



## **NUTRITION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES July 22, 2025**

The Nutrition Council members convened virtually on MS Teams on July 22, 2025.

### **Members Present**

*Commissioner* Cindy Van Vreede,  
*Chair*  
Jenice Kling  
Trudy Ranallo  
Barbara Robinson  
Jim Sampson  
Gloria Webster

### **Members Excused**

InAdelle Crawford  
Michelle Deshotels  
Dwight Ivory  
Glenn Mattison  
Amber Miller  
Earlene Wilson  
Edith Witten

### **Members Excused Continued...**

Karen Moe  
Carrie Spears  
Douglas Tadeyeske

### **Staff Present**

Baily Knutson, *DHHS*  
Lori O'Connor, *DHHS*  
Ortrialla Paris, *DHHS*  
Gaylyn Reske, *DHHS*

### **Attendees from the Public**

*Commissioner* Mark Behar  
Song Xiong Buck,  
*Milwaukee Christian Center*

## **MINUTES**

### **I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chair Cindy Van Vreede called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. Gaylyn Reske Program Coordinator Senior Dining took roll; a quorum was not present.

### **II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF THE APRIL 22, 2025, NUTRITION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

The April 22, 2025, Nutrition Council meeting minutes were table until the next Nutrition Council meeting due to quorum of members was not present.

### **III. UPDATE ON FLAVOR STATION PILOT**

AAA Senior Dining Program Coordinator Gaylyn Reske, RD, CD provided an update on the "Flavor Stations Pilot Project" at Washington Park, which began

July 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025. The project aims to enhance the dining experience by offering a variety of Five spices: Italian seasoning, cinnamon, red pepper flakes, granulated garlic, and granulated onion. The spices are provided at each table, along with labeled jars and laminated cards detailing their flavor profiles and health benefits. Feedback is collected from diners through paper evaluations and stickers. Initial feedback has been positive, with some requests for additional condiments. A significant challenge has been filling individual spice containers, leading to time-consuming process. Considerations of using bulk containers if the project expands. Overall, the project promotes healthier eating habits and adds variety to meals.

#### **IV. CATERING BUDGET DISCUSSION, UPCOMING DINING SITE CHANGES**

Gaylyn Reske reported that the nutrition program is experiencing financial challenges due to a significant reduction in funding. Consequently, four HACM dining sites: Arlington Court, Convent Hill, Lapham Park, and College Court-will close effective September 1<sup>st</sup>. 2025, Efforts will be made to ensure affected dinners are connected to alternate dining sites and provided them with transportation options. Committee members offered feedback and suggestions on how they could support meal service during the transition.

#### **V. NUTRITION ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS**

Participant Dan Lagerman commended the quality of the meals and requested real butter be provided. Gaylyn Reske inquired about the baked cod and participant Trudy Ranallo noted the positive impact the program has on individual's' lives.

#### **VI. NUTRITION ADVISORY COUNCIL PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were discussions about increasing engagement with Asian and Hispanic communities through partnerships with local restaurants. Additionally, the idea of recognizing dine-out partners with certificates of appreciation was proposed.

Gaylyn Reske encouraged visits to Washington Park to try the flavor stations. Van Vreede suggested using the Milwaukee County website to access senior center meal menus and reservation information. Gaylyn noted that promotion of the program is strictly by word of mouth, with no advertising.

James Sampson inquired about an annual recognition for Dine Out partners who support older adults. Van Vreede suggested presenting a plaque with the County Executive's participation and providing recognition of the dinners.

Next meeting is October 28, 2025.

#### **VII ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 2:28 p.m.  
Respectfully submitted,

Ortrialla Paris  
Administrative Assistant

DRAFT