

Minutes are provided for informational purposes only. The official record can be obtained from the County Clerk's office. All minutes are unofficial until approved. Minutes are generally approved at the following meeting

**MINUTES
Pierce County Council on Aging
February 24, 2005**

- Call to Order** President Jim Hanson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
- Roll Call** Members present were: Paul Barkla, Charlotte Bowen, Jim Hanson, Patti Ingli, Una Kannel, Myrna Larrabee, Lorraine Olson and Leroy Peterson. Eugene Kittilson was excused. John Howard, Diane Rhein and Herbert Tschumperlin were absent.
- Office on Aging staff Kathy Hass and Jane White were present.
- Staff Present** Newly appointed member to the Council, Charlotte Bowen was introduced.
- New Council Member** Minutes from the November 29, 2004 meeting were mailed to the Council members for their review. Leroy Peterson made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Una Kannel. **Motion carried.**
- Minutes** Kathy Hass reviewed the Office on Aging annual financial and program report for 2004. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.
- Annual Report** Jane reported that 489 persons from Pierce County are enrolled in the SeniorCare Program, Wisconsin's Prescription Drug Program for the Elderly, and that the total amount of \$71,127,294 has been paid to date by the state for prescription drugs. SeniorCare program will be available through 2005. Jane explained the Medicare Part D prescription drug program and how it will affect people 65 years of age and older. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.
- Legal Services Report** Jim Hanson commented that there will be the 2005 CWAG 28th Annual Convention to be held in Madison on May 10th – May 12th, at the Inn on the Park Hotel & Conference Center. Theme is "Invest in Independence" which speaks to the desire in all of us to remain as independent as possible throughout our lifespan.
- Jim Hanson did not have a report at this time.
- CWAG Report** Jane White shared information on the Senior Americans Day to be held on March 22nd in Eau Claire. 40+ workshops will be available to attendees. 55 Alive will be at the Bay City Senior Center on April 12th and April 14th from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Kathy Hass reported that an additional \$10,000.00 funding for the Benefit Specialist

AAA Report

Program will be received and is to be devoted in assisting Medicare beneficiaries with issues related to the new Medicare Part D drug benefit and reporting requirements. The funds are from a grant that is suppose to help beneficiaries on prescription drug issues and choices. The funds will be available for 18 months, from April 2005 through September 2006. This is a one-time funding and not a continuing appropriation. Each county has been allocated money for the 18 month period. Allocations were based on 70% of the amount by the county's share of the SeniorCare caseload and 30% by the county's share of the age 65 and over population.

**Additional
Funding Report**

The next meeting of this committee will be April 25, 2005.

Paul Barkla made a motion to adjourn and Lorraine Olson made a second to the motion.

Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane White

Next Meeting**Adjournment**

MINUTES
Pierce County Council on Aging
April 25, 2005

Call to Order

President Jim Hanson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Roll Call

Members present were: Charlotte Bowen, Mary Jane Grebner, Jim Hanson, John Howard, Una Kannel, Eugene Kittilson, Myrna Larrabee, Leroy Peterson and Herbert Tschumperlin. Paul Barkla, Patti Ingli and Diane Rhein were excused.

Office on Aging staff Kathy Hass and Jane White were present. A guest, Edith Hanson, was in attendance.

Staff & Guest Present

Newly appointed members to the Council, Mary Jane Grebner and Eugene Kittilson were introduced.

New Council Member

Minutes from the February 24, 2005, meeting were mailed to the Council members for their review. Eugene Kittilson made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by John Howard. **Motion carried.**

Minutes

Kathy Hass reviewed the Office on Aging 2005 Financial and Program report through March 2005. Kathy explained the programs that are available to people 60 years of age and older. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.

Financial & Program Report

The meal site report was distributed and Kathy Hass requested that the members post it at their meal sites.

Meal Site Report

Jane reported that 487 persons from Pierce County are enrolled in the SeniorCare Program, Wisconsin's Prescription Drug Program for the Elderly, and that the total amount of \$124,612,497 has been paid to date by the state for prescription drugs. SeniorCare program will be available through 2005. Jane explained the Medicare Part D

Legal Services Report

prescription drug program that will start January 1, 2006, and how it will affect people 65 years of age and older. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.

Kathy Hass reported that applications are now being accepted for the Accounting Assistant position until May 10, 2005. The position is part-time 20 hrs/week, Monday through Friday from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Office Staff Report

Kathy Hass reported that the first Nutrition Advisory Council met to discuss recommendations regarding food preference of participants, menu suggestions and dining center furnishings. Meetings will be held quarterly at one of the seven nutrition meal sites.

Nutrition Advisory Council Report

Jim Hanson commented that there will be the 2005 CWAG 28th Annual Convention to be held in Madison on May 10th – May 12th, at the Inn on the Park Hotel & Conference Center. Theme is “Invest in Independence” which speaks to the desire in all of us to remain as independent as possible throughout our life span.

CWAG Report

Jim Hanson did not have a report at this time. Kathy Hass reported that the SAMS computer program report will be moving to the internet. SAMS is the Social Assistance Management System that is used for reporting client information and the services they receive.

AAA Report

Kathy Hass reported that an additional \$10,000.00 funding for the Benefit Specialist Program will be received and is to be devoted in assisting Medicare beneficiaries with issues related to the new Medicare Part D drug benefit and reporting requirements. The funds are from a grant that is suppose to help beneficiaries on prescription drug issues and choices. The funds will be available for 18 months, from April 2005 through September 2006. This is a one-time funding and not a continuing appropriation. Each county has been allocated money for the 18 month period. Allocations were based on 70% of the amount by the county's share of the SeniorCare caseload and 30% by the county's share of the age 65 and over population.

Additional Funding Report

Kathy Hass and Jim Hanson briefly explained the 2005/2007 State

Budget – Elderly and Disabled Priority Issues. Kathy drafted a letter to Representative Kitty Rhoades encouraging her to support what was proposed in the 2005/2007 State Budget. Discussion and comments from Council members followed. Eugene Kittilson made a motion to approve the letter and to send it, seconded by Myrna Larrabee. **Motion carried.**

The next meeting of this committee will be June 27, 2005.

Una Kannel made a motion to adjourn and John Howard made a second to the motion. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted, Jane White

Next Meeting

Adjournment

MINUTES
Pierce County Council on Aging
July 25, 2005

Call to Order

President Jim Hanson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Roll Call

Members present were: Charlotte Bowen, Mary Jane Grebner, Jim Hanson, John Howard, Patti Ingli, Una Kannel, Eugene Kittilson, Leroy Peterson and Herbert Tschumperlin. Paul Barkla, Myrna Larrabee and Diane Rhein were excused.

Office on Aging staff Kathy Hass and Jane White were present. Two guests were in attendance, Edith Hanson, and from Comfort Keepers – Comforting Solutions for In-Home Care, Linda Shurden.

Staff & Guests Present

Linda Shurden presented to the Council the MD.2 Personal Medication System that provides automatic, accurate and monitored physical dispensing of scheduled medications – right at home. The cost for the system is \$75.00 for installation and \$74.99 for monthly rental payment. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.

**Guest Speaker –
Comfort Keepers**

Minutes from the April 25, 2005, meeting were mailed to the Council members for their review. Eugene Kittilson made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Herbert Tschumperlin. **Motion carried.**

Minutes

Kathy Hass reviewed the Office on Aging 2005 Financial and Program report through June 2005. Discussion and comments from the Council members followed. Kathy explained that some programs may run out of funds before the end of the year, but may be able to reallocate funds from another program if needed. We will also use the donations that are received for that program.

**Financial & Program
Report**

The meal site report was distributed and Kathy Hass requested that the members post it at their meal sites.

Jane reported that 486 persons from Pierce County are enrolled in the SeniorCare Program, Wisconsin's Prescription Drug Program for the Elderly, and that the total amount of \$157,694,420 has been paid to date by the state for prescription drugs. SeniorCare program will be available through 2006. Jane explained the Medicare Part D prescription drug program that will start January 1, 2006, and how it will affect people 65 years of age and older. Jane

Meal Site Report

also explained the extra help that a person may be able to receive depending on their income and assets and the outreach presentations that she has been presenting to the Pierce County senior citizens. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.

Legal Services Report

Kathy Hass reported that the Accounting Assistant position has been filled. Luann Kirby started on May 31, 2005, and works part-time at 20 hrs/week, Monday through Friday from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Kathy Hass reported that a special council for Nutrition Advisory does not need to be formed as long as the Council On Aging is willing to continue doing it, but that a second agenda will need to be provided for the Nutrition Advisory Report. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.

Betty Gunderson was unavailable to report on the Coalition of Wisconsin Aging Groups (CWAG) Legislative update and the Madison Rally.

Office Staff Report

Jim Hanson did not have a report at this time.

Jim Hanson reported that he attended a 2-day meeting in Baraboo. They discussed the Medicare Part D Prescription Drug Program and Caremark Prescription Drugs Plan, Chronic Disease – Everyone Has It, Tips for Becoming a Better Board Member, and a Social Security Representative was available to report on privatizing Social Security. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.

Nutrition Advisory Council Report

Kathy Hass reported that the percent of the county's 65+ population grew between 1990 and 2000 only by 1.5%. But projected growth by the year 2020 will be 85.7% and 169% by the year 2030. Pierce County is one of the top ten fastest growing counties for order populations, ranking #3 behind St. Croix and Menominee Counties. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.

CWAG Report

The next meeting of this committee will be September 26, 2005.

AAA Report

Eugene Kittilson made a motion to adjourn and Charlotte Bowen made a second to the motion. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Jane White

**Population Projections
Report**

Next Meeting

Adjournment

MINUTES
Pierce County Council on Aging
September 26, 2005

- Call to Order** President Jim Hanson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
- Roll Call** Members present were: Charlotte Bowen, Mary Jane Grebner, Jim Hanson, Una Kannel, Myrna Larrabee, Leroy Peterson and Herbert Tschumperlin. Paul Barkla, John Howard, Patti Inqli, Eugene Kittilson, and Diane Rhein were excused.
- Staff & Guests Present** Office on Aging staff Kathy Hass and Jane White were present. A guest, Edith Hanson, was in attendance.
- Minutes** Minutes from the July 25, 2005 meeting were mailed to the Council members for their review. Myrna Larrabee made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Una Kannel. **Motion carried.**
- Financial & Program Report** Kathy Hass reviewed the Office on Aging 2005 Financial and Program report through September 23, 2005. Discussion and comments from the Council members followed.
- Meal Site Report** The meal site report was distributed and Kathy Hass requested that the members post it at their meal sites.
- Legal Services Report** Jane reported that she is still waiting to hear if the SeniorCare Program will continue through 2006 and into 2007 or if it will be discontinued. If the SeniorCare Program continues, will the coverage be considered “creditable” so that an individual will not incur the 1% penalty if they deny Medicare Part D Program now and then enroll at a later date. Jane explained the Medicare Part D Program will start January 1, 2006, and that people can start enrolling in a Medicare Part D plan as early as November 15, 2005. Last day to enroll in the Medicare Part D plan without incurring a penalty is May 15, 2006. Jane also explained the extra help that a person may be able to receive depending on their income and assets. Jane has completed the first round of outreach presentations to the Pierce County senior citizens and will be focusing more with the one-on-one consulting with the senior citizens during the open enrollment months. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.
- AAA Report** Jim Hanson reported that it is illegal for a Medicare Part D plan to advertise

before October 1, 2005. If they do, the CWAG Elder Law Center should be informed.

AgeAdvantAge Report

Volunteer drivers will receive a State mileage reimbursement increase from .405 to .485 starting September 1, 2005.

Review of Council Members Terms

Diane Rhein, AgeAdvantAge Representative was not available to give a report.

Kathy Hass reported that President, Jim Hanson's second 3-year term will expire at the end of 2005 and cannot be re-elected. Myrna Larrabee, Vice President, and Una Kannel's first 3-year term will expire at the end of 2005, but they may be re-elected. Kathy mentioned that the term limits state that members cannot serve more than two 3-year terms. Election of new Council members will be held at the next meeting on December 19, 2005.

2006 Budget & 85.21 Transportation Grant

Kathy Hass reviewed the 2006 budget being submitted to the county board for approval, and the 85.21 Transportation grant. The county portion of the budget is \$157,250 and represents an increase from 2005 of \$3,310, and it includes the required 85.21 match. The total state and federal budget is \$264,928 and represents an increase from 2005 in the amount of \$3,777. The change is a result of the additional funding received for the 85.21 Transportation Program and the Medicare Part D Program, and the decrease in the Congregate Meal Program. Kathy also reviewed the changes to the 2003-2006 Plan and Budget, and New Goals and Objectives for 2006.

Kathy Hass reported that the percent of the county's 65+ population grew between 1990 and 2000 by 1.5%. But projected growth by the year 2020 will be 85.7% and 169% by the year 2030. Pierce County is one of the top ten fastest growing counties for order populations, ranking #3 behind St. Croix and Menominee Counties. Discussion and comments from Council members followed.

Next Meeting

Myrna Larrabee made a motion to approve the 85.21 Transportation grant and the 2006 Plan and Budget for the Pierce County Office On Aging, seconded by Leroy Peterson. **Motion carried with all in favor.**

Adjournment

The next meeting of this committee will be December 19, 2005.

Herbert Tschumperlin made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Una Kannel. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,
Jane White

MINUTES
Pierce County Council on Aging
December 20, 2005

- Call to Order President Jim Hanson called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.
- Roll Call Members present were: Charlotte Bowen, Mary Jane Grebner, Jim Hansen, Patti Ingli, Una Kannel, Eugene Kittilson, Myrna Larrabee, Leroy Peterson and Herbert Tschumperlin. Paul Barkla, John Howard and Jane White were excused.
- Staff & Guests Office On Aging staff Kathy Hass was present. Three guests were in attendance: Elizabeth Delong, Edith Hanson, and from AgeAdvantAge, Diane Rhein.
- Minutes Minutes from the September 26, 2005, meeting were mailed to the Council Members for their review. Eugene Kittilson made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Una Kannel. **Motion carried.**
- Financial &
Program Report Kathy Hass reviewed the Office on Aging 2005 Financial and Program report through November of 2005. It was noted that when all bills are paid for 2005, Kathy will make a projection on how carryover funds will help with the budget cuts for the years 2006 and 2007.
- Meal Site Report The meal site report was distributed and Kathy Hass requested that the members post it at their meal sites.
- Legal Service Report Jane White could not attend this meeting. Kathy Hass reported that Jane is very busy with Medicare Part D Information presentations and appointments. Kathy also reported that everyone is very pleased with the help that Jane has given to them.
- AAA Report Jim Hanson reported that the last AAA meeting in Baraboo dealt with budgets, and they also were informed about the availability of the Yaktrax walker. Each Aging Unit will be allocated 10 Yaktrax walkers, a slip prevention device that goes over shoes or boots to help prevent slips or falls on snow or ice. Kathy had samples for the Council Members to look at.

Most sport stores carry the Yaktrax for a cost of about \$20.00.

AgeAdvantAge Report

Dianne Rhein, Age AdvantAge Representative, thanked Council Members for all the great work they do. Diane went on to explain about the Long Term Care Reform initiative that is going on all over the State. Requests for Information and proposals are being completed by public or private groups that have ideas on how to reform Long Term Support to reduce costs for clients on Medicare. The State has Federal funds to be used in the study of reforming how Long Term Care is provided in Wisconsin. Part of the reform process will also include the development of Aging and Disability Resource Centers. Discussion and comments from Council members followed on this topic.

Dianne also informed the Council Members about upcoming meetings and the Aging Summit to be held May 19, 2006, in Eau Claire. The theme this year will be about "Choice" and making Nursing Homes more sensitive to the wishes and desires of the residents. Brochures will be available at a later date. Dianne also alerted everyone to a Public TV broadcast on January 31, 2005, called "Almost Home". This video will also be made available for future Council on Aging meetings.

Dianne also informed the Council Members about Pierce County's initiative to be a host site for the national AIRS test which certifies staff for the provision of information and referral services. This test will be held on April 6, 2005, at 1:00 p.m. Dianne has agreed to proctor the test and hold this certification herself.

Other Business

Discussion was held on the closing of the Maiden Rock meal site. Kathy Hass shared the "Open Letter to Maiden Rock Residents" that was mailed out in August of 2005 in a last attempt to increase participation in the meal program. The results were not good and participation remained at 5 to 10 participants on most serving days. Many reasons were discussed for the drop in participation, including participants moving out of the area and many deaths. The Maiden Rock area borders Lake Pepin and has become very attractive to younger and higher income residents. For those reasons as well as budget cuts, it was decided to close the Maiden Rock meal site and invite those participants to attend the meal sites at either Plum City or Bay City. Both are approximately 8 miles from Maiden Rock. Eugene Kittilson made a motion to close the Maiden Rock meal site, seconded by Leroy Peterson.
Motion carried with all in favor.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of this committee will be held on February 21, 2006.

Adjournment

Eugene Kittilson made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Herbert Tschumperlin. **Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Hass