

ADRC Governing Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, May 23, 2023

1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Location: Barron County Government Center Auditorium
335 E. Monroe Avenue, Barron, WI

Members present: Kathy Halbur, Mike Hraban, Bob Anderson, John Smatlak, Sharon Rollins, Rudy Walz and Rob Ludwig
Others present: Jennifer Jako, Terri Mikyska, Mary Updike, Kim Cobb, Alisa Lammers, Chris Hagen, and Louie Okey
Appearing Virtually: Vlad Sajka

Chair Mike Hraban called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Introductions were made and a warm welcome to new board member Rob Ludwig.

Public Notice Compliance: Terri Mikyska stated we were in compliance with the open meeting Public Notification Laws.

Approval of Agenda: Bob Anderson made a motion to approve the agenda as written, seconded by Sharon Rollins, motion carried.

Approval of the Minutes (February 7, 2023): Kathy Halbur made a motion to approve the February 7th minutes as written, second by Rudy Walz, motion carried.

Public comment: None.

Resource Specialist – Kim Cobb: Kim provided a presentation on her regular work on resource guides, the website, forms, newsletters and promotional materials along with her special projects. Kim shared that she is working on the state-wide resource database project and on the Volunteer Project to establish processes for recruitment, responsibility, retention and recognition.

Low Vision Support Group – Chris Hagen shared that this support group started in 2012 and has 20 – 25 regular monthly attendees. The participants range in ages from 40 – 100 with a wide variety of eye conditions. She has monthly topics with guest speakers where they learn from each other. Transportation is also available through AddLife.

Health Promotion & Caregiver Support Updates – Alisa Lammers: Alisa reported that 30 participants have already attended workshops in 2023. We have instituted two new workshops: Eat Smart, Move More, Weigh Less and Walk with Ease. In June we will have 8 new leaders in the Stepping On Program. Alisa reported that we have ten loaner tablets to help people who do not have a device to participate in a virtual class. A training will be held in June to help people use loaner tablets or their own devices to attend virtual workshops. (a) RCAW Registry – Alisa reported that in 2021 she and Trisha collaborated with RCAW to find more people that were willing to provide respite care and be on this registry. This is an on-line registry that, after a short training, you will have your name and contact information listed and made available to those who are searching for respite help. Barron has 12 individuals on the registry and Rusk has 5 individuals. (b) Caregiver Initiatives – Alisa shared that in 2023 we are offering the Confident Caregiver Series which consists of: Caregiver Boot Camp, Powerful Tools for Caregivers workshop, the Caregiver Skills Fair, and the Savvy Caregiver program. (c) WeCare Coalition – Alisa gave a brief history and the focus of this coalition which was aimed at addressing the paid caregiver crisis on a local level. The membership consists of a wide range of community partners. The Walk ‘n Roll event which includes a resource fair will be held on August 9th at the Rice Lake Cedar Mall from 5 – 7 p.m.

Advocacy: Jennifer reminded us what the top needs are as they relate to the State biennial budget. ADRC funding, home-delivered meal funding, transportation and caregiver support funding are top focus areas. Staff have attended and advocated at Joint Finance meetings and Aging Advocacy Day. Kathy Halbur shared that on July 13th a Senior Townhall will be held after the Dining at 5 in Rusk County.

ADRC Reports: Contacts/Enrollments – Mary Updike: reports for the 1st quarter of 2023 were distributed with one for each county along with the combined. She gave an update on the Public Health Emergency unwinding.

Personnel – Jennifer reported that Kayla, Rusk County’s DBS, last day is next Tuesday. Interviews are scheduled for Wednesday to hire a full-time DBS.

Director’s Updates – Jennifer reported the CHW grant that was ending on May 31, 2023 has been approved to have a no cost extension for another year to May 2024 or until the funding runs out. Jennifer shared with the Board that she has been appointed to the State’s Long Term Care Advisory Committee with her term ending in 2025. She is still a member of the Wis. DOT Non-Driver Advisory Committee. Both committees provide valuable opportunities to advocate for Barron County and northern, rural areas of the state.

Agenda items for next meeting – 2022 Year End Fiscal report

2023 Meeting dates & places – were reviewed with a new member added to the board. A new set of updated binder information was also distributed.

Next meeting – August 1st at Mosaic in Cameron

Mike Hraban shared that Independence Your Way will be held Thursday, May 25th from 9-noon in Ladysmith.

Adjournment – John Smatlak made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:42 p.m., seconded by Sharon Rollins, motion carried.

Submitted by: _____
Rudy Walz, Secretary

Recording Secretary: Terri Mikyska

Minutes are not official until approved at the next meeting.