



# OAK PARK TOWNSHIP SENIOR SERVICES

130 SOUTH OAK PARK AVENUE, OAK PARK, ILLINOIS 60302

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*Clerk*

Gregory P. White

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## **Senior Services of Oak Park and River Forest Townships** **Committee Meeting**

### **Notice and Agenda**

**Wednesday, March 18, 2015 @ 7:00 p.m.**  
**130 S. Oak Park Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room**

- ❖ Call to Order
- ❖ Approval of Minutes
- ❖ Public Comments
- ❖ Liaison's Report
- ❖ Director's Report
- ❖ Celebrating Seniors Coalition Report
- ❖ Other Business and Announcements
- ❖ Adjournment



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## SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR OAK PARK AND RIVER FOREST TOWNSHIPS

### CALL TO ORDER

The quarterly meeting of the Senior Services Committee of Oak Park and River Forest Townships was held on Wednesday, November 19, 2014 and called to order at 7:15 p.m.

*Present Oak Park Committee: Barbara Coats; Patricia Koko; Dr. Kenneth Blair; Dr. Lydia Manning; Mary Marling; Ade Onayemi, Trustee Liaison*

*Absent Oak Park Committee: Sandra Rowe*

*Present River Forest Committee: James Flanagan; Dr. Katherine Walsh; Carol Cox; Chris Hauri; Jean Buckley; Linda Ryan; Carla Sloan, River Forest Township Supervisor*

*Absent River Forest:*

*Also Present: Desiree Scully-Simpkins, Director for Senior Services of Oak Park & River Forest Townships; Pamela Mahn, Assistant to the Director for Senior Services of Oak Park & River Forest Townships.*

### INTRODUCTIONS

None.

### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the September 17, 2014 meeting. Patricia Koko moved to approve the minutes. Dr. Kenneth Blair seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

### PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairperson Flanagan wished Chris Hauri a happy birthday on behalf of the committee.

### RFT LIAISON'S REPORT

Supervisor Sloan reported the following:

- The Impact group has formed a board of directors. They recently held a parent café at Roosevelt Middle School last week.
- Thank you to Senior Services intern Gretchen Powell for the creation of the flyer on local educational, cultural and recreational opportunities available to Oak Park and River Forest residents. The final electronic version of the brochure will be emailed to the committee members and senior services for reference and distribution.
- The Senior Health Series is ongoing and includes information on Medicare, hearing issues, stroke, and arthritis & joint replacement.

September 17, 2014

- Director Scully-Simpkins and Supervisor Sloan met with the board of a local River Forest condominium building regarding “Naturally Occurring Retirement Communities” (NORC). At the meeting they explained that the Township delivers many of the services available in NORC’s and they’re able to make referrals to other services not already being provided by the Township. They will do additional outreach with more buildings. Supervisor Sloan is seeing an increase in the number of call for seniors requesting services.
- Supervisor Sloan attended a CADCA anti-drug coalition training focused on organizing a coalition on underage drinking and drug abuse.
- The Youth Services Committee has begun the process for their new funding cycle. Mentoring has become a focal point including emphasis on one on one and small group sustained relationships. There may be opportunities for senior citizen volunteers to participate.

### **OPT LIAISON’S REPORT**

Trustee Onayemi reported the following:

- The Oak Park Town Board met last night and discussed mentoring for next year. They are focused on knowing the needs and reasons behind the services provided by the Township. The focus will be to get the greatest bang for our buck in maintaining the programs and services we provide while adding value to the quality of life for our residents.
- Trustee Onayemi is a representative on IGOV to look at where money can be saved in the provision of services knowing that people in Oak Park want the best service, and will pay for it, but they want a good value.
- The Village of Oak Park is now including Oak Park Township information and information from other taxing bodies in their newsletter.
- The Oak Park Area Arts Council is working with Oak Park Township to put artwork created by senior citizens in public buildings in addition to managing the artwork in the Township buildings.

### **DIRECTOR’S REPORT**

The Director’s reports were included in the committee packets e-mailed to members. The committee discussed the reports. Director Scully-Simpkins reported the following:

- The Illinois Township Association of Senior Citizens Services Committees sponsored two educational sessions at the Township Officials of Illinois conference this month including “Four Steps to Creating a Successful Senior Center” and how the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) laws may affect the patrons and employees of a senior center site.
- December 7, 2014 is the deadline for Medicare Part D open enrollment.
- On November 18 Senior Services took part in National Memory Screening day.
- Dr. Lydia Manning presented the results of the recently completed Lifelong Learning and Continuing Education Survey. The results and survey will be provided to the committee via email after the meeting.
- We are still navigating the process of working with the MCO’s and still providing necessary services to our residents. The intention of the MCO transition was to be holistic, but the case managers handling participant cases don’t understand the local services available. We will provide local services if they are auxiliary services. If the service is paid through Medicaid, the MCO has to authorize the service. The case management team is working to make sure there are no participants that fall through the cracks. There are currently seven Blue Cross and Blue Shield participants being served.

## **SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES**

### **Celebrating Seniors Sub-Committee**

- The first 2015 Celebrating Seniors meeting was held yesterday.
- Chairperson Flanagan met with an attorney regarding the intellectual property of the Celebrating Seniors coalition being stolen.
- The fifth year of the Celebrating Seniors week will focus on fun including programs like:
  - Calling All Collectors
  - Speed Meeting – Meeting those of like-minded integrity, intelligence & values.
  - Tea and Senior Safety at Todd Holland Tea - a joint program between River Forest and Forest Park
  -

### **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

### **OTHER BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rotary Club and Brookdale Plaza are hosting Festival of Trees again this year beginning November 22, 2014. Committee member Patricia Koko will have a vendor booth at the festival. Oak Park and River Forest Townships sponsored the purchase and decoration of a tree for auction at the festival.

Director Scully-Simpkins spoke with representatives from the Village of Oak Park regarding the availability of community development block grant (CDBG) funds for someone to administer the Age Friendly Communities project. The Village will be looking at their options for allocation of CDBG funds in the near future. Committee member Chris Hauri expressed interest in being a part of that project.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Senior Committee will be held on Wednesday, March 18, 2015 at 7:00 pm at the Senior Services facility, 130 S. Oak Park Avenue.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Chairperson Flanagan adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Director's Report  
November & December 2014  
January & February 2015  
Oak Park & River Forest Townships Senior Services

**Case Management:**

The Case Management Supervisors (Shawn Lewis & Bianca Ingwersen) conducted the following presentations:

An overview of Case Management and Adult Protective Services for Concordia University Sociology students.

Who are the mandated reporters? A presentation to the Accolades staff on Adult Protective Services.

Bianca Ingwersen presented on a panel at West Suburban Hospital on "Keeping Seniors Safe for the Holidays".

The Case Management Staff attended the following educational courses:

Supervisor Shawn Lewis attended the Illinois Council of Care Coordination Units in Springfield.

Heidi Jasien attended training on "Assisting Crime Victims with Disabilities". She also attended training on "Trauma Informed Services for Elders with Abuse Histories".

Nancy Hickey, Jennifer Fryer, Kimberly Gerian and Shawn Lewis attended the Governor's Conference on Aging & Disability.

Jaimie Perez and Shawn Lewis attended the Coordinated Care Alliance sponsored Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Illinois training for managed care case management.

Jaimie Perez and Maggie Hettman attended Phase II APS (Adult Protective Services) training in Chicago.

Shawn Lewis attended the Legislative Breakfast that was held at Aging Care Connections.

There are 866 open case management cases.

There are 11 open CCA (Coordinated Care Alliance) cases with a total of 17.

There are 5 open APS (Adult Protective Services) cases.

**Transportation:**

All of the new Pace fleet were delivered to Oak Park Township Senior Services. We received four new 11 passenger busses that are in full operation.

**Nutrition Program:**

On February 23, 2015, I submitted three RFPs for Nutrition to AgeOptions for funding. The Grants will cover FY2016-2019 and support the Congregate Lunch Program, the Dine Out Program and the Home Delivered Meals Program.

Director's Report  
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Part of the RFP for the Congregate site included a proposal to serve lunch until 1:00 p.m. This will allow for some new people to enjoy a nutritious lunch and some new programming provided White Crane Wellness Center which is contracted with AgeOptions to provide evidence based programming at the nutrition sites. Also, Celeste Duignan, Lunch Program Manager and Dr. Lydia Manning, Senior Committee Member and Professor at Concordia University attended a Great Books training and plan on using the Nutrition site for a Great Books-Book Club meeting.

**Caregiver Resource Center:**

Oak Park Township and Comfort Keepers of Wood Dale presented, "Valentine's Day Poetry from the Heart" on February 13, 2015 at the River Forest Community Center. Caregivers and recipients were given the opportunity to recite poetry or listen.

**The Benefit Access Program:**

Starting January 2015, renewal applications must be filed for any senior that applied for the "Free Ride Permit" and/or license plate discount in 2013. The application is completed online and Dana Ferdinand can assist in completing the application at the 130 S. Oak Park Avenue Senior Services site. This application must be processed in order to assure that their benefits will continue uninterrupted.

**Celebrating Seniors Coalition:**

Jim Flanagan, Celebrating Seniors Coalition Chairperson held the first Celebrating Seniors Coalition meeting on December 4, 2014. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Coalition. Celebrating Seniors week will be May 14<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup>, 2015.

**Township Officials of Illinois Conference:**

Carla Sloan was nominated as Supervisor of the Year at the TOI Conference in November, 2014. Her nomination was in recognition of her grass-root efforts to educate residents about Township services.

Supervisor Sloan supported the slogan, "Let's Celebrate Seniors All Year Long" and put her slogan into practice by supporting computer classes at the River Forest Library, creating an educational program series focusing on inner bravery and strength in addition to fitness and healthy cooking.

Supervisor Sloan testified to the House Counties and Township Committee in Springfield on the importance of Township Government.