



NUTRITION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES January 27, 2026

The Nutrition Council members convened virtually on MS Teams on January 27, 2026.

Members' Present

Commissioner Chair Cindy Van Vreede
Jenice Kling
Daniel Lagerman
James (Jim) Sampson
Gloria Webster
Douglas Tadeyeske

Members Excused

InAdella Crawford
Michelle Descholtez
Annete Holder
Gwen Madison
Karen Moe
Trudy Ranallo

Members Excused Continued...

Barabara Robinson
Carrie Spears
Earlene Wilson
E. Whitten

Staff Present

Bailey Knutson *DHHS*
Lori O'Conner *DHHS*
Ortrialla Paris *DHHS*
Gaylyn Reske *DHHS*

Attendees from the Public

Mark Behar Commissioner
Song Xiong-Buck

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Commissioner Cindy Van Vreede, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. Gaylyn Reske Program Coordinator for Senior Dining conducted the roll call. A quorum was not present.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF JULY 29, 2025, OCTOBER 28, 2025, AND JANUARY 27, 2026, NUTRITION COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Due to the lack of a quorum, approval of the meeting minutes was tabled until the next Nutrition Council Meeting.

III. UPDATE ON END OF YER DATA

Gaylyn Reske, Program Coordinator for Senior Dining, provided an end-of-year update. In 2025, 156,617 congregate meals were served. Some dine-out sites closed, including Ruby Jays, which will transition to an Adult Day Care Center.

Antigua did not participate as it was not open for lunch. The Meals on Wheels program served a significant number of individuals and continues to operate at full compacity. The ongoing goal is to avoid creating a waitlist each year.

IV. UPDATE ON NEW DINE OUT RESTAURANT PARTNER

Gaylyn Reske announced a new partnership with Anox Café, located on Milwaukee northwest side at 77th and Hampton. The café will feature authentic Asian cuisine as part of the Dine Out program, an initiative designed to broaden cultural dining options and engage more Asian elders particularly members of the local Hmong community. The café will be open on Thursdays from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. While not a traditional buffet, the setup provides a similar experience, featuring a rotating menu that will change every month to showcase a variety of dishes. Guests can also enjoy outdoor seating on the café's patio. Soft opening planned for March.

V. PROCLOMATION FOR DINE-OUT RESTAURANT PARTNERS

Gaylyn Reske discussed a proclamation to recognize Dine Out restaurant partners during National Nutrition Month in March. Members agreed to honor all past restaurant partners.

VI. NUTRITION COUNCIL MEMBER COMMENTS

During member comments, attendees shared feedback on meal quality and noted occasional issues that were promptly corrected.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Public comments focused on marketing limitations, noting that most participation in the Dine Out program comes from word of mouth rather than formal advertising. Members also discussed the challenge of restoring pre-pandemic participation levels.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned at 2:33 P.M.

Sincerely,

Ortrialla Paris
Administrative Assistant