Legislator LaChausse and carried. Molly Mallette is resigning and her last work day is 9/21/18.

Kelly, Ryan and County Atty. Joan McNichol had met with Fred McManus about the senior meals program. There is not a viable alternate company capable of providing the services due to the low meal volumes.

The current agreement with McManus may be extended for one year, during which time a long-term solution will be identified. Kelly promotes a County operated kitchen to assure quality control. The County controls delivery schedules. Fred will propose an adjusted per meal price for a one-year extension to 12/31/2019. A precursor for extension requires Fred to meet with Ryan and Kelly every two months for analysis, and at the end of six months the agreement may be extended or terminated by agreement of both parties. Kelly cites a plethora of necessary corrections, most notably food temperatures, and Fred is receptive to changes. The bottom line is that the County does not want to terminate the program. Kelly continues to work with Fred to assist with training and retraining issues with his staff for correct food handling.

Ryan had provided Fred with price parameters not to exceed \$9.00, well below his original quote of \$12.35/meal. The County cannot support meal costs at that level.

Kelly then posed the need for a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Thirsty Painters vendor for therapy classes being held at the Office For Aging offices. Persons of all ages are welcome, but the NY Connects Program will be credited for eligible units of service. Respite family members use the therapy services. Legislator Lehman made a motion to recommend the MOU, seconded by Legislator LaChausse and carried.

Kelly created a specific food list for the shelf stable food program, reporting contributions of \$1,087. The goal is for \$2,000. The meals will be on hand for times during the winter when inclement weather prohibits persons from getting to the store.

Kelly is researching an EISEP vendor, Jefferson County Care Givers, that have expressed interest to provide home health services for Lewis County recipients. Securing these services for rural areas is very difficult. U. S. Care Systems have reorganized and have lost staff.

There is a 54-person waiting list for In-Home Care services. The monthly expenditure maximum of \$15,500 was expended in August to help 45 people with 15 hours/week. These are non-medical services. The program requires a family advocate for the eligible person. OFA oversees to assure appropriate services. Kelly is researching for funding resources, including DSRIP.

Kelly composed an amended Office For Aging donation letter that the State requires be sent to all seniors for the meal program. The voluntary donations offset related expense.

NY Connects Program created a new community services guide with the help of Brittany Davis from the IDA. The goal is to connect persons with the right community programs for desired services. The NY Connects website has a list of programs, which will be updated to confirm an all-inclusive list.

There were 172 HEAP applications mailed out.

The Octoberfest is scheduled for 10/5/18 with 20 vendors who have paid \$20 each for a table that will cover the cost of the band to perform at the event. The required annual public hearing will be held that day.

There will be a senior forum held on 10/10 to include dementia disorders.

A Lewis County Transportation Bus has been reserved to transport seniors to Old Forge for shopping and sightseeing on 10/11 and 10/12.

HICAAP enrollment will begin on 10/15/18.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Terry Clark, Clerk of the Board