



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Linn County Task Force Meeting minutes
July 8, 2021

Present: Chris Shimon, Barb Young, Kay Fisk, Judy Fries, Dora Lorenc, John North
Staff: Harrison March

Chris Shimon called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Kay Fisk motioned to approve meeting minutes from January 2021 – June 2021 as presented, Barb Young second. Motioned passed unanimously.

Heritage AAA & Community Updates

Harrison March, Heritage AAA:

- Congregate dining services around the region are beginning to reopen, including the Southeast Linn Community Center in Lisbon. Encore Café is looking at resuming in-person dining in the next 1-2 months. More updates to come as sites reopen.

Kay Fisk, Horizons:

- Meals on Wheels resumed daily hot meal delivery recently. The importance of check-ins with participants was recently highlighted when a consumer was found inside her home shortly after suffering a fall. Kay and Mayor Brad Hart, who was helping deliver meals, helped the consumer get back up and retrieve her cell phone. Without this check-in, the consumer may have been stuck on the floor for a very long time.
 - Barb noted in Arizona she and other older adults use a phone tree system for regular check-ins. Other friends also have a daily 'signal' such as opening their blinds by a certain time.

FY22 Elections

Task Force Officers

- Chris expressed interest in another term as Task Force Chair. No other nominations made. Barb motioned to re-elect Chris as Chair, Dora Lorenc second. Motion passed unanimously.
- No motions made for Task Force Vice-Chair or Secretary. Barb requested a current copy of the Task Force roster be sent to members so they can consider potential nominees for other roles.

Advisory Council

- Kay, Chris and Dora all expressed interested in a term on the Heritage Advisory Council. All three unanimously approved as Representatives for Fiscal Year '22.
- Similar to officers, a copy of the roster will be sent to help consider other potential Representatives.

FY22 Goal Setting

Chris opened the goal-setting discussion by noting the lack of a senior center in Cedar Rapids has been a long-standing concern for several Task Force members. Conversation included:

- Barb brought a folder of items from the former Senior Center committee and suggested getting the information to Sheila Semler, who had a lot of input about the subject at a recent Task Force meeting.



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Area Agency on Aging

Previous efforts halted when one organization wanted full control of the project, but there wasn't enough interest from the city or county to support it financially.

- Kay emphasized the importance of local government support for the project, which is the case among all the nicer facilities in Iowa's larger cities/towns. Barb noted this could be a challenge in the immediate future with so much focus on derecho and COVID recovery.
- Harrison suggested a touch-base meeting for former members so that all interested can get on the same page. Heritage AAA can't necessarily offer support at this point, but he is able to send out a meeting notice for those interested and provide an open phone line for calling into the meeting.
- Judy Fries suggested getting Sandy Bruns involved, as she was a key member of the previous committee. Judy emailed Harrison a copy of the committee's contact information file.
- Kay recommended the first meeting be focused on discussing goals and expectations for the committee before re-inviting every person involved. An invitation to this meeting will be sent to Task Force members by Kay. The meeting will take place a half hour before the August Task Force meeting.

Conversation shifted to Task Force member recruitment. Ideas included:

- Chris: attend senior dining events around the county to promote Heritage and the Task Force.
- Barb: edit the draft flyer to indicate that volunteers are wanted. It currently gives an overview of the group, but doesn't 'speak' the need for volunteers.
- Dora: will share on this effort at the Linn County landlords meeting later today. She will bring the extra flyer drafts so they aren't wasted, but will add the note about volunteers being needed.
- Kay: incorporate something about a past accomplishment of the Task Force so prospective members know there are goals we will strive for.

Kay asked if promoting transportation services would be of interest. Discussion:

- Dora: need to provide non-tech solutions to reduce the barriers potential consumers have
- Kay: information can be disseminated through many routes currently available, such as Meals on Wheels, Encore Café and senior living facilities. Keep the information simple.
- Harrison: could use a previous design for a transportation forum and change the information.

Those present agreed these three topics are a good starting point for the new Fiscal Year: reconvening the Senior Center committee, recruiting Task Force members and promoting transportation services.

Open Agenda

Kay would like to see meetings end with action items for members. This will help progress toward the goals set in today's meeting. Action items assigned:

- Kay: contact members about the Senior Center discussion next month
- Judy: reach out to contact starting up a seniors' group at a church in Marion
- Harrison: get a list of senior dining sites from the Heritage database

Barb requested that meeting minutes be sent after writing instead of just prior to meetings so that there is more time to learn about what happened and take next steps. Harrison will begin doing this.



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Area Agency on Aging

Kay encouraged Task Force members to join the Older Iowans Legislature and attend the annual meeting in September to plan top priorities for the 2022 legislative session. To join or learn more, visit <https://www.olderiowans.org/>.

Adjournment

Barb motioned to adjourn the meeting, Dora second. Meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

Next Meeting

Senior Center discussion: 9:30 a.m. at Horizons – Training Room

Task Force: 10:00 a.m. at Horizons – Training Room



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Linn County Task Force Meeting minutes
August 12, 2021

Present: Chris Shimon, Barb Young, Judy Fries, John North

Guests: Bruce Cummins & Theresa Eadie (Marion Community Center), Bev Johnson

Staff: Harrison March

With no quorum present for the Task Force meeting, the Senior Center group went long to have a more complete discussion. These minutes cover both groups.

Senior Center Group

Judy Fries introduced Theresa Eadie and Bruce Cummins of the Marion Community Center. Theresa and Bruce shared their experience of starting the MCC, including using funding from their business and community sponsors to pay for food and activities. Attendance varies a bit, but has exceeded 15 within their first month. The idea and planning date back almost a year, so it was 10-11 months before the first day of activities.

Judy recapped the recent situation for a Cedar Rapids senior center:

- Aging Services indicated too much else going on at the moment to commit to this project
- The facility on Ellis Blvd has seniors' classes, but with specific focuses and not much for general attraction
- An AARP representative has been invited to be part of the discussions

Regarding facilities, those present noted a list of desired features. A site location isn't needed immediately, but these are good things to keep in mind at this time:

- parking lot on site
- on or near bus route
- handicap accessibility
- the possibility of starting with a smaller facility, then considering growth in the future
- operating ability to allow for informal gatherings, not just a couple hours per day to get-in-and-get-out

Bev Johnson asked about the old Marion YMCA. Bruce noted the building is for sale, but unfortunately comes with the upkeep and maintenance costs one could expect in a decades-old facility.

Regarding expanding the group and gaining early momentum, those present prefer to invite more people and groups that can drive passion/build interest. Getting this type of involvement will hopefully lead to a more plausible 'pitch' when it comes time to seek funding, rather than seeking funding before showing the interest exists. Potential avenues for adding members include:

- Judy's AARP contact
- Churches United (Judy to contact)
- Linn County Interfaith Alliance (Harrison to contact)
- Former committee members from pre-pandemic

Action items taken for the senior center meeting include:

- By Sept. 9, have a list of contacts for reaching out to potential new members
- By Oct. 14, create mailer for contacting churches and organization with invitations



- Bruce recommended brainstorming fundraising ideas. No planning action needed now, but think about creative ways to raise awareness and funds simultaneously, such as donation drives, community garage sales and holiday-centered events.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Tabled due to lack of quorum.

Heritage AAA Updates

Harrison reported the agency updates:

- Eugenia Kendall has left Heritage for a position at the Iowa Dept. on Aging. Heritage will miss her expertise around the office, but is looking forward to continuing working with her in this new role.
- No plans have been announced yet for additional congregate dining openings in Linn County. Harrison will share updates as available.
- On behalf of Kay, Harrison distributed information and agendas for the annual Older Iowans Legislature meeting next month.

Additional FY22 Elections

Tabled due to lack of quorum.

Task Force Forms

Harrison will be sending annual Task Force forms via mail and will include a pre-paid return envelope. Please contact him with any questions. Heritage hopes to have a paperless option available next year.

New Member Recruitment & Dining Site Outreach

Those present were satisfied with the updated flyer draft and list of congregate dining sites for outreach. Harrison can begin contacting sites to inquire about speaking opportunities.

Open Agenda

Barb asked if the Older Iowans Fund can be used to address concerns like Task Force member Dora Lorenc's friend who needs a Life Alert-type resource. She recalls the Task Force requesting use of these funds before, but hasn't heard about it in a long time. Harrison doesn't know about the Fund, so will have to report back after talking with other Heritage staff. In the meanwhile, Judy noted there is a church on A Ave that loans equipment like wheelchairs and crutches that may be able to provide help in this case.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11 a.m.

Next Meeting

Task Force on Aging: Sept. 9 at 10 a.m.

Senior Center Group: Oct. 14 at 9 a.m.



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Linn County Task Force Meeting minutes
Sept. 9, 2021

Present: Chris Shimon, Dora Lorenc

Guests: Angela Harbour (ASAC), Pat Meier

Staff: Harrison March

Chris Shimon called the meeting to order at approximately 10 a.m.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Tabled due to lack of quorum.

Heritage AAA Updates

Harrison reported the agency updates:

- Staff continue wearing masks in public and on home visits. The office is still closed to the public.
- No major changes to services to report, though Heritage continues monitoring pandemic trends and will adjust as necessary.
- Heritage plans to post some job openings in the near future. No details available at this time, but Harrison will send them to all when available.
- On behalf of Kay, Harrison noted the Older Iowans Legislature meeting is coming up later this month. Contact him if information on joining is still needed.

Additional FY22 Elections

Tabled due to lack of quorum.

New Member Recruitment

Harrison has contacted all open local dining sites except the Southeast Linn Community Center. All are receptive to the idea of promoting the Task Force in one way or another (home-delivered meals, speaking to diners, etc) based on the status of current service. He will continue trying to reach the Director at SELCC while scheduling other locations as available.

Chris noted the current challenges of recruiting volunteers and paid positions alike. It's a challenge across all sectors and pandemic uncertainties contribute to this challenge. Dora Lorenc added that even some current volunteers have pulled back again due to health concerns.

Pat Meier suggested using Next Door as a tool for promoting Heritage and reaching potential new members. Cedar Rapids has active communities on the platform that may be interested.

Transportation Awareness

Chris suggested now is an OK time to begin collecting information that the Task Force could promote regarding transportation services, but other goals will likely take precedent the next couple of months. Dora added that would-be riders may be hesitant to use services at this time due to the pandemic. It may be helpful to note any health and safety measures the services are enforcing during this time.



Open Agenda

Harrison shared information on the Stand Down event for veterans tomorrow (Sept. 10). There will be food, a resource fair, a brief ceremony and other resources of use to local veterans. The event is 10 am – 12 pm at Veterans Memorial Coliseum downtown.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11 a.m.

Next Meeting

Senior Center Group: Oct. 14 at 9 a.m.

Task Force meeting: Oct. 14 at 10 a.m.



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Linn County Task Force Meeting minutes
October 14, 2021

Present: Chris Shimon, Dora Lorenc, Barb Young, John North

Guests: Ricki Hall (ASAC)

Staff: Harrison March

Chris Shimon called the meeting to order at approximately 10 a.m.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Tabled due to lack of quorum.

Presentation: Ricki Hall (ASAC)

Ricki shared information on the safe use and disposal of prescription medication. Harrison will mail the presentation handouts to those not present.

Questions included:

- Barb: Where should people look for these safe disposal sites? Ricki suggested Walgreens, HyVee or your pharmacist's office.
- Barb: What should someone do when advice from different doctors conflicts? Ricki recommended relying on your primary care physician or most trusted doctor.
- Harrison: Does ASAC have anything like case management to help older adults who are abusing medication? Ricki said yes, starting with ASAC is a good first step. They have programs that have varying levels of support to meet the needs of consumers.

Heritage AAA Updates

Harrison reported the agency updates:

- No major changes to services to report, though Heritage continues monitoring pandemic trends and will adjust as necessary.
- Heritage posted three jobs last month and another is expected to be shared soon. Harrison encouraged members to share these opportunities with contacts and potentially interested applicants.

Older Iowans Legislature Recap

Harrison reported that the three top issues coming out of the OIL annual meeting related to elder abuse laws, strengthening the caregiver workforce and support for the ombudsman's office. Next steps focus on identifying supporters for these issues and potential bills ahead of the session starting in January.

Transportation Awareness

Harrison reviewed a draft flyer that could be used to promote a few key transportation services and the way Heritage's Information & Assistance staff can help consumers find providers. Suggestions for additions and improvements included:

- John: indicate that this information is specifically for older adults
- Dora: regarding Heritage helping, add that the agency may have cost/payment information
- Barb: the three services listed should be the three most-used options. John agreed and suggested adding something about calling for other options.



Ideas for distribution included: home-delivered meals, long-term care facilities, libraries, community bulletin boards, grocery stores and print publications.

Open Agenda

Barb asked for an update on new member recruitment. Harrison needs to complete a final draft of the flyer from a couple months ago and then get to work distributing it. All congregate dining sites that are open for in-person dining said the Task Force can come by, but there are several that are still closed.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:48 a.m.

Next Meeting

Senior Center Group: Nov. 11 at 9 a.m.

Task Force meeting: Nov. 11 at 10 a.m.

Location for both is to-be-determined.



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Linn County Task Force Meeting minutes
November 11, 2021

Present: Barb Young, Chris Shimon, Dora Lorenc, John North, Judy Fries, Sallie Streib, Sandy Bruns
Staff: Harrison March

Chris Shimon called the meeting to order shortly after 10 a.m.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Barb Young motioned to approve all minutes as presented, Dora Lorenc second. Motion passed.

Heritage AAA Updates

Harrison reported the agency updates:

- No major changes to services to report, though Heritage continues monitoring pandemic trends and will adjust as necessary. Barb asked if the office is open yet for meetings. Harrison said not at this time, though exceptions have been made for job interviews.
- A new options counselor starts at Heritage on Monday, Nov. 15. She will have a few weeks of training before spending most time in the field assisting consumers.
- Three jobs remain open with interviews ongoing.

New Program: Encore Express

Harrison distributed a handout covering the basics of Encore Express, a new nutrition program in Cedar Rapids. Details discussed include:

- The program is a partnership with the 1st Ave Hy-Vee
- Encore Express is a voucher-based nutrition program, supplying participants with 12 vouchers per month that are redeemable for a Hy-Vee MealTime to-go meal or a meal from the hot case when open
- Adults ages 60+ who live in the Mound View, Wellington Heights and Oakhill Jackson neighborhoods are eligible for the program
- Vouchers may be redeemed by caregivers
- Vouchers are available at no cost to consumers, though contributions to support the program are accepted
- Participants are also eligible for a free 1:1 meeting with Hy-Vee's registered dietitian to discuss dietary questions and concerns
- The dietitian meeting includes a complimentary 'healthy living kit' and \$10 of fresh produce
- Those with questions or who would like to enroll should contact Tim Getty at Heritage AAA

In its first few weeks, the program has 20 participants and more than 150 vouchers distributed. Five participants have enrolled in nutrition counseling.

Heritage is already doing outreach for the program in partnership with Wellington Heights Neighborhood Association, community churches and Cedar Rapids police. Ideas proposed by members included:

- Harambe House
- Willis Dady
- Catholic Worker House



Open Agenda

Barb stressed the importance of added new members to the group to help facilitate new ideas and maximize outreach. Harrison is scheduling visits to dining sites to talk about the Task Force and try to recruit new members.

Barb recommended a couple articles from the Sunday Gazette that may be of interest to members, one about someone's experience with benefits of volunteering.

Sallie asked if anyone knows of safe medication drop-off boxes discussed at the last meeting. Members have seen them at various Hy-Vee stores around town.

Adjournment

Barb motioned to adjourn the meeting, Sallie second. The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:35 a.m.

Next Meeting

Senior Center Group: Jan. 13, 2022, at 9 a.m.

Task Force meeting: Jan. 13, 2022, at 10 a.m.



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Linn County Task Force Meeting minutes
January 13, 2022

Present: Barb Young, Chris Shimon, John North, Judy Fries, Sandy Bruns
Staff: Harrison March

Chris Shimon called the meeting to order shortly after 10 a.m.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Barb Young motioned to approve all minutes as presented, Judy Fries second. Motion passed.

Heritage AAA Updates

Harrison reported the agency updates:

- Heritage has hired three staff in the past several weeks: Lauren in the nutrition program, Mandy in the elder rights program, and Shannon as an Options Counselor. Still hiring for a Program Assistant.
- Staff are going back to working remotely starting next week due to COVID trends in the area. Staff were working hybrid previously.
- As some have seen online, Encore Café could be returning to in-person dining as early as next month. Details will be shared as they come during the planning process.

Sandy Bruns and Judy shared updates from the Life Enrichment Center:

- Looking at a location in Lindale Mall, but still finalizing details like insurance. Some members are willing to front the cost of a few months' rent to get it going. Lindale Mall provides a known location, a bus route and many older adults on-site for the walking club.
- Would like to explore becoming a City of Cedar Rapids department for funding and staff support, but the possibility is still unknown. Hope to meet with the new mayor soon.
- Will put together a flyer to have on-site and share with the community to build awareness and support.

Member Recruitment

Harrison has not had success recruiting new members after a couple visits to dining sites, but would still like to make more time for visiting with those consumers and talking about the Task Force. He asked if there are other places the group would recommend to try to engage already active community members. Ideas included community events, mall walkers, church groups, coffee shops and clubs like bowling and knitting groups.

Barb asked Harrison to send a handout to all members so it can be distributed among their connections.

Interests for Upcoming Months

Judy suggested the group sit tight with current priorities until at least the spring, considering COVID trends. Chris agreed with this concern.

Barb added it might be nice to find ways to help older adults better understand using devices like their phones or tablets. If there won't be as much in-person programming in the coming weeks, education on virtual services will be helpful. Harrison will look for materials from AARP, and Barb added Humana may have some too.

Open Agenda



Sandy asked about any updates related to the Encore Express program in Cedar Rapids. Harrison noted the voucher program is still available to residents of Mound View, Wellington Heights and Oakhill Jackson and has seen good levels of participation so far. Most outreach has been focused on community meetings and at apartment buildings within the area. Sandy suggested getting information on the program to home health agencies as well.

Adjournment

Barb motioned to adjourn the meeting, Sandy second. The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:35 a.m.

Next Meeting

Harrison corrected the Next Meeting Date on the agenda. Next meeting is Thursday, Feb. 10, at 10 a.m.



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Linn County Task Force Meeting minutes
Feb. 10, 2022

Present: Barb Young, Chris Shimon, John North, Judy Fries, Sallie Streib, Sandy Bruns

Excused: Dora Lorenc

Staff: Harrison March

Chris Shimon called the meeting to order shortly after 10 a.m.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Barb Young motioned to approve all minutes as presented, John North second. Motion passed.

Heritage AAA & Community Updates

Harrison reported the agency updates:

- No major changes to services to report
- Becky Briggs, Encore Café Coordinator, has left Heritage. The agency is hiring for the vacant position overseeing Encore Café in Cedar Rapids/Marion

Life Enrichment Center

- Judy Fries reported representatives from the LEC met with the new Mayor and with city planners recently. Both meetings went well, had good discussion, and seemed receptive.
- The LEC group wants to keep moving forward no matter the results of ARPA funding applications that will be announced later this month.

Encore Updates

Harrison shared updates on the Café and Express programs:

- Café will reopen two days per week starting Feb. 16: Wednesdays and Thursdays at Lowe Park
- No major changes to the Café program, reservations, meals, etc.
- Other sites will be added back over time. St Marks UMC will be next, followed by the Marion Public Library upon completion of construction.
- Reopening of Café locations will mean the phasing out of Café vouchers that were offered in place of congregate dining.
- Express is going well and keeping the nutrition team very busy with high participation rates.
- The reopening of Café will not impact the Express program. These vouchers are still available.
- Tim Getty, Nutrition Coordinator, sends his appreciation for recommended outreach locations, which have led to several signups.

Recruitment Action Items for Spring

Chris recommended community centers, United Way and AARP as potential starting points for outreach, and Sandy added the Life Enrichment Center as an option when it opens. Barb also suggested older adult classes at YMCAs. Harrison will see about these outreach opportunities and contact members when they are scheduled. Sandy offered her assistance when she is available.

Barb would like to revise the handout to make it less intimidating. Current version implies that new members might already need to know about services, when reality is they can learn train and/or learn as they start. Sallie



asked if Barb can share materials being used in Mesa, which Barb will look for and send over. Other suggestions included inviting someone to come with you personally instead of just showing up, or offering a sort of buddy system so a new member has someone they know they can reach out to.

Sandy noted before Harrison's time the Task Force used to have more activities: bus trips, meal site visits, events, etc. to engage with each other and with the community. These are more welcome and inviting than just meetings, a feeling that all agreed with.

Lastly, conversation focused on print advertising and resources like a newsletter. Harrison noted that talks with one company ended recently, but Heritage still wants to get a newsletter going and available around the region. Members recommended TidBits as a good place to reach older adults when advertising dollars are available.

Open Agenda

Chris: legislation related to strengthening punishments for elder abuse (SF 522) remains alive at the Iowa House. It faces fewer barriers to passage this year since it cleared some hurdles last session, though that also means this is the last year of the 'two-year window' for passage. He feels this legislation is "a long time coming" and encouraged members to support it.

Adjournment

Barb motioned to adjourn, Sallie second. Meeting adjourned at approximately 11 a.m.

Next Meeting

March 10, 2022, at 10 a.m.



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Linn County Task Force Meeting minutes
March 10, 2022

Present: Barb Young, John North, Judy Fries, Dora Lorenc
Staff: Harrison March

Review of Meeting Minutes

No changes proposed to the meeting minutes. Vote tabled due to lack of quorum at the time.

Heritage AAA & Community Updates

Harrison reported the agency updates:

- Services are nearly back to pre-pandemic status, save for walk-in assistance and a couple dining sites.
- Encore Café at Lowe Park had a successful reopening. St Marks will open later this month, with the Marion Library timeline dependent on construction. Heritage is still hiring for the Encore Café Coordinator position.

Task Force Roster Update

Chris Shimon, current Chair and longtime volunteer, called to resign his position earlier this week due to scheduling conflicts with his work hours. The Chair position now open, Harrison encouraged members to consider who they may like as a replacement.

Life Enrichment Center Report

Judy provided the Life Enrichment Center report:

- Mission Statement, By Laws and Articles of Incorporation are all set, and paperwork is submitted to obtain an Employer Identification Number and obtain non-profit status.
- Recent meetings with the city went well. Mayor and city staff were receptive to ideas and engaged in the discussion. They recommended some to-do items as things get going, and may support starting up by helping with printing or newsletters. Details are to-be-determined. The city is also interested in monitoring progress and how it may apply to a future multi-generational center.
- LEC is looking at using a cart at the mall due to cost savings and the storefront space being on the small side. They are interested in mirroring what's done in Des Moines, with a main location and offering satellite spaces/programming in different communities via churches, rec centers, etc.
- LEC group is working on a brochure and a survey regarding programming/activities.
- Members are welcome to attend a meeting or join the group, as well as apply for the Board of Directors.
- Next meeting is a March 22 tour at Kenwood Methodist Church.

Feedback included:

- Dora said her church may be willing to host activities on the northwest side. A location for each quadrant would be a good goal.
- Barb said the multi-generational center in Mesa, AZ, works great and provides a lot of nice resources.

Mission Engagement/Activity Ideas

Harrison referred back to discussion in the last meeting regarding more activities, outings, etc. that occurred years prior. Members expressed interest in bringing these back, so Harrison opened the floor for ideas:



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Area Agency on Aging

- Judy said Heritage used to have a committee that planned visits and tours at different senior centers, dining sites and long-term care facilities during Older Americans Month. Members of the public were invited to attend the tour and join for coffee or a meal afterward.
- Events around topics of confusion/interest could be planned: Elderly Waiver, VA services, estate planning and other legal topics. John added these events and outings also led to more socialization opportunities. Related to this and earlier conversation, Barb added that the multi-generational center in Mesa has a volunteer attorney available a few hours per week at no cost.
- Harrison asked if the group would be interested in attending Encore Café on a meeting date. With some interest, he will send out a message to gauge interest.

Open Agenda

Barb reported that the state legislature is looking at closing loopholes for some of the welfare programs intended for low-income consumers, such as SNAP. Under current eligibility guidelines, there are workarounds for people with high-value stocks, assets, funds, etc. to enroll even though they don't necessarily need the program.

Harrison added that Senate File 522 related to criminal penalties for elder abuse passed out of subcommittee last week. This was considered by the Older lowans Legislature to be one of the biggest hurdles remaining. Members are encouraged to advocate for its passage by contacting their Representatives.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:50 a.m.

Next Meeting

April 14, 2022, at 10 a.m. Harrison noted he may be out on parental leave, but if so the meeting will be covered by another Heritage staff member.



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Linn County Task Force Meeting minutes
April 14, 2022

Present: Judy Fries, John North, Dora Lorenc, Barb Young, Sallie Streib, Sandy Bruns
Staff: Harrison March

Review of Meeting Minutes

Barb Young motioned to approve minutes as presented, Judy Fries second. Motion passed.

Heritage AAA & Community Updates

Harrison reported the agency updates:

- Denise Babcock recently started at Heritage in a role supporting the nutrition and elder rights teams
- Encore Express remains very busy and the reopening of two Café locations has gone well. One day at Encore Café in Marion last week had more than 50 diners.
- Senate File 522 regarding criminal penalties for elder abuse passed both chambers. Gov. Reynolds has indicated intent to sign this bill into law, but a date is TBD.

Life Enrichment Center Report

Judy provided the Life Enrichment Center report:

- ARPA grant application was awarded \$32,000 over 4 years. First use will be to get a cart at Lindale Mall to start engaging with seniors, promoting activities at satellite locations and conduct surveys about community preferences for the center.
- Judy and Sandy hope the LEC can sign a contract with the mall in the next couple of months.
- Officers elected: Kay Fisk, President; Tom Moore, Vice-President; Judy Fries, Secretary; Beverly Johnson, Treasurer.

Elections

Harrison reviewed the status of Task Force officers and Advisory Council Representatives for the upcoming Fiscal Year beginning July 1. Elections will take place during the May meeting, so quorum is important. If anyone is unable to attend, they are encouraged to notify Harrison beforehand to arrange an electronic ballot.

Activity/Event Planning

Harrison reviewed the materials Judy shared from past Older Americans Month committees. While pulling this all together at this stage is not practical, he asked members what goals they'd like to set for the coming year to work back toward this kind of event planning and engaging with the community. Members agreed first priority is adding members to widen the perspectives, ideas and resources. Suggestions included:

- Workshops or educational events regarding financial assistance and Medicaid programs
- Try to recruit volunteers at markets: Cedar Rapids, Marion, Noelridge and Hiawatha
- Harrison to refresh the old recruitment flyer Judy provided so it can be used again

Open Agenda

No items presented

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:35 a.m. Next meeting is May 12, 2022, at 10 a.m.



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Linn County Task Force Meeting minutes
May 12, 2022

Present: Sandy Bruns, Barb Young, Angela Harbour, Sallie Streib
Staff: Harrison March

Review of Meeting Minutes

No corrections noted at this time. Vote to approve tabled due to no quorum.

Heritage AAA & Community Updates

Harrison reported the agency updates:

- Encore Café participation numbers average around 50/day in Marion and 25/day at St Mark's. Heritage will do some limited, targeted marketing to try to increase participation at St Mark's, but overall numbers are great since reopening.
- Brownstone Lunch Club at Horizons has reopened downtown.
- Heritage is hiring a Health Coach for a new service as part of Iowa Return to Community. The Health Coach will assist those transitioning out of hospital or skilled nursing care and back to their homes. An RN or LPN is preferred, but not required.

Angela Harbour, ASAC:

- ASAC is gathering more data regarding seclusion and tobacco use during the pandemic, seeing an increased use in tobacco products. Quit Line provides lowans with 1:1 support creating and carrying out their plan to quit tobacco product usage: 1-800-QUITNOW (784-8669)

Life Enrichment Center Report

Sandy Bruns provided the Life Enrichment Center report:

- Meeting next week to discuss specifics about committees and their roles
- ARPA funding awarded to help pay for a cart at Lindale Mall. In the process now of gathering information to pass out, an LEC brochure and a questionnaire. Hope to open late June/early July.
- LEC is open to hosting volunteers to use the booth as an outreach opportunity.
- Sandy will share volunteer orientation info with Harrison to pass along to the group.

Elections

Vote will be held via electronic ballot. Nominations included:

- Barb Young asked if Sandy would be willing to Chair, but due to other commitments and a focus on family health concerns she declined at this time.
- Sallie Streib nominated Nancy Lee Siebenmann, which others supported. Harrison will call her to confirm interest before sending out a ballot.
- Sallie nominated Kay Fisk and Dora Lorenc to return as Advisory Council Representatives, which all present supported.

Outreach

Harrison reviewed the flyer for the Linn County caregivers' seminar in June, as well as an updated volunteer recruitment brochure. Conversation about outreach at farmers' markets included:



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging

- Noelridge Market would be happy to host the Task Force. Harrison will send some dates to Sandy to meet at the market.
- Barb recommended Hiawatha as well. Harrison hasn't heard back from them yet.
- Harrison did not get positive feedback regarding past efforts at the downtown market. The event was well-run, but just didn't lead to enough outreach opportunities with seniors for the time/work required.

Sallie also suggested contacting the friends of the Cedar Rapids library about their book sales, which are now restarting after the pandemic.

Open Agenda

No items presented

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:45 a.m. Next meeting is June 9, 2022, at 10 a.m.



Heritage
Area Agency on Aging
Linn County Task Force Meeting minutes
June 9, 2022

Present: Barb Young, John North, Judy Fries

Staff: Harrison March

Review of Meeting Minutes

Judy Fries corrected May's attendance, which mistakenly omitted her. Vote tabled due to no quorum.

Heritage AAA & Community Updates

Harrison reported the agency updates:

- Heritage's caregiver seminar took place Friday with nearly 50 attendees between in-person and Zoom.
- Interviews are ongoing for the Return to Community Program, which Heritage hopes to start up by July.
- Farmers' market checks are expected to arrive within the next week after a delay with printing.
- Barb asked if the office is open yet, as she's looking forward to picking up some brochures soon. The office is only open by appointment at this time, but if Barb is in the area she's welcome to try the doorbell to get assistance.

Life Enrichment Center Report

Judy provided the Life Enrichment Center report:

- Meetings are occurring 1-2 times per month and an open-to-the-public meeting is being planned.
- Cart at Lindale Mall is lined up with the first day to access it on July 18. This will not be the 'opening' day, as some set up will be required. Brochures from Heritage and other local resources are being gathered for distribution. Harrison said he's involved with a workgroup that might create a LifeLong Links brochure this summer, which he will share when finished.

Meeting Schedule FY 2023

Members present agreed to repeat the schedule from previous years: second Thursday at 10 a.m., skipping July and January. Harrison will send a master schedule to all members.

Noelridge Market Dates

The Hiawatha market declined to host a Heritage booth at this time, so focus will be on the Noelridge market for the time being. Noelridge's market is every Wednesday from 3:30 – 5:30 p.m. Barb suggested checking dates with Sandy Bruns, as she lives nearby and has offered help at this market in the past. Harrison will confirm a few dates with Sandy before offering them to the whole group for more involvement.

Open Agenda

Harrison reported that Barb Young was voted Chair of the Task Force for the new Fiscal Year starting in July. Barb said she's anxious to get back from Arizona and pick up brochures to share about Heritage services and the Task Force.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at approximately 10:20 a.m. Next meeting is August 11, 2022, at 10 a.m.