

**MINUTES
NUTRITION ADVISORY COUNCIL
THURSDAY, AUGUST 27, 2009
PUBLIC AGENCY CENTER ROOM 1113 A**

THOSE PRESENT: Phyllis Laabs-Darkow, Joan Gindt, Sue Hafert, Betty Hallen, Evelyn Thiemer, Carol Bennett, Rudy Tonz, Ruth Miskinis, Emily Ryan, Kristen Hosking

ALSO PRESENT: Linda Olson - ADRC Director, Jen Fechter – ADRC Elderly Benefit Specialist

CALLED TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Chairperson Rudy Tonz.

NOTICE OF POSTING

Notice of Posting given by Chairperson Tonz.

APPROVAL OF JUNE 25, 2009 MINUTES

Motion Sue Hafert; second Carol Bennett to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2009 meeting.
Motion Carried.

ELDERLY BENEFIT SPECIALIST UPDATE – JEN FECHTER

Jen Fechter reported to the Council that SeniorCare has been extended for the next three years, through December, 2012. She reminded the Council that SeniorCare is the Wisconsin prescription drug plan that offers coverage to any Wisconsin senior that is 65 years or older. There is an enrollment fee of \$30 per person and there are three levels of program participation. Jen provided a sheet explaining SeniorCare and an enrollment form to all Council members.

Jen also discussed the Medicare Part D program. She explained that the ADRC staff will be available to help run drug plans for Medicare Part D. ADRC staff will be out in the community—at all meal sites and some apartment complexes. Seniors should call the ADRC for an appointment.

Sue Hafert inquired about the need to sign yourself up for the program. Jen stated that this is what occurs: the ADRC staff member will provide you with the 3 best drug plan choices and then you pick which plan you want and you sign yourself up for the program. Open enrollment is November 15-December 31. Jen reminded the Council members that they need to check their plans because costs will be different in 2010.

ADVOCACY INFORMATION

Kristen Hosking reported that the National Council on Aging (NCOA) is encouraging people to contact their Senators and encourage them to support and co-sponsor the “Empowered at Home Act, S. 3327”. The Empowered at Home Act is designed to improve the ability of states to provide Medicaid home and community based care services that enable seniors and younger adults with disabilities to live in their own homes while receiving the services and support they need.

CONGREGATE AND HOME DELIVERED MEAL SURVEYS

Kristen reported that the Senior Dining Congregate participants are currently being surveyed and the Home Delivered participant surveys will go out next month. Surveys have been coming back and the vast majority of them have been positive. Kristen will provide a tally of the survey results at the next Council meeting.

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS

Linda Olson presented the Emergency Preparedness Aging Plan to the Council and stated that the ADRC is working with Emergency Government to develop a special needs shelter. Linda also stated that increased awareness for a personal plan and an emergency kit is needed.

Linda asked the Council how they prefer to receive their news and what is the best way to get information to seniors. Council members stated they get the majority of the information from local radio stations, word of mouth and the local newspaper.

Kristen Hosking presented an idea that Ozaukee County has done, which includes providing information and a sampling of emergency kit supplies in a recycled bag. Information could then be included on how to complete the emergency kit, and how to make a personal plan.

Linda also mentioned that the ADRC will continue to support caregiver activities and will work on streamlining transportation between counties for the same fare.

DESIGNATION OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Kristen asked the Council if the next meeting date of October 22 meeting date could be changed, as she has a Nutrition director’s conference in Stevens Point on that day. The Council members agreed that the meeting date would be moved to Thursday, October 15 at 1:00.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion Rudy Tonz; second Emily Ryan to adjourn the meeting. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned at 2:17 p.m.