

ELDERLY AND DISABLED

ADVISORY COUNCIL

November 10, 2021

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

ATTENDANCE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GUESTS:

APPROVAL OF SEPTEMBER MINUTES

OLD BUSINESS:

- TBA
-

NEW BUSINESS

- TBA

STATUS REPORT & SERVICE REPORT– Ed Burger

PUBLIC COMMENT

MEMBER COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT

**ELDERLY & DISABLED
LOCAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 13TH, 2021**

THIS MEETING WAS HELD VIA ZOOM CONFERENCE BY SOME MEMBERS AND SOME ATTENDED THE MEETING AT THE VOCATIONAL INDEPENDENCE FACILITY ON VAN SLYKE IN FLINT, MI.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Rebecca Borka, Jessica Dail, Jeffery Lemieux, Pamela Reid, Dale Vincent, Lisa-Green Blades, Gina DeShong, Sharon Gregory, Paul Edwards, Renee McMann, Georgia Kitchen, Clara Blakely, and Brooke Gow.

MEMBERS EXCUSED ABSENCE: Robyn Johnston

MEMBERS ABSENT :

STAFF PRESENT: Ed Burger, Grace Musolf, and Marcie Massie

GUESTS: Chantale Napier

CALL TO ORDER: President Rebecca Borka called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Rebecca announced the return of member Shelley Basile's and the birth of a new baby girl, named Aubrey Lynn Basile. Rebecca also thanked MTA for equipping the LAC with a new laptop.

MINUTES: Rebecca Borka moved to approve the September minutes as written. Motion supported by Steven Lowe and supported by Rene McMann.

OLD BUSINESS

- Member comments, questions and answers on the elderly/disabled vacancy was discussed. Clara Blakely was welcomed to the council.
- Annual ballot vote was also noted on Old Business. Little discussion was made.

NEW BUSINESS

- ADA Certifications & Dialysis
 - Lisa Green-Blade has shared concerns about dialysis patients and ADA certifications. She explained how easy it is for clients to obtain the certification and she is concerned the system will be overrun.
 - As a solution, Gina DeShong stated that her Executive Director, Luke Zelle, is willing to do ADA certifications through the disability. Mr. Zelle submitted a proposal to MTA to offer this service. Ed Burger agreed to be in contact with the disability network.

- Importantly noted, the certification process will now include a mental health component as opposed to clients being evaluated solely off physical ability.
 - Rebeca Borka stated Ed Burger was supposed to be in touch with Lisa Green-Blade, however, no contact had been made. Ed Burger explained he was under the impression the contact had been made and stated he would facilitate the contact.
 - The council discussed concerns which included: Who will fund this? Who will do this? These are the next steps to be discussed.
- Repairs on Ramps
 - Rebecca Borka explained that many of the ramps in the vehicles are loud, loose, and squeaky. As a result, she requested service to be done on these ramps.
 - Ed Burger stated this is a common issue (re: noise) with few solutions and/or easy fixes. He explained their number one concern is function and noise cannot always be so easily controlled.
 - Ed Burger explained the vehicles and ramps are all well maintained and controlled and continually check on.
- Engagement with other LAC's in MI
 - Rebecca Borka explained she would like to communicate with other State of Michigan LAC groups.
 - Pamela Reid stated she is involved with Lapeer and Shiawassee County LAC's and would be able to facilitate the communication.
- LAC Advertising
 - Rebecca Borka stated she wanted to start advertising the LAC on Facebook to reach more people. She also mentioned reaching out to local news stations to educate the public.
 - Rebeca Borka stated that the LAC minutes and agenda should be posted on the MTA website, too. This can be facilitated through MTA employee, Harmony Lloyd.
 - Further, it was suggested the board have their name, status, affiliation, and photo put on the website. Georgia Kitchen requested to not have her information on the internet in any form due to security reasons.
 - It was suggested we move to an open-meeting system where the public is invited to participate. This would encourage the public and MTA users to join LAC meetings to discuss issues to accept compliments. This type of meeting would come with rules; 1) Visitors must notify the council ahead of time and provide their information, and 2) Visitors time to speak would be limited to 2-3 minutes. Rene McMann with VIP state they would accommodate these meetings.

STATUS REPORT-Ed Burger

- Ed Burger reported there were 30,262 passengers in the month of September

- ~12,000 are living with a disability
- ~9,000 used Rides to Wellness
- This is up 7% from last year.
- In the service department they have a new coordinator and driver.
- New vehicles are on order that are more adaptable for both the driver and the rider.
- The call center has been doubling their outputs and in turn have services more clients. To thank staff, Ed Burger hosted a luncheon for staff.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

- None at this time

MEMBER COMMENTS:

- Pamela Reid: VAAA has resumed in-person assessments but many staff continue to work remotely.
- Rene McMann: VIP has a pending grant for a large “Hoop House”.
- Brooke Gow: Family Service Agency have expanded their senior guardianship services.
- Rebecca Borka: Recently received a new visually impaired dog, Drew.
- Gina DeShong: The Disability Network is open for services.
- Paul Edwards: The Office of Senior Services is open to the public Monday-Friday from 8AM to 5PM.
- Shelley Basille: VSVP is slowly moving back to an in-person work structure.
- Tameka Duncan: GHS recently opened a behavioral health urgent care. It is located at 422 W. 4th Ave, Flint, MI. They can be contacted at 810-496-5500.

ADJOURNMENT

- **Meeting Adjourned at 11:31am**

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- **NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING: November 10, 2021**