

**BARRY COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING
BOARD MEETING
Meeting Minutes
August 15, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 2 p.m. by Chairperson Jennifer DeWitt at the Commission on Aging building at 320 West Woodlawn Avenue, Hastings, Michigan.

- I. Roll Call was taken. The following members were present: Don Bowers, Mike Callton, Betsy Colgan, Terry Dennison, Jennifer DeWitt, Sheryl Lewis Blake, Carrie McCormick, Sager (Junior) Miller, Charlotte Mohler, Sally Shuster Shoff, and Mike Snyder. Absent: Douglas Smendik, and Dave Tossava. Also present: Executive Director Courtney Ziny, and Office Manager Susanne Huebner.
- II. Those present stood and said the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America.
- III. Motion by Lewis Blake to approve the agenda as presented. Support by Dennison. All ayes – motion carried.
- IV. Motion by Snyder to approve the minutes of June 21, 2023 as written. Support by Dennison. All ayes - motion carried.
- V. Motion by Shuster Shoff to approve minutes of July 13, 2023 as written. Support by McCormick. All ayes - motion carried.
- VI. Public Comment: None
- VII. COA Committees
 - a. Building Committee Report: Mike Snyder, Chair

The committee met with the architect, and the project is coming along well. The committee hopes that the plan will become available to the public at the next meeting. Square footage and cost determination are still out.

Callton asked if these were the conceptual plans. Ziny said yes.
- VIII. Correspondence

Ziny pointed out the special bond that often exists between home aides and their clients, shown by a recent text received by an aide.

Ziny noted that the Blue Zones Advisory Board has asked for a Letter of Support in regards to building a food center in Barry county.

Colgan asked about the Blue Zones. Lewis Blake provided information about Blue Zones and said that a grant was available for the development of food centers, but it would have to be very well written in order to be successful.

Mohler noted that community support letters are really important.

Motion by Shuster Shoff, supported by Colgan, to put Executive Director Courtney Ziny in charge of writing a support letter for Blue Zones on behalf of the Commission on Aging. All ayes - motion carried.

IX. Finance Report

Motion by Shuster Shoff, supported by Snyder, to approve the June 2023 QuickBooks Financial Reports as presented. Roll call vote taken: 11 ayes - 0 nays - motion carried.

X. Director's Report: Courtney Ziny, Executive Director

Ziny summarized her written report. Weekly Tuesday breakfasts during the month of August had a low interest and will be discontinued. Veterans Breakfasts will still take place. Dinners will be back to once a month or bi-monthly.

Adult Day Services had some personnel changes.

Day of Caring will be held on September 14th, and staff will be working on several projects in-house, as well as some off-site projects.

Ziny spoke about her recent community involvement and noted that she will be giving her annual department report to the Barry County Commissioners on August 22, 2023.

XI. Action Items

- a. Motion by Shuster Shoff, supported by Colgan, to approve purchase of Congregate supplies in the amount of up to \$13,000 - to be reimbursed by CareWell Services. Roll call vote taken: 11 ayes - 0 nays - motion carried.

XII. Informational Items

- a. Steering Committee Notice: Next meeting August 23, 2023 at Harvest Pointe
- b. Upcoming Events Flyers

c. Commissioner's Report: Commissioner Callton

Callton noted that the Board of Commissioners approved the county's new Master Plan, and noted the added section for alternative energy, with a five percent limit of commercial land use.

Gypsy moths are back in the county, and people should contact the Conservation District if they have issues with the moths.

XIII. Members Time

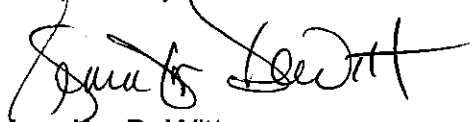
McCormick noted that she recently attended training with the Prosecutors Association for burnout and tools. She said she was going to the National Adult Protective Services conference in Boston at the end of the month.

XIV. Adjournment

Motion by Shuster Shoff, supported by Dennison, to adjourn the meeting. All ayes - motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer DeWitt,
Chairperson