

**BAYFIELD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Conference Room A remote via phone access  
January 24, 2022  
3:00 p.m.**

**Committee Members Present:** Richard Kemmer in person, Karen Anderson-phone, Lynette Benzschawel-phone,

**Committee Member Absent:** Anna Hanson, David Zepczyk

**Staff Present:** Elizabeth Skulan, Carrie Linder, Carolyn Novak

**Call to Order and Introductions**

Kemmer called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m. and roll call was taken.

**Discussion and Possible Action-Review of the December 6, 2021, Meeting Minutes**

Motion by Benzschawel second by Anderson to approve the December 6, 2021, meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed.
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**Presentation: BayCo Door2Door Transportation Service**

- Pat Daoust of Bay Area Rural Transit (BART) presented the details of the new Bayco Door2Door service being offered. BART will be dispatching door-to-door van rides to residents of Bayfield County to other locations in Bayfield County, Ashland and Hayward.
- Daoust stated that he has one driver hired, but would like at least one more before starting the program. He has ads posted in multiple places and online employment services.
- He is prioritizing rides so that people can be on time for their appointments. Daoust will schedule other riders as time allows. He said that no rides will be cancelled after they are confirmed.
- Drivers are allowed to help people in and out of the van and can help people carry groceries from the van to the threshold of the rider's home. They can also assist people with mobility aids to access their destinations.
- Covid precautions will be followed, such as masking, use of hand sanitizer and distancing as much as possible. The van will be sanitized between riders.

**2022 work plan for the 2022-2024 Aging Plan**

- Advocacy – increasing self-advocacy goals of participants will involve a strategy of increasing the number of people who complete power of attorney for health care documents. The Elder Benefit Specialist will take the lead and coordinate and provide 3 presentations in 2022 throughout the county to help people understand and complete these documents.
- Transportation – marketing current transportation options and increasing the number of volunteer drivers for the TAP program will be the focus in 2022. An inventory of current options will be conducted first.
- Caregiver support – family caregivers can have high levels of stress as they try to negotiate the challenges of caregiving. Bayfield County Aging Services staff will work to connect caregivers with funding sources, existing services, and other resources to help caregivers manage their situations.
- Social isolation and loneliness – a public awareness campaign will be developed focusing on older peoples' loss of connectedness as they age.

- Nutrition program – In 2022, staff will open 3 new congregate meal sites to offer nutritious meals and social interaction in rural areas and divide 2 home delivered meal routes into 4 to decrease time meals spend in transit and to have capacity to add more people to the home delivered meal routes.

**Drawing for Door Prizes for Input Given on 2022-2024 Aging Plan.**

- People who participated in Aging Plan surveys were entered into a raffle. Names were drawn for 8 door prizes by Kemmer and Linder. Winners will be contacted and prizes distributed.

**Other (Program Updates and Informational Items)**

- Transportation – see Door2Door discussion
- ADRC updates – people are being discharged from hospitals still sick and without support services. Area nursing homes are not taking new residents and it is difficult to find in-home care providers because of lack of staff. At least, we can still set people up on home delivered meals.
- Aging Services – the biggest changes are coming with the meal programs and we will talk about that more in the next meeting.
- Staffing updates – a new HDM driver, Jon Berthel started orientation today and will be riding along with drivers starting tomorrow to learn the routes.
- COVID – is impacting staffing in the office and is delaying the opening of congregate meal sites.

**Adjournment**

Motion by Anderson, second by Benzschawel to adjourn meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 3:59 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Carolyn Novak