

Isabella County Commission on Aging
Advisory Board *Electronic Meeting*
Wednesday, September 1, 2021
12:00pm

- I. Call to Order

- II. Board Member Roll Call

- III. Public Comments

- IV. Minutes of the August 4, 2021 Advisory Board Meeting

- V. COA – Open to all activities

- VI. COA Grounds & Tree Planting

- VII. New Activities for Congregate Meal Sites

- VIII. General Discussion

- IX. Adjournment

The next COA Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 6, 2021 at 12:00p.m.

MINUTES
Isabella County Commission on Aging
Advisory Board Virtual Meeting
Wednesday, August 4, 2021
12:00pm

Members present: Jackie Curtis- Denver Township, Lea Dean- Isabella County, John Dinse- Union Township, Alicia Haley-City of Mt. Pleasant, Jessica Lapp- City of Mt. Pleasant, Ruth Ann Maniteau- Coldwater Township

Members absent: Larry Fussman

Staff present: Jennifer Crawford, COA Director, Mallory Fernandez COA Secretary

Others present:

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:02 p.m.
- II. Board Member Roll Call
- III. Public Comments- Jackie Curtis went to the memorial service for former board member Roxanna Dunevant.
- IV. Minutes of the June 2, 2021 Advisory Board Meeting: A motion to accept the minutes of the June 2, 2021 Advisory Board meeting as submitted was moved by Jackie Curtis and seconded by Alicia Haley. The motion passed.
- V. Update on COA Opening- Our original plan was to follow the Governor's plan on how to reopen our building. However, this rapidly changed along with the state level changes. As of July 12, we are currently offering in person meals three days a week at the Commission on Aging site only. As of last Monday, we were able to open three of our four off-site meal locations three days a week as well. These are the locations in Winn, Weidman, and Shepherd. As of right now, our Rosebush site is not ready yet but we are hoping to have that site also open soon. Starting this Monday, August 9, our Commission on Aging building will be once again open to the public five days a week from 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday thru Friday. This opening will include meals, rooms, and all previous activities and classes that were once available in our building. In regards to masks, there have also been fluid changes. We originally requested for all participants, visitors, volunteers, and employees in the building to wear a mask regardless of vaccination status. Effective this Monday, August 2, it is now a personal choice on whether or not a participant chooses to wear a mask. Staff is also now allowed to choose whether they want to wear a mask or not as long as they are completely vaccinated. Those

who are not yet vaccinated will still be required to mask. Jessica Lapp questioned whether anyone has requested to continue online options for our fitness classes. Jen Crawford mentioned that we are currently providing online options for Yoga, Tai Chi, and Zumba. John Dinse inquired on the vaccination percentage of older adults in our county. Although we are not privy to vaccination based on age, it is public knowledge that only 37% of our county as a whole is vaccinated. Ruth Anne Maniteau questioned the status venues for future advisory board meetings. As of right now, meetings are required to still be virtual due to the rules of the Open Meetings Act that specifies that we do have to allow the option of participating virtually to those who are uncomfortable or unable to make face-to-face meetings. The board of commissioners just hosted their second hybrid meeting at the Commission on Aging building and it is proving to be a huge task to provide this option. Therefore, allowing this possibility for our board has not been approved yet.

- VI. Friends of Isabella Seniors Annual Golf Outing- Friday, August 6- Once again being held at Pleasant Hills Golf Course. We currently have twenty-three teams registered to play. Jenny's catering will be returning to provide teams with a wonderful meal this year., sponsorships are doing great and there is great potential for a profitable outing this year. We did not hold the golf ball drop this year since a large majority of those sales solely relies on in-person sales. As always, proceeds for this event will go to FOIS and will benefit all of our programs at Commission on Aging. This is our 18th year of having this event.
- VII. Volunteer Opportunities- Now that we are able to allow volunteers to return to their duties, there is a great need for Home Delivered Meal and Transportation drivers right now. We have not been able to restart the transportation program yet, but will be able to soon and have lost quite a few volunteers since the pandemic hit. Our employees with the Gold Key Program will be recruiting on social media, radio stations, and passing out fliers hoping to increase their volunteer numbers.
- VIII. Unmet Needs Funding Available- This fund provides financial assistance for emergencies that pop-up for Isabella County residents who are 60 years and older. Some examples are helping with replacing stoves, servicing air conditioners and heaters, home repairs, medical or dental bills. We do currently have funds available and would like to get the word out so that we can help as many people as possible. Most often we are able to provide all of or at least a portion of the funds needed, and if by chance the amount needed is beyond our means, our caseworkers have great connections with other agencies that could possibly contribute as well.

- IX. Staff Updates- New Nutrition Program Manager- Carmel Slobodnik is a former employee who has recently returned to Commission on Aging. She is proving to bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the program. She has many ideas and is working on new menu items as well as new activities for our participants to enjoy.

New full-time custodian- Cindy Martinez. Cindy was previously our part-time cook and has many years of custodial experience prior to coming to the COA.

Available Positions- Part Time cook, meal site supervisor position at Winn, and a homemaker aid. Anyone interested in applying for these positions can find more information regarding available employment opportunities on the Isabellacounty.org website.

- X. General Discussion- Jackie Curtis shared that on August 10 the state retirees will have their first meeting since February 2020. This meeting will be a casual gather with a pizza party, bingo, and 50/50. The idea behind the meeting is to get a chance to meet new members as well as get reacquainted with former members that have lost touch during the pandemic.

- XI. Adjournment: The meeting ended at 12:30 P.M.

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