



**Milwaukee County Commission on Aging
Nutrition Council
October 24, 2023**

The Milwaukee County Commission on Aging Nutrition Council held its quarterly meeting on Tuesday, October 24, 2023. Members and attendees joined the virtual meeting, which was hosted on Microsoft Teams by videoconference or conference call option (computer or telephone). Attendance was taken verbally.

Nutrition Council Representatives:

Mary Conaway - Wilson
Linda Demarais – Wilson
Dan Lagerman - Franklin
Sally Lindner – Chair
Jenice Kling – West Allis
Jim Sampson – Mke LGBT
Douglas Tadeyeske - Kelly

Agency Representatives:

Sarah Bartram – MCC Agency
Michelle Drouillard – Goodwill MOW
Sonya Torres-Jackson – MCC Agency
Angela Wright – McGovern Park

Commissioners:

Cindy Van Vreede

Site Supervisors:

Linda Bates – Franklin
Sam Benjamin – South Milwaukee
Karen Bentley - Kelly
Jackie Brown – Convent Hill
Terrance Gage – Arlington Court
Brenda McCord – Greater Galilee
Cheryl Richards – Washington Park
Chris Robinson – Wilson Park
Frank Schultz – West Allis
Tanya Sheriff – McGovern Park

Milwaukee County Staff:

Andy Bethke - ADS
Debra Horton - ADS
Dan Idzikowski - ADS
Lorie O'Connor - ADS
Gaylyn Reske - ADS

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 JULY 25, 2023.**

MOTION: Approve the July 25, 2023, Nutrition Council minutes as written.

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

III. **DIRECTOR OF AGING SERVICES: DAN IDZIKOWSKI**

- ◆ Dan shared with the group the Commission on Aging proposed changes to Nutrition Council. The Commission on Aging bylaws, which would incorporate a representative of the Commission on Aging into the Nutrition Council and change the composition of membership. The Nutrition Council itself to bring it more in line with the state guidelines from Department Health Services (DHS) regarding nutrition councils.
- ◆ There was a strong desire on the Commission on Aging, which oversees both the funding and programming in all of our Older Americans Act, funded programs of which the nutrition programs are the largest to have a stronger connection with the advisory body advising the Nutrition Director on the services. They would like to be able to have some kind of a direct report at least coming back to the full Commission on our nutrition programs.
- ◆ We looked at the Department of Health Services program policy guidelines about nutrition advisory councils, and we have drafted a set of bylaws that would be incorporated into the Commission on Aging, which would redefine to a certain extent how the Nutrition Advisory Council operates.
- ◆ I would like to go through the proposed changes for you and to hear any feedback that you have at this point. These changes are going to be voted

on by the full Commission on Aging at its meeting on this Friday, October 27th at 9:00 a.m. at Clinton Rose Senior Center.

- ◆ The Nutrition Advisory Council will remain a quasi-independent council. The Nutrition Council will have its Chair appointed by the Chair of the Commission on Aging and the Chair of Advisory Council.
- ◆ It will meet as a separate, distinct body as it is meeting now. The major change is the composition of who constitutes who sits on the Nutrition Council. With the policy requirements under the Department of Health Services, the Nutrition Council shall consist of at least half the members who are persons age 60 or older, including minority individuals who are participants or who are eligible to participate in the programs that Council will include at least one program participant representing.
- ◆ This provision will continue the requirement, which is also policy of DHS, to have program participants be the main members of the of the Council, but only one program participant from each dining site and two representatives from the home delivered meal program.
- ◆ In the senior dining and home delivered meal program, except that current providers of nutrition services funded by the AAA shall not be eligible for formal membership. The membership on the Council while preserving the majority voice of participants at the meal site.
- ◆ The membership also as indicated will be that the Nutrition Council chair shall be a Commissioner appointed by the chairperson of the Commission and the expectation will be to the greatest extent possible that, Commissioner be a participant at one of the meal sites. The duties and responsibilities will remain largely the same.
- ◆ Other policy makers around nutrition issues to assist and publicizing the programs and reaching new participants to make recommendations to the nutrition director about food preferences of participants to make recommendations to the nutrition director and the aging unit about location, days, hours of dining center operations to make recommendations to the nutrition director about dining center, accessibility, and age.

- ◆ The reason we would like to have a Nutrition Advisory Council, besides the fact that is a good idea, and we want to have one, is that DHS policy requires each county that accepts these nutrition dollars to have a nutrition council in place.
- ◆ You will set your own meeting schedule, but you shall meet no less than quarterly as you do now. You can adapt your own bylaws consistent with this section and run the meetings you know and then advisory matter.
- ◆ This would go into effect in 2024 if the Commission on Aging approves this change at the meeting this Friday.

IV. DHHS - AGING UNIT, NUTRITION OUTREACH COORDINATOR: LORIE O'CONNOR

a. Outreach Updates

- ❖ Lorie shared with the group, there is a lot of things that she does behind the scenes to get us ready for the upcoming year 2024. Many of our documents have to be updated and revised. We will be putting all of the dining sites paperwork and reports on electronic format.
- ❖ She is working diligently to make sure that everybody has what they need for the following year to keep all that data collected. As you know, our funding requires that we collect diner information annually, and we follow a fiscal calendar. October of this year to September of next year is our fiscal calendar year.

Earlier this month, we did finalize our new diner registration form.
- ❖ Make sure that you are registering all or re-registering all of your participants and offer them a new diner card. The whole purpose of the card is to facilitate movement from site to site with ease and make sure that when you fill out those new diner cards that the expiration date either says September 30th, 2024, to be consistent, it is not a year from when they join us. Everybody card expires at the same fiscal year.

She does not have the online fillable diner registration form ready, but she is working on it.
- ❖ Our annual surveys are making their way back to us and we are starting to tally up all those results. It will certainly take some time together, all the data and feedback, but we will be sharing the findings with you.

- ❖ Senior dining call volume has been high. August was actually the highest month so far of 2023. We average about 230 calls a month, but in August we got 331 calls.
- ❖ Gaylyn has done a couple of media exposure type things that are drawing attention to our program, and it is always exciting when a call volume picks up because it means that the message is getting out about the dining program.
- ❖ Just to wrap up, please make sure that if you have staffing changes, if you need to take your serve safe or serving safe food test that you get those taken and the results to me.
- ❖ I do keep track of all of the volunteer hours for your sites. Many of you are sending those in regularly and I appreciate it.
- ❖ If there is something you need, or something you have noticed that needs attention, let me know and I will try to help fix it.

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

a. Site Updates

- ❖ Gaylyn shared a few updates with the Nutrition Council. As we discussed in July, Daddy's Soul food open for in-person dining and then Orenda open for in-person dining, and South Milwaukee open for in-person dining in September. We added a new Dine-out restaurant Rise and Grind Cafe, and they are in-person dining only. In November, Hart Park and Elks Lodge will be reopening for in-person dining, Elks Lodge currently is a hybrid model with curbside pickup Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and in-person dining Tuesday, Thursday and then effective January of 2024. All of our sites except one will be all returning to in-person dining.

b. Customer Satisfaction Surveys

- ❖ The customer satisfaction surveys have been mailed out. Please make sure that your participants are getting those. If they can do the QR code, that is great. This is where I get a lot of the comments/feedback from the participants.

c. Annual Re-Registration Forms

- ❖ Re-registration will start October 1, 2023. It is imperative to have the nutrition assessment completed. The Federal and State government provides the majority of funding for our meals and activities; therefore, we are required to collect annual participant data about who is benefitting from our program. The diner registration forms, but just know that that malnutrition screen and the food insecurity score those are being required by the state for all programs, Meals on Wheels, and Congregate dining participants.

- ❖ Customer Satisfaction Surveys and Annual Registration Forms are available to distribute to the diners and should be completed and returned to me.

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 (Bates, Tadeyeske)

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Debra Horton
Secretarial Assistant