



OAK PARK TOWNSHIP SENIOR SERVICES

130 SOUTH OAK PARK AVENUE, OAK PARK, ILLINOIS 60302

Supervisor

F. David Boulanger

Clerk

Gregory P. White

Assessor

Ali ElSaffar

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Senior Services of Oak Park and River Forest Townships
Committee Meeting
Notice and Agenda

Wednesday, October 19, 2016 @ 7:00 p.m.

Oak Park Township Senior Services

130 S. Oak Park Avenue, Oak Park

The meeting will be held on the 1st Floor

***There will be a new member orientation at 6:30 pm.**

- ❖ Call to Order
- ❖ Approval of Minutes
- ❖ Public Comments
- ❖ Liaison's Report
- ❖ Director's Report
- ❖ Celebrating Seniors Coalition Report
- ❖ Discussion on ideas for a new Committee project
- ❖ 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, March 16, 2016, and called to order at 7:07 p.m.

Present Oak Park Committee: Dr. Lydia Manning; Patricia Koko; Dr. Kenneth Blair; Mary Marling; Sandra Rowe; Phyllis Russell; Sandra Rowe and Mary Cozzens, Trustee Liaison.

Absent Oak Park Committee: Barbara Bodner; Mary Marling

Present River Forest Committee: James Flanagan; Carol Cox; Jean Buckley; Chris Hauri; Sally Gibbs; Carla Sloan, River Forest Township Supervisor; Cathaleen Roach, River Forest Township Senior Outreach Coordinator.

Absent River Forest: Dr. Katherine Walsh; Linda Ryan

Also Present: Desiree Scully-Simpkins, Director for Senior Services of Oak Park & River Forest Townships

INTRODUCTIONS

There were no introductions.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The Committee reviewed the minutes from the November 18, 2015 meeting. Carol Cox moved to approve the minutes. Dr. Ken Blair seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

RFT LIAISON'S REPORT

Supervisor Carla Sloan provided the River Forest Liaison's Report:

- Supervisor Sloan reported that September 21, 2016 will be Township Day. She participated in a webinar provided by the Townships of Illinois. They presented a tool kit. River Forest and Oak Park Townships will work together to coordinate something special for Township Day.
- River Forest Township has been working with the Center for Gerontology at Concordia University to provide a Caregiver Support Group to working caregivers. The Center for Gerontology has been piloting this with employees from the University that are caregivers. They are now ready to open it up to River Forest residents.

- The River Forest Township in coordination with the River Forest library will host author Tyra Manning as she speaks about her book, “Where the Water Meets the Sand”.
- Supervisor Sloan stated she is very pleased with the large turn- out for the Sib-Shops.
- There is a SAMHSA underage drinking grant which provides funds to address and create a road map for all entities that were identified in the White Paper.
- Cathaleen Roach, River Forest Township Outreach Coordinator reported the following:
 - River Forest Township has been successful in collaborating with the River Forest library for speaker presentations.
 - Coffee Mondays has been very successful.
 - The ICE vial of life project with the River Forest Fire Department has been very positive and successful.

OPT LIAISON’S REPORT

Trustee Mary Cozzens reported the following:

There was the Third Annual Intergovernmental Assembly. There were numerous topics of interest. Oak Park residents feel “taxed-out” and feel that there needs to be more collaboration.

There was talk of debt and Bond issues. There was an explanation of the demographic changes that have taken place since 1970 and onward. There was talk of population trends and diversity and affordable housing.

All of the governing bodies were at this meeting together. They discussed the collaborations that were currently happening such as: Supporting the Youth Interventionist Program; Technology and Information; the possibility of a feasibility study for a community center.

Trustee Cozzens then stated that all of the Departments will present their Budget summaries to the Board. On Tuesday, April 12, 2016 there will be an Annual meeting.

The Board of Trustees is working on an Ethics and Conflict of Interest policy.

Trustee James Taglia addressed the issue that there is a lifesaving Opiate antidote that the Oak Park Police do not currently carry with them on duty. Trustee Taglia and the Board of Trustees wrote a letter to the Village of Oak Park supporting the Opiate antidote to be carried by Oak Park Police.

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 CRP-Community Reinvestment Program that was mentioned in the last meeting is still on hold due to a lack of the State of Illinois budget.
- The Food Pantry Pilot project has been very successful. They are planning to increase the number of recipients to 25.

• **SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES**

Celebrating Seniors Sub-Committee

- Jim Flanagan, Chair of the Celebrating Coalition reported the following:
- So far there are 47 programs
- There will be a Battle of the Bands
- We plan on having Pet Pals in the Park
- Jim Flanagan, Dr. Lydia Manning and Pat Koko will be presenting in Washington DC at the American Society on Aging Conference. They will be sharing the Celebrating Seniors Toolkit.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

OTHER BUSINESS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairperson, Jim Flanagan talked to the Committee about the possibility of doing some type of Age Friendly Accreditation. This would be a coordinated effort with Seniors Services, OPRF Chamber of Commerce, Dominican and Concordia Universities, West Cook YMCA, and local Hospitals.

There would be protocol developed to evaluate things like, parking, sound, lighting, safe zones, trip and fall hazards, colors used to paint rooms, etc. There would be a certification process which would include the latest research. This would be done to promote an age-friendly community.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Senior Committee will be held on Wednesday, June 15, 2016 at 7:00 pm at Oak Park Township Seniors Services, located at 130 S. Oak Park Avenue, Oak Park, IL.

ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairperson Blair adjourned the meeting at 7:58 p.m.

Director's Report
September 2016
Oak Park & River Forest Townships Senior Services

Case Management:

We have two new case managers. Vivian Holt, MSW is both Adult Protective Services and Comprehensive Care Coordination certified through the Illinois Department on Aging. Vivian was hired to fill the full-time position at Senior Services. Vivian has a history of working with the Chicago Department on Aging and the North Shore Senior Center. In addition Senior Services had a vacancy for a part-time case manager. That position has been filled by Abigail Weidhuner, MSW. Prior to her position at Oak Park Township, Abigail completed an internship at Aging Care Connections in LaGrange. We are very pleased to welcome both ladies to the Senior Services Case management team.

AgeOptions One Time Funding Opportunities:

I am pleased to announce that AgeOptions awarded Senior Services the following one time Grants:

1. \$3,437.89 for the purchase of a Camtherm. Due to our large volume of meals we were in need of an additional warming oven.
2. \$2,000.00 for C2 (Home Delivered Meals) outreach Grant. This Grant entails working with a consultant to conduct outreach efforts to the MCO's.
3. \$2,000.00 for C1 (Congregate Meals) to provide outreach for Dine Out which includes the purchase of an ad for Dine Out participants and a separate ad for recruiting restaurants to participate in the program. We will also offer a Zumba Gold class for 16 weeks. The class instructor's time and the ad have both been purchased with the one-time money.

Transportation:

We welcome three new employees to the Transportation Program.

Charles Barnes, our new Transportation Coordinator came to Oak Park Township Senior Services with over 20 years of experience in the transportation industry. Most recently he was a terminal manager for a trucking company who was responsible for transporting goods to Whole Foods retail stores.

We would also like to welcome our two new drivers. They are Jacqueline Hayes and Terry Woodard. Both Jacqueline and Terry have been approved by Pace and fully authorized to operate in service at Oak Park Township.

CMHB RFP:

On October 7, 2016 the RFP will be submitted to the Community Mental Health Board of Oak Park Township for the continuation of Geriatric Case Management services. The Grant submittal amount is \$48,000.

UIC Collaboration:

Dr. Anders Kottorp from the Department of Occupational Therapy at UIC contacted Oak Park Township Seniors Services about the idea of working together on a pilot project.

Director's Report
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The overall aim of this pilot project is to generate new generic knowledge of the conditions for using and managing everyday technology (ET), e.g. telephones, computers, electronic household equipment, in older adults living and ageing with or without functional limitations in Chicago.

Dr.Kottorp received his Grant to pursue his pilot project and plans on presenting at the Congregate lunch program in order to recruit seniors interested in participating in his project. Each participant will receive \$40.00 from UIC for their completed service on this project.

St. Augustine:

Jose Feliciano, a BSW student will begin his internship at Oak Park Township Senior Services starting in January 2017. Jose is bilingual and is excited about gaining extensive knowledge in the aging network.

Intergenerational Project:

Alcuin Montessori School students will be working under the direction of a senior who is teaching them how to crochet blanket type mats out of garbage bags for the homeless.

Oak Park and River Forest Townships Senior Services Committee

Please consider the following options for discussion:

1. The idea of "The Villages" has been brought to the Senior Committee. Is there a need or a project for the Committee to be involved in as the "Villages" goes forward?
2. The AARP liveable communities study has been brought to the Committee. Are Oak Park and River Forest considered senior friendly communities? Is this something that the Committee wants to explore?
3. Are we meeting the needs of our two communities with the current transportation services that are offered? Do we need to explore an additional Pace mini-van to include rides to surrounding Hospitals such as Gottlieb, Rush, McNeil, Loyola and Westlake? Is a survey needed?
4. Advocacy-does the Committee want to pursue a role in the political arena as far as advocating for Older Americans and the services that are provided to them?
5. Do you have any other thoughts or ideas to bring forth for discussion?
6. Consideration for making the Senior Committee a fundraising arm by becoming a 501C3. This would enable us to raise funds for certain activities.