



Huntingdon-Bedford-Fulton
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ON AGING**

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**Huntingdon-Bedford-Fulton Area Agency on Aging
Advisory Council Meeting 11-22-24
Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Prudence Harclerode. The minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and approved.

Fiscal Review: Nothing new to report currently. The Agency end of the year was very good. The Agency sent back \$1624 in Penn Cares and approximately \$79,000 in restricted funds. The Agency has additional money in FY 23-24 due to Covid, but those funds are no longer in the budget for FY 24-25. This loss of funding has caused the Agency to cut 30% of program services. Senior Centers will be providing more alternate meal days. For In-Home Services no one is expected to be taken off the waiting list at this time. Transportation for clients age 60-64 can not be sponsored and there may be some reduction in sponsorships of 65+ clients.

Guest Roy Afflerbach, of the Afflerbach Group, joined the discussion to how the lottery funds assist in allowing individuals to remain in their homes. These funds used to be reserved for Rent and Property tax rebates, and transportation programs. The original use was to be reserved strictly for older adults in PA.

Roy shared the history of PDA coming into existence with the Gray Panthers lobbying in 1978 to make PDA a reality. The state budget passed in June did not include the \$15.2 million increase requested for PennCare. Governor Shapiro asked for additional funds, the legislature did not approve it. The only increase in funding was \$1.2 million for the Aging Our Way initiative. Roy encouraged all Advisory Council members to get involved and advocate for the increase in funding for the next fiscal year. There are currently only 4 AAA in the state not facing a shortfall in funding for FY 24-25.

Roy reminded everyone that our local legislator, Jessie Topper, was recently elected to the leadership position in the PA House. The PA Senate will hold a budget hearing for PDA in the spring. The current legislators are getting ready to make a ruling on the

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taxing of the skills games in PA. There are an estimated 70,000 machines in PA that go untaxed.

The Agency will be holding a Legislative Day, January 31, at the Saxton Fire Hall. All our local House and Senate members will be invited to participate along with the county commissioners.

Transportation: The Title 6 Plan and Procedures were shared with the Advisory Council. This is required by PennDot. Connie went over the plan with the members present. A motion to move the documents forward to the County Commissioners was made by Doris Imgrund. Second by Jenny Cooper. Motion carried.

Anthony Molinari discussed the transportation system and a recent audit. There is a 6-month window on vehicle maintenance based on vehicle mileage. Tony reviewed the cost of the maintenance per vehicle. A typical oil change on a bus runs \$150-\$175. Those vehicles have a 55-gallon gas tank typically getting 7 miles per gallon. The audit is done every 4 years on the vehicles. He was given two weeks to do the audit. The auditors reported to Tony that we are doing a lot of things right. There are a few minor items that need to be cleaned up.

Tony distributed the Fare Increase Document. This had been previously approved by the Transportation Advisory Board, and the Agency Advisory Council. This was the final document being distributed to clients and others involved with the CART program.

Bobbi Manges reminded all the centers about the Senior Center Capital Assistance Grant applications are due December 13 for the competitive portion. Currently only Warfordsburg is applying for a competitive grant.

Lori Heaton discussed the need to have an SD Smart Board. Virginia Cooper is interested in serving on that board.

Hearing no other business before the council, the meeting was adjourned.