



OAK PARK TOWNSHIP SENIOR SERVICES

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**SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES
FOR OAK PARK AND RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIPS
Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at 7pm (virtual)**

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet, or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/546328413>

You can also dial in using your phone.

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Access Code: 546-328-413

The purpose of the Committee includes promotion and outreach, strategic planning, evaluation, special projects, and recruitment of committee members. Committee members bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to Senior Services for the benefit of our residents and provide programmatic recommendations to our Board of Trustees.

CALL TO ORDER

The monthly meeting of the Senior Services Committee of Oak Park and River Forest Townships was held on Wednesday, April 20, 2022, and called to order by Chairperson Ruth Reko at 7:04 PM.

Present: Oak Park Committee: Valerie Lester, Joan Greene, Pat Koko, Joy Aaronson, Drew Roskos.

Absent: Oak Park: Tim Thomas-Trustee Liaison.

Present: River Forest Committee: Ruth Reko, Margaret Rudnik, Jean Buckley, Jim Flanagan, Lydia Manning

Absent: River Forest: Carolyn Foster, Micah Hibler.

Also Present: Pamela Mahn, Director for Senior Services of Oak Park & River Forest Townships; Yazmin Morales, Information & Assistance Specialist; Betsy Burton-Kelley, Senior Outreach Coordinator for River Forest Township.

INTRODUCTIONS

All the attendees had the opportunity to say their names and share their Birthday month.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The committee reviewed the minutes from March 16, 2022, meeting. Joy Aaronson moved to approve the minutes. Val Lester seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

RFT LIAISON'S REPORT

Betsy Burton-Kelley, Senior Outreach Coordinator for River Forest Township presented the report:

- Coffee Monday was held and the Senior Services Transportation department was in attendance answering different questions regarding the different transportation options.
- Betsy organized the upcoming Coffee Mondays through August 2022.
- Betsy continues to work on the activities for Celebrating Senior Week.
- Housing Forum on May 14th, Betsy asked to please help sharing the information.
- Circle of Friends continues, as newcomers are being introduced to other Circle of Friends individuals.
- Betsy continues to Send out Monthly River Forest Township emails as well as weekly Community Connect emails. About 400 extra names were provided to be added to this distribution list.
- Betsy and Carla met with representatives from the Village as they had some questions regarding the Home Sharing pilot project.
- Betsy worked on the annual report

OPT LIAISON'S REPORT

Pamela Mahn, Director for Senior Services of Oak Park & River Forest Townships presented the report.

- The Annual Town meeting was held on April 12th.
 - The Township annual report was shared as well as the Home Repair program updates. Home Repair program has reached over 100 people in the community and over 147 repair jobs have been completed.
 - The Youth services department and the Mental Health board provided their updates for the year as well.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Pamela Mahn, Director for Senior Services of Oak Park & River Forest Townships presented the report.

- Pam is waiting on the final notification from AgeOptions after the monitoring session, the exit interview went well.
- Work continues to apply for the Long-Term Care Ombudsman program designation for Oak Park and River Forest. Pam met with the Evanston Long-Term Care Ombudsman, as they have their own community program and can provide context and best practice information. program. The award notification will be in July 2022.

- The Township will be applying for the designation as Adult Protective Services agency again.
- Supervisors are working on employee annual performance reviews for staff.
- Val and Pam will be providing a presentation to Arbor West Neighbors at the end of the month.
- The final flyer for the Blood Drive will be provided to the Committee, the event will be on May 13th. Upon approval, the plan will be to offer this event every other month.
- Nutrition Program Manager, Laura Valcour is seeking volunteer assistance - a flier will be provided with more information.
- The Township is awaiting feedback from the AARP community challenge grant submission.
- Interviews continue for filling the open Care Coordinator position. A Case Aide Position will be created to help the Case Coordination team in their transition to six month visits.
- Ruth provided an overview of the 19th Century Club Dementia Panel participated in with Devin Andrews, Caregiver Specialist.
- Pam talked about the High School Gerontology Education Curriculum initiative. Last week Sandy Pastore, former Nutrition Program Manager at the Township and Paula Basta, Director of Illinois Department of Aging, they presented on the High School Gerontology Curriculum program at the ASA Conference.
- The Cook County Sheriff's Department helped delivered Shelf Stable meal boxes.
- Please watch for information about the upcoming rebranding events at the beginning of June.

SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES

Celebrating Seniors

Celebrating Seniors Week will be May 12th- 19th, details can be found at www.celebratingseniors.net. There are about 26 nominees for Seniors over 60, please send names as soon as possible for the nominations.

AARP Grant

Drew Roskos reported that the AARP Community Challenge Grant proposal was submitted to create a mural on the north side wall of the Senior Center building. The grant recipient will be presented in June/July.

Library

Joan and Carolyn met with Rose Barnes at the Oak Park Library. Two different emails are now going out to the community. Information was provided/shared to help spread the word of the different senior events occurring.

OTHER BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Pat shared, The Women in Business, an organization in Oak Park and River Forest Chamber of Commerce are collecting menstrual and diapers products at the Oak Park Refrigerator located by the Carnival Grocery.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Senior Committee is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, May 18, 2022, at 7:00pm.

ADJOURMENT

Ruth Reko adjourned the meeting at 7:49 PM.