

SENIOR NUTRITION ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES
July 22, 2019

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Dolly Meeuwsen, Steven Schreier, Barb Young, Herbert Hackworthy

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Dick DeHart

STAFF PRESENT: Dianne Jacobson, Joel Gottsacker, Debbie Jelinek

OTHERS PRESENT: Senior Diners

Call to order: Steven Schreier called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Approval of agenda: Motion by Young/Hackworthy to approve the agenda. All ayes, motion carried.

Tour of Nutrition Site: Debbie Jelinek provided a brief tour of the facilities provided by the Nokomis town hall for the nutrition program.

Approval of Minutes: Motion by Young/Meeusen to approve minutes of April 1, 2019. All ayes, motion carried.

Year-to-date Nutrition Program Meals served: Jacobson provided a copy of the nutrition program report that is provided to the ADRC committee on a monthly basis. The report details the number of meals and participants at each of the seven sites. The report also shows the change from the previous years' period. The report indicates a moderate decline in participation as well as meals served in both the Congregate and Home Delivered Meals programs. Discussion only, no action taken.

Strategies for expending grant and program income to meet new requirements: Jacobson explained that prior to 2019, nutrition programs could carry-over unspent program income into the new year and spend it as needed. The Federal government has clarified that program income must be spent first, in the year it is generated, before claiming Federal funds. Oneida County has until September 30, 2019 to expend any carry-over funds from 2018 and must spend its current program income first. Some ideas for spending the carry-over funds from other counties include implementation of a salad bar, planting gardens for use in the program, and purchasing needed materials for the sites. Discussion only, no action taken.

Ideas for increased participation: Schreier noted that older adults have many more options now than in the past and that many restaurants offer meal selections for older adults at competitive price points. Jacobson noted that when someone leaves the area, is placed in a nursing home, or dies, that diner is generally not being replaced by a new diner. Suggestions for increased participation included printing the menu in local newspapers like the Star Journal and the Super Shopper; and coming up with ways to remind diners to reserve their meal (especially at the sites that do not serve Monday – Friday). Specific to the Nokomis site, it was suggested that we request the Nokomis phone number listed in the Tomahawk leader with the menu printed for the Tomahawk site since it is the same menu. Another suggestion was to get a spot on the WJJQ Forum.

Hackworthy noted that the menu rotation is too restricted at five weeks. He suggested the rotation should be six to eight weeks. Jacobson noted that the current five-week rotation is “scrambled” meaning the options are rotated with the next repetition. She also noted that there is a Spring/Summer menu and a Fall/Winter menu. Due to their professional food service experience, Hackworthy and Schreier agreed to work together with ADRC management to develop at least two-three more weeks of menus for the rotation for the Registered Dietician to approve. They are also willing to meet with the caterer to discuss ideas for enhancing the meals while still being cost effective.

It was noted that having soups in summer is not always appetizing. One diner noted that because the Nokomis site is open only two days per week, in July, that site ended up with soup on three days in the month.

It was noted that there are few fresh fruits and vegetables. Meeuwenen noted that zucchini is more than plentiful right now and could be utilized as a fresh alternative.

Jacobson explained that meal sites also have to close for the day if they do not have a total of 10 meals reserved for congregate and home delivered meals combined. Permanent closure of a site requires an extensive process with public hearings and documented attempts to increase participation to maintain the site.

Jacobson was directed to investigate and implement some of these new marketing ideas discussed as well as work with Hackworthy and Schreier on the menus and preparation. Discussion only, no action taken.

Nutrition Education Requirement Compliance: Jacobson provided the policy on nutrition education at congregate dining sites, which is to be an in-person education session quarterly at each site. Jacobson solicited ideas for education. Discussion only, no action taken.

Public Comments: None

Next Meeting day, time, location: Next meeting to be held in October, beginning with a tour of Lynn’s Catering in Rhineland.

Items for next agenda: None offered.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:29 AM.

Joel Gottsacker

Committee Chairman

Committee Secretary