

MINUTES
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (HHSAC)
Thursday, November 10, 2016
Itasca Resource Center / Room 122

Members Present:	Jim Sweeney	Lloyd Adams
	Angela Baratto	Dorothy Abrahamson
	Cherly Lemler	Dan Seward
	Connie Kittlesen	David Holmbeck
	Patricia Hoffman	Jan Kangas
	Chris Jenkins	Darlene Collins
	Jennifer Frimanslund	
Members Absent:	Kristi Kane	Jan Manary
	Penney Clements	Crystal Terveer-excused
Others Present:	Eric Villeneuve	Peggy Clayton
	Kelly Chandler	Maggie Rothstein

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Jan Kangas at 12:15 pm

Minutes of September 8, 2016

A motion was made by Lloyd Adams, and seconded by Jim Sweeney to approve the Minutes of the September 8, 2016 meeting. Motion carried.

Additions/Corrections to Agenda

Eric requested that the resignation of Peter Lavalier be placed on the agenda under the Director Report. A motion was made by Lloyd Adams, and seconded by Jim Sweeney to add the resignation of Peter Lavalier to the Agenda. Motion carried

Presenter at the November 22, 2016 County Board Meeting:

Dan Seward is the presenter at the November 22nd County Board Meeting.

Eric Villeneuve, Director:

Public Health Update:

Kelly provided an updated on the e-cigarette ordinance with regard to the Clean Indoor Air Act which went before the October County Board Work Session. The County Board had received a lot of communication in not moving forward with the ordinance banning e-cigarettes in areas where one is not allowed to smoke cigarettes. The County Board suggested that Public Health bring this language (for discussion) to cities within Itasca Count. Further discussion followed. Kelly will update the group when they bring it back before the County Board.

Community Health Board:

Kelly introduced Maggie Rothstein who is the new Public Health Planner for the Community Health Board. Maggie comes to the Community Health Board with in depth knowledge/experience in the health field.

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Itasca Health Fund:

Kelly discussed the Itasca Health Fund, which was established in 1998 with \$1M from the sale of the Itasca Medical Center. The money was placed in what is now called the Itasca Health Fund and was intended to address public health problems facing citizens of Itasca County. The Fund was set up with an application process to distribute to small community non-profits and organizations.

In 2016, \$20,000 in grants was awarded. This same amount will be awarded for 2017. A maximum amount of \$2500 could be received by an applicant meeting the criteria, if awarded funding.

Kelly handed out a list of agencies who applied in 2016 and the amounts of the mini-grants which were distributed, totaling \$20,000.

Kelly asked for volunteers (from the Advisory Committee) to form the subcommittee. The subcommittee will review the applications, recommend amounts to be funded, and bring forward those recommendations to the Advisory Committee, and the County Board for final approval. Once the County Board approves the funding, letters will be sent out to all who applied; whether they were awarded funds or were not awarded funds. Dorothy Abrahamson, Lloyd Adams, Connie Kittlesen, and Cheryl Lemler volunteered for the Itasca Health Fund Subcommittee. Kelly will meet with the group and set some tentative dates for application review, etc.

Resignation:

Eric reported that Peter Lavalier has submitted his resignation from the Advisory Committee due to time constraints and is unable to make the meetings. A motion was made by Jim Sweeney and seconded by Lloyd Adams to accept the resignation of Peter Lavalier. Motion carried.

Legislative Update:

Eric and Brett Skyles, County Administrator, attended the fall AMC session. The AMC policy committee priorities for 2017 were reviewed and the group voted on the top 5: 1) increased funding and formula adjustment for County Program Aid; 2) creation of a sustainable payment in lieu of taxes (PILT) funding mechanism; 3) requiring county investment to be considered in determining the fiscal impact of a bill; 4) mental health issues, creation of alternatives to jail for those in a mental health crisis; and 5) passage of a comprehensive transportation funding package that includes new revenue for roads, bridges, and transit.

There will be quite a bit of change in the House and Senate and Eric is hoping they can come together on issues regardless of what side they are on, to reach some compromises on all levels. Short discussion followed.

HHSAC Subcommittee Reports:

AMHAC:

Dan gave an overview of the Mental Health Advisory Council goals and objectives. The council raises awareness to the County about mental health issues and does a lot of networking with service providers.

Discussion on the council working with “Wellness in the Woods” and the possibility of holding a suicide prevention workshop, with a final outcome of pulling together a support group.

The council meets on the 1st Tuesday of every month at the Grand Rapids Library at 5:00 pm.

ICCOA:

Lloyd Adams gave an overview on the Committee on Aging, which is comprised of 13 senior clubs within Itasca County. Within those clubs there are also reps that make up TRIAD. The group meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month, January – November.

Lloyd is the District Coordinator for the AARP Tax Aide Program, which provides free taxes for low income, moderate income, and seniors. Lloyd reviewed some of the changes coming forth. In 2015, they saved taxpayers \$180,000+ and brought in over \$1M in refunds

If anyone is interested in helping AARP in tax preparation, please contact Lloyd at 218-259-1987.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Health and Human Services Advisory Committee the meeting was adjourned at 1:08 pm.