



**Nutrition Advisory Council
Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2024**

Nutrition Advisory Council members convened virtually on Tuesday, January 23, 2024. Members and attendees joined the virtual meeting, which was hosted on Microsoft Teams by video conference and conference call.

Members Present:

Chair Cindy Van Vreede, Commissioner
Linda Demarais – Wilson Park
Dan Lagerman - Franklin
Glenn Mattison - MOW
Jeffrey Majchrzak – South Milwaukee
Jim Sampson – Mke LGBT
Douglas Tadeyeske - Kelly
Gloria Webster – Washington Park

Milwaukee County Staff:

Debra Horton, DHHS
Lorie O'Connor, DHHS
Gaylyn Reske, DHHS

Attendees from the Public:

Michelle Drouillard (Goodwill)
Sally Lindner (MOW)

MINUTES

I. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Sally Lindner welcomed the meeting attendees. The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. DHHS - Aging Unit, Gaylyn Reske, Senior Meal Coordinator, took roll call.

II. **REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE NUTRITION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 24, 2023**

MOTION: Approve the October 24, 2023, Nutrition Council minutes as written.

ACTION: Unanimously approved Moved Sampson, Second Van Vreede).

III. **DISCUSSION OF COMMISSION ON AGING BYLAWS AS IT RELATES TO NUTRITION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Here are a few highlights of the Aging Bylaws:

- ❖ There was a discussion on aging bylaws. It is at first, the Nutrition Council shall exercise its responsibilities within Milwaukee County and shall assist in evaluating, promoting, planning, and advocating for the Milwaukee County Area Agency on Aging senior nutrition programs and their participants.
- ❖ More than 50% regular participants in a Milwaukee County Senior Nutrition program. We are trying hard to have at least one program participants from each senior dining site and two participant representatives from the home delivered meal program.
- ❖ We would like our Council members to represent and speak on behalf of the nutrition participants and the program advocate on behalf of older adults within the Community members, governing agencies and policymakers assist in publicizing the nutrition program and outreach to potential new participants, make recommendations to the nutrition Director about food preferences of participants, make recommendations about location, days, and hours of dining center operations.
- ❖ The Nutrition Advisory Council will advise the Commission aging and the senior dining program director, on all matters relating to nutrition and

supportive services within the program area and all recommendations and suggestions will be in accordance with federal and state policies, and we will take into consider the nutrition budget.

- ❖ Join the meetings so this is kind of what the composition of the Nutrition Council is so more than 50% are older persons aged 60 years older, including minority individuals who are participants or who are eligible to participate in the programs.

IV. INFORMATION ITEM

DHHS - AGING UNIT, NUTRITION OUTREACH COORDINATOR: LORIE O'CONNOR - Outreach Updates

Lorie O'Connor shared with the group, that her role is to promote the program, invite seniors to join and ensure that people have access to information and resources that they need to participate.

- ❖ Just to give you an update about our call volume and the Senior Dining Office for the year of 2023, we had taken 2,636 calls from the seniors inquiring about the meal program, and what services are provided.
- ❖ Last year where we took almost 4,000 calls, but that was also the year where we did a major mail out promotion, including radio and TV spots that really generated all those extra calls prior to 2022, we were typically taking 1,500 phone calls a year. It was steady and then we had the big jump in 2022 and now, we are down a little bit, but still a significantly higher, almost 50% higher than previous years. It averages about 219 calls each month and you know it does fluctuate and vary based on what is happening with our program.
- ❖ Our Dine Out flyer is available now in both languages English and Spanish and we will be using that to promote our dine out restaurants.
- ❖ During the pandemic, we did get away from our traditional senior dining brochure that was used to promote what we offer to the public. It just was not time efficient or cost wise, to keep revamping that or revising it whenever there was a little minor change in our services or information that needed to be shared.
- ❖ We are looking at a new format that would bring, the brochure back but have a less costly way to revise it.

INFORMATION ITEM

**V. DHHS – AGING UNIT, SENIOR DINING PROGRAM COORDINATOR:
GAYLYN RESKE – Site Updates**

Gaylyn Reske gave a few site updates with the Nutrition Council. She shared with the group that we served about 43,000 meals per month. We served about 3,900 individuals and about 1,500 Meals on Wheels per day from Monday through Friday. We have 19 congregate dining sites and four Dine Out restaurants:

- *Rise and Grind Café serve breakfast on Monday morning from 8am to 10am.*
- *Orenda Café serve breakfast on Wednesday morning from 8am to 10am.*
- *Antigua Café serve lunch on Wednesday between 11 am and 1 pm.*
- *Daddy's Soul Food serve lunch on Thursday between 11am and 1 pm.*
- ❖ Gaylyn have been receiving calls about new restaurants that are interested in joining the Dine Out program. If you know of any restaurants or any restaurant owners. She is seeking minority owned women, and veteran owned restaurants that really offer a wide variety of food.
- ❖ Gaylyn is looking into an Asian restaurant on the northwest side. She had received a call and spoke to a restaurant owner near Northridge. She would love to have one in Oak Creek or South Milwaukee.
- ❖ There is a lot of interest in the meal program, and she is trying to expand throughout Milwaukee County. There are a lot of meal sites that are centrally located, but she would like to make sure that she is meeting the needs and the desires of seniors throughout the county.

➤ **ANNOUNCEMENT**

One of our caterers Aramark had lost the space that they were utilizing for providing the Congregate dining and Meals on Wheels program, and our other caterer who currently serves the Northside, has graciously agreed to take on the

whole Milwaukee County for the remainder of the year from April 1st through the end of December 2024.

She met with Aramark and Davians Catering this morning and Aramark is being very supportive of making sure that this transition will be smooth in terms of any equipment, drivers, or trucks anything they need.

She is very blessed to have caterers who are supportive of each other.

There were flyers that were shared with the group (please refer to the handouts that were provided at the meeting)

VI. OTHER BUSINESS BY THE NUTRITION COUNCIL

VII. ADJOURN:

MOTION: Adjourn the meeting.

ACTION: Unanimous (Lindner, Madison)

The Nutrition Council meeting was adjourned at 2:30 p.m. The next Nutrition Council Meeting is scheduled for April 23, 2024, at 1:30 p.m. (Virtual and Audio) in Microsoft Teams and via teleconference.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Horton
Secretarial Assistant