

INDEPENDENT COUNCIL ON AGING

November 3, 2023, 11:30 am

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

Location: Regency at South Shore

SPEAKER: Sarah Humphrey, RN - Executive Director of the Erie Cancer Wellness Center

- Sarah was introduced and she spoke about non-medical support for Cancer patients and their families offered through their local non-profit.

President Kathie Soudan called the business meeting to order at 12:35 pm

- Kathie began the meeting by thanking our hosts at the Regency and the chefs for preparing our meal.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

- Stephanie Garcia, Secretary, was unable to attend today's meeting and minutes from October General Membership Meeting were not yet available. Minutes will be emailed to members when complete and will be voted upon at the December General Meeting.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Kathie Soudan

- Kathie congratulated the Art Show Committee on a successful Art Show, Reception and Raffle event on October 17th at Traditions. It was well attended, elegant and a great showcase for senior artists. It was a significant honor to have the PA Secretary of Aging in attendance.

VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT: Lisa Anderson

- Kathie reported on Lisa's behalf that December's speakers will be representatives from the membership chosen charities for the three annual holiday donations.
- January speaker will be Jackie Beardsley from National Fuel.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Wendy Wallace (temporarily appointed Treasurer)

- See attached report.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Stephanie Garcia not present

- Minutes for this meeting were taken by Wendy Wallace.

MEMBER'S AT LARGE:

- No report, but Kathie thanked them for their hard work answering inquiries on the office phone. The office phone malfunction was repaired.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT: Wendy Wallace and Sharon Niemi

- Sharon reported that we have 68 paid members to date. 18 of which are new members and there are 20 outstanding members not yet paid.
- New members joining today were invited to introduce themselves and tell a bit about their work with the aging population.
- Wendy reminded the membership to pay their membership dues, to RSVP by the week prior to the meeting through Sharon's email (sharonniemi23@gmail.com).

ARTS AND CULTURE REPORT: Ray Maholtz and Craig Heuser

- Craig reported that the October Gallery event was a great success, and the raffle of donated art was a hit. Ray was unable to attend today's meeting and would be better able to report on the proceeds and artists benefiting from pieces sold.
- Their committee is at work planning the Spring Art Show.

COMIC RELIEF: Ameer Weislogel and Dina Scribner

- Comic Relief 2023 was held on October 5th and was a success. Thank you again to the sponsors.

VALENTINES DAY SENIOR LUNCHEON: Pat Hause

- Pat reported that the annual event will be held on 2/14/2024 at the Ambassador. The contract has been signed and the event planner has been most helpful.
- 500 reservations will be the goal and the cutoff. Reservations will be accepted soon.
- Sponsorship opportunities are available. Letters and levels of sponsorship will be completed soon for the fundraising to begin.
- Pat asked the PR committee to promote the event on the ICA website and in the Senior News.
- Committee meetings will be held prior to every General Membership Meeting at 11:00 am at the Regency.

ELDER JUSTICE: Pasquale Casane

- Pasquale and committee are beginning to work on the next conference targeted for this Spring.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Jennifer Moody

- Jennifer asked for any updates to the website. She has received requests for Guides and asked the membership for copies. Several members offered their assistance.

BY-LAWS: Wendy Wallace

- An update to the by-laws was presented for vote. A motion was made by Ameer Weislogel to accept the revisions to the by-laws and seconded by Michele Cooney. The vote was unanimous in favor of passing.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Pat Christianson

- No Report/unable to attend.

LEGISLATION: Matt Trott

- Matt updated the membership on local, state, and federal legislation and budgetary matters.
- Matt also announced the NW Region PA Council on Aging is looking for a Regional Chair of quarterly meetings. Melanie Titzel, who formerly held this role, has been promoted to the State Board and is not permitted to do Both. Please contact Matt if interested and he can provide more information.

FINANCE: Patty Farrell and Wendy Wallace

- No report

GUIDES TO SERVICES: Wendy Wallace

- Kathie thanked Wendy for mentoring this committee until a Chairperson/Co-Chair can be identified. The committee is comprised of Katrina McCallough, Robert Gilmer and Brigid Joint. They are doing a wonderful job with this project.
- Ad space is available for the next printing which will be soon. Any corrections to the Guide are to be submitted as soon as possible to the committee.

OLD BUSINESS:

- At the December meeting ICA will be making charitable donations of \$200 to 3 non-profit organizations of the membership's choosing. Ballots were distributed to nominate 3 organizations and they will be tallied at the Board Meeting on 11/16/23. Representatives from the 3 chosen charities will be invited to present at the December meeting. Members will also be given the opportunity to make a personal donation at the meeting. Last year's recipients: Mercy Hilltop Center, St. Patrick's Haven and the St. Martin Center. 2021: Meals on Wheels Erie, Second Harvest Food Bank and Therapy Dogs United.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Paid members are always invited to attend the monthly Board Meetings.

New members and guests were introduced. General announcements were made.

THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING WILL BE ON FRIDAY, December 1, 2023, at 11:30 am at the Regency at South Shore.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:03 pm. Motion made by Pat Hause and seconded by Wendy Wallace.

Minutes submitted by Wendy Wallace, Board Member