



OAK PARK TOWNSHIP SENIOR SERVICES

130 SOUTH OAK PARK AVENUE, OAK PARK, ILLINOIS 60302

SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR OAK PARK AND RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIPS

CALL TO ORDER

The monthly meeting of the Senior Services Committee of Oak Park and River Forest Townships was held on Wednesday June 24, 2020 and called to order by Chairperson Ruth Reko at 7:05 PM.

Present Oak Park Committee: Pat Koko; Michelle Thomas, Joy Aaronson, Valerie Lester

Absent Oak Park Committee: Lydia Manning; Kenneth Blair; Barb Bodner; Ade Onayemi, Trustee Liaison

Present River Forest Committee: Jean Buckley; Ruth Reko; Micah Hibler; Margaret Rudnik; Karen Taubman, Trustee Liaison; Betsy Kelly, Senior Outreach Coordinator

Absent River Forest: Ann O'Connell; Jim Flanagan; Sally Gibbs; Carla Sloan, River Forest Township Supervisor;

Also Present: Pamela Mahn, Director for Senior Services of Oak Park & River Forest Townships

INTRODUCTIONS

Brief introductions were made by the group.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

Minutes from the May meeting were approved pending corrections regarding members present being made to the minutes.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

OPT LIAISON'S REPORT

Trustee Ade Onayemi was absent, so no OPT Liaison's Report was presented.

RFT LIAISON'S REPORT

Karen Taubman, River Forest Trustee Liaison presented the report.

- River Forest Township had their monthly board meeting last night and approved the new budget.
- The Youth Interventionist Program was also approved.
- The annual town meeting was delayed until possibly August.
- Office upgrades are in process.
- River Forest Township is working with the library on fall programming.

Supervisor

Clarmarie I. Keenan

Clerk

Gregory P. White

Assessor

Ali ElSaffar

Trustees

Eric E. Davis

Michelle Mbekeani-Wiley

Ade Onayemi

Margaret Trybus

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DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Mahn presented the following:

- The Oak Park Township board meeting was last night.
- The Board is reviewing new and updated policies such as working remotely, bereavement time off, and vacation carryover.
- The Township has developed a task force to work on safely reopen buildings to the public. Various sub-committees are looking at different areas of the workplace such as: safety, mental health resources, personnel policies, and program modifications due to COVID-19.
- Pam stated she very proud of the Senior Services team for navigating through this time and continuing to provide excellent service to the community
- The Township has continually provided services during the time our building has been closed to the public such as: Memory Café, well-being checks, care coordination, answering phones, distribution and delivery of meals, transportation; and virtual caregiver support among others
- The summer newsletter will be sent out in July with a modified format that summarizes all our current services.
- During our office closure due to COVID-19, staff has migrated our Outlook email and are now running Microsoft Office 365.
- The nutrition team is discussing procedures to safely distribute the annual Farmers Market Coupons.
- Staff is safely returning to the office for limited time with the use of an electronic social distancing calendar. Some staff have been reallocated to perform other tasks, such as well-being calls.
- Nutrition staff are distributing about 400 meals per week which is well above the normal average of 220-260 weekly meals.
- Senior Services was awarded a \$9,800 APS grant from IDOA and a \$25,000 CCU program grant for the purpose of upgrading our technology in compliance with state requirements.
- Promotion of the census is ongoing thru flyers, our website, robocalls, and on our well-being calls.
- The new CCU Supervisor is training and beginning work with the Care Coordinators.
- Referrals for the Top Box program, funded through AgeOptions, are underway. The program is working well with recipients identified as needing more meal assistance.
- IDOA provided us with emergency funds for items like cleaning supplies, personal protective equipment (PPE), urgent need for food and other requests. Callers speak

with our intake department to determine funding eligibility.

- Special thanks to in-home care provider agencies, such as Addus Homecare, who have continued to provide home care services to our participants and to send workers with PPE for our participants and the in-home care workers.
- Senior Services normally has an in-person event recognizing our volunteers. We have developed a lawn sign thank you campaign for our approximately 100 volunteers.
- We are applying for a grant through the OPRF Community Foundation to bring technology to the Great Neighbors, Memory Café, and Foster Grandparents programs.

SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES

Celebrating Seniors Sub-Committee

- Several seniors were assisted with the Celebrating Seniors assistance fund.
- There will be additional copies of the newspaper with the listing of those celebrated this year.
- Special Celebrating Seniors masks are also available as an additional gift for these honorees. Cathaleen Roach has delivered to River Forest residents. Val and Betsy offered to deliver these gifts in the Oak Park area.
- September 26th is the Celebrating Seniors fundraiser date for making donuts at the Farmers Market. There will be a sign-up sheet on the celebratingseniors.net website.

Great Neighbors

Margi reported that a few people are still “meeting” via Zoom and the program recently received referrals from the Township. Matching participants with volunteers at Belmont Village is on hold for now.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

OTHER BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pat also reported that there will be no Book Fair this summer - it was going to be a 50th anniversary of the book fair.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Senior Committee of Oak Park and River Forest Townships will be held on Wednesday, August 19, 2020 at 7:00pm.

ADJOURNMENT

Ruth Reko adjourned the meeting at 8:00 pm.