



Aitkin County Health & Human Services

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AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2019

Committee Members Present:

- Carole Holten**
- Cindy Chuhanic**
- Joel Hoppe**
- Joy Janzen**
- Kari Paulsen**
- Kevin Insley**
- Kristine Layne**
- Lori Chenevert**
- Penny Olson**
- Terri Mathis**

Commissioner Mark Wedel
Commissioner Laurie Westerlund

Guests:

- Shawn Speed, Scribe**
- Robert Marcum**

Absent:

- Cynthia Bennett**
- Joell Miranda**
- Steve Teff**

I. Call to Order

A. Carole called to order the regular meeting of the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Advisory Committee at 3:00 pm on November 6, 2019 at Aitkin County Health & Human Services in the large conference room.

II. Approval of November 6, 2019 Agenda

A. Joel moved to approve the agenda, Cindy seconded, all members voting yes to approve the agenda.

III. Approval of minutes from September 4, 2019 meeting

A. Laurie moved to approve the minutes as written, Lori seconded, all members voting yes to approve the September 4, 2019 minutes.

IV. Committee Member Input/Updates

- A. Kari mentioned that the Salvation Army is, once again, looking for volunteer bell ringers for the kettles. They will be starting up on November 15 and ringing until December 23. They will be at Paulbeck's County Market in Aitkin and at Ukura's Big Dollar in McGregor. Last year they raised \$16,700 and of that they were able to keep 88%, or about \$14,696, to use to serve families in Aitkin County. They have 272 hours available total for bell ringers in Aitkin and so far they already have about 28% of those hours filled. Along with this she handed out fliers for the members to hang up in various locations around the county.
- B. Joy mentioned that the Lions did a blood drive at St. John's Lutheran Church November 4-5 and that they had quite the turnout. They had 79 people come during just those two days. The next blood drive is going to be April 27-28. She also mentioned that Aitkin County is the number one county in the state for donations.
- C. Joy also talked about Operation Christmas coming up and that the Lions were gearing up for that with starting to take requests from people via phone the first week of December.
- D. Kari stated that she had received the ok from the Aitkin School District to host another career fair there sometime next September or October.
- E. Carole informed the committee that ANGELS had to let their director go due to their struggling finances and that their office manager has assumed the roles he had.

V. Workgroup Update

- A. There were no updates from the workgroup although Lori had asked if anyone had any more information to pass onto her for people the members had talked to about Suicide Prevention and there were none.

VI. Member Terms Discussion

- A. Shawn went over who was coming up on their term expiring along with who was on their last year of membership.
- B. We have two members who are coming to the end of their third terms with us and that is Joy Janzen and Kristine Layne who will be done in December.
- C. Up for renewal next year are Kari Paulsen, Carole Holten, and Steven Teff.
- D. We will need to try to find people to fill the seats being vacated by Joy and Kristine, along with filling our 3 other open seats, 1 from District 1 and 2 from District 3.
- E. Shawn gave out paper applications to members who thought they might know someone who would be interested and will be emailing the three members, whose terms are up, new applications to fill out.

VII. 2020 Topics for Discussion

- A. The members now turned their attention to what they would like to learn more about and be presented in the coming year.
- B. Carole suggested a more in depth review of foster care costs and why it costs what it does to have a child in foster care when they are at one of the facilities.
- C. Carole also wondered about more information why we have people in places such as St. Peter and Anoka and why we are responsible to pay for them.
 - 1. Mark commented that he had inquired with Cynthia on that same subject and that her and her staff were looking into the different cost levels and why they are so high for each different facility.
- D. Penny suggested getting informed on becoming a guardian and what being one entails.
 - 1. Commissioner Westerlund suggested getting Tami Jo Johnson from the DAC to come and present to the committee about it.
 - 2. Terri said she could possibly get Kristen Parendo from the NE Legal Aid Service to come present about it also.
- E. Joy suggested that possibly the committee could get a tour of the new building during one of the next couple of meetings.

VIII. Review 2020 Meeting Dates

- A. We went over the meeting dates for 2020 and there were no issues discussed.

IX. Comments

- A. Feedback from the HHS Board Meeting – Carole
 - 1. Minutes of that meeting are attached.
- B. Committee Members scheduled to attend upcoming HHS Board meetings in 2019:

November 26	Terri	Joy
December 17	Terri	Cindy

X. Adjournment

- A. The meeting was adjourned at 3:48pm.
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Carole Holton, Chairperson

Shawn Speed, Clerk to the ACH&HS Advisory Board

The following documents were included in the packet of information sent to the members for review prior to the meeting or distributed at the meeting:

- Copy of the agenda for the September 4, 2019 meeting.
- Copy of the minutes from the August 7, 2019 meeting.
- Copy of the August 27, 2019 H&HS Board meeting minutes.