



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Washington County Task Force
July 28, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Present: Kiersten Onanga, Karri Fisher, Don Kline

Staff: Harrison March

Welcome & Attendance

Meeting began shortly after 1 p.m.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes from June 2021 approved unanimously.

Member & Heritage Updates

Don Kline

- Encore Express is rolling out slowly in the community and would like to consider more advertisements on the radio or in the newspaper. Harrison March will have to look into this with the grant funding. Immanuel Lutheran Church recently called Don to remind him he could pick up more vouchers.
- Don attended his first Advisory Council meeting last week.

Kiersten Onanga

- Access2Independence recently presented on waiver disparities in Iowa at a federal-level event. The Administration for Community Living (ACL) scheduled a follow up meeting with a2i for this Friday.

Harrison March

- Many congregate dining sites have reopened in the Heritage region. Encore Express is expected to add in-person dining in the next 1-2 months.
- Heritage is still seeking applicants for the Caregiver Coordinator position. Interested persons can find information on the Heritage website.

Karri Fisher

- Washington County Public Health is monitoring COVID-19 variants and transmission in and around Washington County. There could be changes to WCPH recommendations in the future, but as of now the county has low transmission rates so no big changes yet.

Heritage Task Force Forms

Next week Harrison will mail out annual forms for Task Force members to complete and return. They are the same as previous years, but anyone with questions can contact Harrison.

Community Presentations

Outline: No changes to proposed the outline drafted in the July meeting. Don liked the focus on Heritage services/help rather than too much information about the organization's setup.

Handout: Kiersten clarified that Palliative Care falls under Hospice of Washington County, so there are two potential open slots to add services on the back of the handout draft. Karri suggested filling those spots with Washington County Public Health and Optimae. She will send over contact information for Optimae so Harrison can follow up.



Next Steps: Harrison will finish the handout draft and put together the presentation based on the outline. Additionally, he'll resend the list of potential presentation groups so members can review and identify the best places to start. Don suggested the Kiwanis, of which he is a member.

Open Agenda

Don has a couple booklets he picked up at the Washington County Fair that list local services and businesses by categories. Heritage is not included in places it could be, so Don will mail them to Harrison for follow up with publishers.

Don also saw the 2020 Caregiver Wellness Series episode online featuring a short presentation on Heritage. Could this be clipped for use as a standalone presentation instead the whole episode? Harrison will look into this, as well as share more 2021 Series promotional items with local partners in Washington.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at about 1:40 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Aug. 25 at 1 p.m.

Submitted By

Harrison March
June 24, 2021



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Washington County Task Force
August 25, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Present: Don Kline, Elizabeth Koehn, Christine Yancey

Staff: Harrison March

Task Force Chair Elizabeth Koehn called the meeting to order shortly after 1 p.m.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes from July 2021 approved unanimously.

Member & Heritage Updates

Christine Yancey

- Still getting information out about Encore Express through Riverside's website and newsletters
- Interested in learning about the potential for a pop-up café style program in the Riverside area, similar to the plans for Express. If local restaurants could cook/host, it may draw more participants locally than having to drive down to Washington. Harrison will share this with Tim Getty, Heritage's Regional Nutrition Coordinator.

Don Kline

- Don's heard radio ads from Immanuel Lutheran Church promoting Encore Express
- The July Advisory Council meeting focused on orientation/training. There is another meeting tomorrow (Aug. 26).
- Tuesday night the hospital hosted an open house with its specialists to help people learn about the variety of services available in Washington. It was a first time event, but seemed to be well-attended with almost everyone wearing face masks.

Harrison March

- Encore Express continues slowly growing, with about 50 vouchers redeemed in July. The redemption rate, which shows how many vouchers are used out of all the vouchers picked up, is especially good, according to Heritage's nutrition coordinator.
- Eugenia Kendall left Heritage in late July for a position at the Iowa Dept. on Aging.

Heritage Task Force Forms

Most members have already returned their annual forms to Heritage. Those who haven't yet are asked to please do so soon.

Community Presentations

Presentation: Reviewing the drafted presentation, Harrison asked if adding a slide dedicated to Encore Express would be OK with members. All said yes, so Harrison will include this somewhere in the body.

Elizabeth suggested adding an example to illustrate the difference between a direct service and a funded service. This will give the audience a better idea of how Heritage interacts with consumers in different ways.

Handout: Don suggested indicating on the handout that other organizations listed are not comprehensive and other services are also available. With how involved some people are, it's



possible that staff from an organization not listed could be in attendance and this may help minimize any hard feelings.

Elizabeth asked about including information on service organizations on the back as well. Harrison noted the handout is pretty full without much space to spare right now. He'll send the latest version for her to consider. This could be incorporated in the presentation instead, too.

Christine asked if this handout can be sent with an upcoming newsletter. Harrison will get her another version that includes a line about how to schedule a presentation to learn more.

Contacts: Don will look at open dates for upcoming Kiwani's meetings, which the group will target for the first presentation. Christine will talk to the administrator in Wellman about groups they have that may be interested. Senior village may also be a good audience.

Don suggested contacting local churches as well, as many have monthly lunches.

Other: Elizabeth asked about the potential for doing a live call-in during the presentation. Harrison reported the I&A staff prefer sharing the info on the slides since planning around a call-in time is challenging with their number of consumers. Harrison will use a video resource as a follow up that further familiarizes the audience with I&A, as well as one of the staff members.

For a post-presentation survey, Harrison will draft up a short form and send to members for review. The group hopes to learn how effective the presentations are, what more people would like to learn about and what needs they see in the community.

Open Agenda

Don reported COVID cases are on the rise again locally. UP Home and Halcyon House are altering visitor policies accordingly. Harrison noted Heritage is doing the same, including requiring staff to wear masks when representing the agency in the public.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at about 1:50 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Sept. 22 at 1 p.m.

Submitted By

Harrison March
June 24, 2021



Area Agency on Aging
Washington County Task Force
Sept. 22, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Present: Don Kline, Kiersten Onanga

Staff: Harrison March.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Tabled due to lack of quorum.

Member & Heritage Updates

Don Kline

- Both long-term care facilities in Washington are being very cautious regarding visitors and COVID-19 concerns.
- Washington County Public Health is being led by Jefferson County's Director while WCPH searches for a new Director of its own.

Kiersten Onanga

- Access2Independence is being cautious in its approach to consumer interactions and attending events.
- The Transitions program has been picking up lately. Funding was originally set to expire this month, but was extended another year along with the CARES Act.
- Food program meant to address emergencies and insecurity during the pandemic has come to an end with need being significantly reduced.
- A2I is hiring an Independent Living Specialist who will primarily serve consumers in the Cedar Rapids area.

Harrison March

- Encore Express has picked up a few new consumers. More marketing options are being considered to help further its growth.
- Heritage has a few new jobs open for applications. Information is on the Heritage AAA website.
- Heritage is co-hosting an event on Powers of Attorney and Living Wills in Washington next month. Harrison will send the flyer to members who are interested themselves, or who know someone that would benefit.

Community Presentations

Survey: Don thinks the survey looks good at this point, but to keep an open mind about changes after the first few presentations.

Kiersten asked if tablets will be used for the surveys. Harrison said this could still be a possibility, but for the sake of logistics the paper version will likely be necessary often.

COVID-19 Considerations: Members discussed how to approach these presentations considering current pandemic trends. Conversation included:

- Kiersten: feels a little uncertain and doesn't want to worsen any trends locally by organizing a gathering. If presentations are delivered in places people are already meeting anyway and feel comfortable, then it would be up to the presenter.



- Don: if trends continue, it's likely some meetings will be canceled again or moved to virtual. Each group has its own preferences on if virtual is an option, when they should make the switch, etc.
- Harrison: if COVID concerns impact the presentation opportunity, Harrison can present on Zoom without an issue. Harrison could even offer to help the group organize its virtual meeting if they don't already have Zoom, as the Heritage account can host many people at once.
- Kiersten: when offering the presentation, Harrison could present both options so the group has a choice for their preference.

The first presentation is scheduled for Oct. 8 with the Kiwanis AMers, of which Don is a member.

Open Agenda

Harrison asked if any changes need to be made to A21's information on the transitions program now that funding is extended. Kiersten said no changes are needed.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at about 1:35 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Oct. 27 at 1 p.m.

Submitted By

Harrison March
Sept 24, 2021



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Washington County Task Force
Oct 27, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Present: Elizabeth Koehn, Don Kline, Kiersten Onanga

Staff: Harrison March.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Tabled due to lack of quorum at the time.

Member & Heritage Updates

Don Kline

- Attended the Heritage-sponsored estate planning event last week in Washington. There was great information, but attendance was lower than hoped for.
- Washington County Public Health is still accepting applications for Director
- Advisory Council elected its Chair and Vice Chair at the September meeting. Tomorrow's meeting will cover service delivery data.

Kiersten Onanga

- Kiersten is leaving A2I for a Hospice Social Worker position at Heartland Hospice next month. Her final day is Nov. 5. Transition services will still be available through A2I.

Harrison March

- Encore Express continues growing by a few consumers. Plans for in-person dining remain TBD.

Community Presentations

Harrison delivered the first of the presentations to Don's Kiwanis group earlier this month. Elizabeth thanked Don for helping coordinate the first one.

Don suggested using future presentations as opportunities to share about the Task Force, too. New members would be welcome. There may also be opportunities to do a radio interview when in town.

Harrison has some future presentations planned and left messages for others. He will pass along details when presentations get closer to see if any members would like to come along.

Task Force Ideas for 2022

Elizabeth asked members to brainstorm ideas for Task Force efforts in the coming months. Don recommended new member recruitment to increase membership and perspectives. Discussion included:

- Kiersten: COVID and technology concerns could be factors in prospective members' involvement.
- Don: could contact Halcyon House and UP Home about independent living residents.
- Harrison: may be helpful to pitch community involvement and the socialization opportunity.
- Elizabeth: keep thinking about ideas and leads until the next meeting.



Open Agenda

All present agreed to maintain the meeting date for November: 4th Wednesday at 1 p.m. The December meeting date will be discussed at that meeting.

Elizabeth thanked Kiersten for her dedication to the Task Force and to serving Washington County residents during her time at A2I.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at about 1:50 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 24 at 1 p.m.

Submitted By

Harrison March

Oct. 27, 2021



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Washington County Task Force
Nov. 24, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Present: Elizabeth Koehn, Don Kline

Staff: Harrison March

Review of Meeting Minutes

Don motioned to approve, Elizabeth second. Motion passed.

Member & Heritage Updates

Don Kline

- Halcyon House is not quite fully open, but is getting closer with more social opportunities for residents. Masks still required.
- COVID cases remain steady at around 50 per week

Harrison March

- Staff updates: one new Options Counselor started this month and is focused on training and starting home visits. Harrison has heard good things about candidates for two other jobs that are opened, so may be filled soon if things progress well.
- Heritage is closed Thursday and Friday for the Thanksgiving holiday and will be closed Dec. 24, 27, 31 and Jan. 3 for holidays.

Member Recruitment

Discussion and brainstorming ideas regarding new member recruitment included:

- Don suggested visiting independent living places around the new year. Holiday season might be tough with so many activities and family events going on. Halcyon House typically has speakers come in for presentations to residents as well.
- Harrison will follow up with community groups on presentations.
- Contact KCII whenever in town about doing a live or taped interview. They have a daily segment about community happenings and events.
- Elizabeth recommended contacting service groups and Chambers in smaller towns for wider representation
- Don suggested contacting the mini-bus about having handouts for their riders
- Elizabeth would like to use the January meeting to discuss ideas for the coming months that would be of interest to the community. If we focus on topics or issues of interest, that will help drive engagement.

December Plans

Due to schedule conflicts around the holidays, no meeting is planned. All agreed to keep in touch with any updates. Next meeting will be Jan. 26, 2022.

Open Agenda

Elizabeth asked about resources for helping people understand and use their cell phones, or if that is even a concern at this time. Don suggested looking for an AARP program or resource, as they offered a lot of good info at the onset of the pandemic.

Elizabeth also asked if there could be a sort of community resource fair to make people more aware of services in the county. Harrison said that Heritage is walking a fine line right now with



events: if Heritage is invited to participate in one taking place, that is OK. However, Heritage is not planning or leading any large in-person events right now, such as the Caregiver Wellness Day. Harrison will have more info to share in the near future about a virtual caregiver event for Washington County, but details are not yet ready to be announced.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at about 1:50 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Jan. 26 at 1 p.m.

Submitted By

Harrison March

Nov. 29, 2021



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Washington County Task Force
Jan. 26, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Present: Don Kline, Karri Fisher, Christine Yancey

Staff: Harrison March

Review of Meeting Minutes

Don Kline motioned to approve, Christine Yancey second. Motion passed.

Member & Heritage Updates

Karri Fisher

- Public Health is continuing Wednesday afternoon walk-in clinics for COVID and flu vaccines through February. She will share the flyer with the group for distribution.
- In-home care services still available with staff wearing PPE and maximizing safety.

Don Kline

- Halcyon House is still allowing visitors with health screening upon entry.

Harrison March

- Staff updates: Mandy started in December with the Elder Rights Program, as did Lauren with the nutrition team. Lauren will eventually become the point person on Encore Express in Washington.
- Heritage has funds for a marketing push for Encore programs, so Harrison will work with the nutrition team on getting a plan together. Focus will be on increasing voucher participation in the short-term and on the congregate dining portion hopefully this spring.
- Harrison presented to the Kalona Optimists Club earlier this month. About 20 members attended the meeting.

Community Interest Topics

Harrison asked members' thoughts on topics or issues that could be promoted or used to drive interest from the community. Events or outreach can be focused on these issues to hopefully drive turnout. Ideas/discussed included:

- Don: events in the evening or on Saturdays regarding genealogy and preserving/digitizing old photos.
 - o Karri noted the North English Historical Society does genealogy research and is a popular resource in the community. There could be interest in helping people in Washington.
 - o Christine added that these activities are good for staying engaged/active at home and with family members.
 - o Harrison suggested an event like this that's sponsored/presented by Heritage as a way of getting the word out for the agency and/or Task Force.
 - o Karri will find a contact with the North English group and send the info to Harrison.
 - o Don recommended educating on or displaying the technology aspects of digitizing photos. Even if we can't do them all in that time and place, showing how it works will help remove or reduce tech barriers.



- Karri: libraries in other towns like Wellman offer a lot of virtual programming, which the Task Force could either try to bring in to other communities or support somehow.
 - o Christine added the Kalona library offers a lot in Riverside and they recently presented on the need for volunteers to deliver books/tapes.
 - o Harrison will look into some of these virtual programs.
 - o The Task Force could include this volunteer opportunity as a way to help community members be engaged and active.

Open Agenda

Don recently attended the Family Caregivers Center of Mercy's men's coffee group and enjoyed his time. They offer several virtual programs each month, which he would encourage other older adults in Washington to attend. Karri and Christine would like to include this information with their means of doing outreach, so Harrison will email the Center to have them added to the newsletter list.

Don is speaking at Halcyon House on Valentine's Day and may make some return appearances to share on various topics with their residents. He asked Harrison to send some brochures to bring with him and contact info that he could pass along to their staff.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at about 1:45 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Feb. 23 at 1 p.m.



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Washington County Task Force
Feb. 23, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Present: Don Kline, Karri Fisher, Christine Yancey

Staff: Harrison March

Review of Meeting Minutes

Don Kline motioned to approve, Karri Fisher second. Motion passed.

Member & Heritage Updates

Harrison March

- Heritage's Encore Café Coordinator left the agency. This has an indirect effect on Encore Express, as the Café's responsibilities are spread among other staff. Still hoping to open dining in the spring, but that will depend on the hiring process/staff availability.

Christine Yancey

- Hasn't heard back from the library yet, but knows they're looking for volunteers. Recent programs have had good participation, especially among older adults.

Don Kline

- Presentation at Halcyon House went well and was so well-attended they had to have two sessions. Don asked Harrison to send more Heritage brochures for his next talk after giving out 25 this time.

Karri Fisher

- Will send out flyer for March COVID vaccine clinics. Public Health is reducing clinics to twice per month due to decreasing participation, but will consider adding more if demand increases again. Karri will also share updates related to boosters as available.

Hosting Community Event(s)

Circling back to last month's idea about a genealogy event or photo digitizing event to attract general community interest, Harrison wondered about possible host sites and speakers/leaders.

- Don suggested the library as a host, pending their COVID policies. They also host the local genealogy group, so it may be a natural fit with their expertise.
- Another suggestion was combining an event/demonstration with an Encore Express meal when the site opens.
- Karri may know a contact with the genealogy group in North English as well.

Open Agenda

Don asked if March's meeting will be in-person. Harrison said Heritage has given the thumbs up, so he will contact Dodici's Café to confirm availability.

Christine and Karri both noted some professional contacts who may be interested in joining the Task Force. They will reach out to gauge interest. Harrison will send Christine some info to go in the next newsletter as well.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at about 1:30 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Feb. 23 at 1 p.m.



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Washington County Task Force
April 27, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Present: Don Kline, Christine Yancey

Staff: Harrison March

Review of Meeting Minutes

No changes proposed, minutes approved as presented.

Member & Heritage Updates

Harrison March

- Encore Express is targeting an opening date in late May with a grand opening event shortly after initial launch. Harrison's note: this was later delayed to June 9.
- Heritage is participating in the June 2 Farmers Market and June 4 Ridiculous Day to promote Encore Express. They will also distribute market vouchers on June 2.
- Recently learned that, though Lending Hands Adult Day Center in Washington had to close during COVID, Pathways in Iowa City has stepped in to serve these consumers and provide transportation if needed.

Christine Yancey

- The library found a box for drop offs, but would still like to add a mobile library program.

Don Kline

- Continuing presentations at Halcyon House, with the next scheduled around Father's Day.

Outreach Discussion

Ideas and suggestions for outreach included:

- Trek Fest on June 25: parade and fair both open.
- July 4 events around the area, including Woopie Days in Brighton.
- Kalona hosts Fall Fest each year, but dates unknown at this time. Harrison has a contact in Kalona that he will reach out to.
- Using the genealogy event idea for a broader outreach program called Heritage Day. These events/sessions could be sponsored by Heritage to provide a history themed lesson, perhaps provide refreshments and outreach about Heritage services too. If successful, could be replicated in other communities.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at about 1:45 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for May 25, 2022. It will include annual elections, so member are encouraged to consider who to nominate for Chairperson.



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Washington County Task Force
May 25, 2022 Meeting Minutes

Present: Don Kline, Karri Fisher

Staff: Harrison March

Review of Meeting Minutes

No changes proposed, minutes approved as presented.

Member & Heritage Updates

Harrison March

- Heritage is adding a new service that is part of the Iowa Return to Community program. IRTC has been piloted in other areas of the state and will start at Heritage July 1 pending hire of program staff. The program pairs an older adult with a Health Coach for 1:1 support in coordinating services that prevent readmission to the hospital or skilled nursing. The program is a partnership with Mercy Medical Center in Cedar Rapids.
- Encore Express is scheduled to open June 9. Meals will be served 2nd & 4th Thursday of the month. The menu for June will be published soon. Don suggested creating a menu of sorts for the voucher part of Express, as sometimes there are items at Hy-Vee that seem like they'd be eligible for the vouchers but are not.

Karri Fisher

- Public Health started a new program called STABLE, which focuses on hospital-to-home transition for diabetic patients. Education is a big piece of the program, with the goal of managing symptoms and preventing readmission.
- Monthly COVID vaccine clinics are ongoing with about 30 people per clinic.

Elections

Don is willing to serve as Chair of the Task Force and return to Advisory Council. Don asked if Karri would like to join him on Advisory Council, to which she agreed. Nominations passed unanimously.

Upcoming Events

Heritage will be at Ridiculous Day on June 4 and the Farmers' Market on June 23 to promote Encore Express. Market checks should be available by June 23 as well.

The caregivers' seminar for Washington County will be June 22 at 3pm. Don has posted some flyers around town, and Karri plans to attend on behalf of Public Health. Because this is the normal meeting date, the regular meeting will be skipped and anything urgent can be discussed before/after the event.

Open Agenda

Discussion included incorporating the previously-discussed genealogy events with Encore Express as a natural tie-in for an audience.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at about 11:40 a.m. June's meeting is replaced by the caregivers' event on June 22nd at 3 p.m.