

**ONEIDA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF APRIL 27, 2021**

Members present: Mr. Alan VanRaalte, Mr. Bob Thome Jr., Mr. Steven Schreier
Mr. Jim Winkler-Zoom, Mr. Michael Roach-Zoom

Staff: Ms. Heidi Chavez, Ms. Tammy Javenkoski, Ms. Jeri Driscoll, Mr. Joel
Gottsacker

Public: None

1. Call to Order. Approval of Agenda:

The regular meeting of the Oneida County Social Services Committee was brought to order at 9:30 a.m. by Mr. Alan VanRaalte, Chairperson. The Chairperson noted that the meeting had been properly posted and mailed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Laws. Motion by Mr. Bob Thome seconded by Mr. Steven Schreier, to approve the agenda as posted. Mr. VanRaalte called for a roll call vote, all yes, motion carried.

2. Minutes of Social Services Committee – March 23, 2021:

Corrections to Social Services Section #2 – (page 3) should be Roles & Responsibilities. Also on page 3, #4 should be the instead of he. Motion made by Mr. Steven Schreier, seconded by Mr. Jim Winkler, to approve the Social Services Committee minutes of March 23, 2021 with corrections. Mr. VanRaalte called for a roll call vote, all yes, motion carried.

3. Public Comment:

None

Veterans Services:

1. Update on 2021 CVSO Grant Application:

Ms. Tammy Javenkoski reported the 2021 \$10,000 grant check was received from the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs and deposited.

2. Update on possible CVSO Grant Increase:

Ms. Tammy Javenkoski reported that a 5% increase for all County Veterans Service Office budgets was approved in the governor's biennium budget. That equates to \$500 for her office. The bill considerably increasing CVSO budget is still active but there's nothing new to report on it at this time. Committee recommended that Ms. Tammy Javenkoski get ideas to the committee of what the money could be used for to better the lives of the Oneida County Veterans, instead of the CVSO's Salary.

3. LTE for CVSOA-WI June Conference:

Ms. Tammy Javenkoski reported their normal LTE could not work in the office from June 7-11 while they're at conference. She asked a veteran who lives in

Rhinelanders if she'd be willing to LTE and she gladly accepted. She will work in the office a few hours before then to train.

4. 2020/2021 Financial & Statistical Reports, Vouchers, Audit of Payments and Line Item Transfers:

- Ms. Tammy Javenkoski reported that they have scanned an additional 33 files as well as saved 97 pieces of paper using their digital fax.
- Ms. Tammy Javenkoski reported that there was not any vouchers or line item transfers in the month.

5. Public Comment:

None

6. Agenda items for future meetings:

- 2022 Staffing Request.
- Update on County Veteran's Service Officer Grant Increase

Social Services:

1. 2020 Social Services Annual Report:

- Ms. Heidi Chavez discussed the Annual Report that was distributed to the committee members. The new items to this year's report are:
 - o Child Welfare – Oneida County receives Child Welfare Referrals when Child Abuse and Neglect referrals do not meet the danger threshold of abuse or neglect; however, families may still need services. It is the hope to help families before a crisis happens.
 - o Foster Care and Kinship Care – When a child cannot safely remain in their home, every effort is made to place a child with a relative or like-kin caregiver. When it is not possible, the next preference is to place children with foster families.
 - o Internal Department Committees:
 - Long Range Planning Committee-Committee is made up of agency staff that meets every three months to review progress and make plans for future identified goals. The committee developed a Facebook page that posts information such as Child Abuse Prevention Month, nothing is posted that is confidential.
 - Volunteer Committee – Agency has raised \$1095 in 2020 which was donated to different organizations.
- There were a couple of things identified by the committee that needs to be updated in the Annual Report:
 - o Drug Endangered Children – Last paragraph cut off.
 - o Economic Support – Medical Assistance – Total cost for these services for Oneida County in 2020 were: nothing added.
- There was a discussion that once approved by the County Board the Annual Report will be public. The Committee thought it might be beneficial if there could be a link to previous year's information rather than having to search for the information.

- Motion by Mr. Steven Schreier, seconded by Mr. Michael Roach, to approve the 2020 Annual Report with above changes. Mr. VanRaalte called for a roll call vote, all yes, motion carried.

2. 2021 Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) Elder Abuse Contract:

- The Department is requesting approval for the annual contract. The funding amount is \$17,100.00. Funds are used to provide services to Oneida County residents to prevent or mitigate elder abuse. An example is the money has been used to provide temporary services for elder adults. Motion by Mr. Steven Schreier, seconded by Mr. Bob Thome to approve the 2021 Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources – Elder Abuse Contract. Mr. VanRaalte called for a roll call vote, all yes, motion carried.

3. Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Presentation:

- The dual purpose of RSVP is to engage “persons 55 and older in volunteer services to meet critical community needs and to provide a high quality experience that will enrich the lives of volunteers.” The goals of the program are to:
 - o Develop a variety of opportunities for community service
 - o Ensure that volunteer assignments are consistent with the interests and abilities of the volunteers
 - o Ensure that volunteers are provided needed orientation, support and supervision, and recognition
 - o Develop local support to supplement available federal funding.
- In 2019, the ADRC of Oneida County entered the RSVP competitive grant process to become an RSVP sponsor and was awarded \$82,500 per year for the three-year grant cycle from April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2023. The grant (normally) requires 10% match in year 1, a 20% match in year 2, and a 30% match in year three thereafter. Due to COVID, the match for a couple of years has been waived.
- RSVP sponsors must choose one primary Focus Area from the RSVP National Performance Measures:
 - o Capacity Building
 - o Disaster Services
 - o Economic Opportunity
 - o Education
 - o Environmental Stewardship
 - o Healthy Futures
 - o Veterans and Military Families
 - o Other community Priorities
- The ADRC chose Health Futures as its Focus Area as the objective of -this area are closely aligned with the Mission of the ADRC (Nutrition/Food Support, Transportation, Respite Services, Legal Services, Elder Justice, etc.) The -ADRC is not limited to this Focus Area, but only report outcomes in this Focus Area to the federal government.

- RSVP is currently working to recruit additional volunteer stations like Habitat for Humanity, Rhinelander Food Pantry, Oneida County Humane Society and others.
- The Committee inquired about the Environmental Stewardship. Mr. Joel Gottsacker will send the link to the Committee Members.

4. ADRC and Social Services Alliance Updates:

Mr. Joel Gottsacker reported that he is currently meeting with Ms. Mary Rideout on a weekly basis. They are looking at:

- 2022 Budget
- Integrating Policies
- Information Technology – Shared Calendars is in the works. Social Services has its own servers and needs to be up-to-date before this can be accomplished. This is currently in the process of being complete; hopefully this will be done within the second quarter.

5. Agency Update: Staffing, Donations, Child Abuse Prevention Month Activities.

- Staffing/Vacancies
 - o We currently have only one vacancy, at the ADRC, which is currently filled with a part-time LTE. This position will be evaluated as we look to re-open the ADRC to the public.
 - o We received two resignations this past month. Jacob Piasecki, Clerical Support II will be going to Planning and Zoning and Register of Deeds as a shared position between those two departments. Vickie Muth, Social Worker in our Children and Families Unit, submitted her resignation. Her last day is May 13, 2021. We are actively recruiting for both of these positions.
- Community Donations:
 - o Crescent Lake Bible Camp contacted Social Services; they received a donation for camp scholarships for families that are in economic situations that would make it impossible to send their child to camp. The donor wanted to provide a camp experience to children who would otherwise be unable to attend camp. The total donation is \$5,000. Crescent Lake Bible Camp asked for Social Services assistance in identifying families/children that could meet these criteria. The funds can be used for their Day Camp or the Overnight Camp (Youth Camp) at their 60-acre facility.
- April is National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month:
 - o Our Trauma Informed Care Committee has done a wonderful job promoting child abuse prevention, families' strengths, and child safety in the month of April. Below is a list of their activities:
 - Coordinating the purchase of shirts to various organizations with the "Our Community Cares" message.
 - Decorating Brown Street with blue ribbons on the trees and signs with the "Our Community Cares" message.

- Did numerous posts to our Facebook page and website around "5 strengths-keeping families strong".
- Planned and collaborated on "Family Time on the Turf" at the Hodag Dome which will be April 30th.
- Resolution recognizing April 2021 as National Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Month was presented. Motion by Mr. Bob Thome, seconded by Mrs. Steven Schreier to approve moving forward with pursuing the Resolution. Mr. VanRaalte called for a roll call vote, all yes, motion carried.

6. 2020 Financial & Statistical Reports, Quarterly Workers Compensation Report, Vouchers, Audit of Payments and Line Item Transfers:

- Ms. Heidi Chavez explained that \$265,245 is what was returned to the county for 2020.
- We are not as far in the red as last month due to Cost of Living – tax levy as well as Economic Support got additional revenue.
- Expenditures as well as mileage was presented to the committee.
- Motion by Mr. Bob Thome, seconded by Mr. Steven Schreier to approve Financial and Statistical Reports, and Vouchers as presented. There were no line item transfers. Mr. VanRaalte called for a roll call vote, all yes, motion carried.

9. Public Comment:


None.

10. Agenda Items for future Meetings:

Re-visit March Essential Social Worker Month.

11. Adjourn:

There being no further business to be brought before the Committee, it was moved by Mr. Alan VanRaalte to adjourn the meeting at 11:07 a.m. The next meeting of the Social Services Committee will be Tuesday, May 25, 2021 at 9:30 a.m. in the County Board Room.



 Mr. Bob Thome Jr.



 Mr. Alan VanRaalte, Chairperson

Date: April 27, 2021