

JAMIE MAGEE, CHAIRPERSON
LINDA FORTE
ANTIONETTE JOHNSON
CATHY PARKER
HELEN PASE



SCOTT PHILLIPS
LINDA ROGERS
LARRY SAVAGE
FRAN SMITH
HELEN SMITH

Advisory Committee on Aging & Adults with Physical Disabilities for Sussex County

Minutes of Meeting
May 15, 2023

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Advisory Committee on Aging & Adults with Physical Disabilities for Sussex County was held on Monday, May 15, 2023, at the Sussex County Administrative Offices West Complex, 22215 North DuPont Boulevard, Georgetown, Delaware. The following members were present:

Linda Forte
Jamie Magee
Cathy Parker
Helen Pase

Scott Phillips
Linda Rogers
Fran Smith

Call to Order

Jamie Magee, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

A Motion was made by Linda Rogers, seconded by Fran Smith, to approve the agenda as posted.

Approval of Minutes

A Motion was made by Helen Pase, seconded by Cathy Parker, to approve the minutes of March 20, 2023, as distributed.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

Guest Speaker – Speaker Karen Latimer

Linda Rogers introduced Karen Latimer, Assistive Technology Professional, from the Delaware Assistive Technology Initiative.

Karen gave a presentation on DATI regarding who they are and what they do. Most of the equipment is available for a two-week loan period, enabling users to “try before they buy.” There are no eligibility requirements other than state residency. Karen then gave an overview of the types of equipment available at DATI. Items included durable medical equipment, keyboards, mouse, hand-held magnifiers, things to help with cooking and preparing meals at home. After the presentation, members could view and try some of the items available at DATI. More information can be found at www.dati.org.



Linda Forte mentioned that Easterseals also has a similar program which is available in Sussex County.

Old Business

Jamie Magee stated how much she appreciated Antionette Johnson for filling in for her at the last meeting. Jamie asked Bobbi Albright to talk about reappointments. Bobbi informed the committee that everyone who was up for reappointment would be taken to the May 16, 2023, Council meeting for reappointment. Districts one, three and four still have a vacancy. Linda Forte requested that the District Map be included with a copy of the minutes so committee members could see where the boundaries are in the districts. Jamie reminded everyone May is typically the month that the election of officers is held. It was decided to wait until after the reappointments to hold elections.

Jamie mentioned a conversation that she had with Todd Lawson, County Administrator, regarding the committee and whether the committee should go by way of New Castle and Kent County and disband. There was a lot of discussion regarding the committee's mission. The discussion referenced that the committee is not really being productive. Since Covid, the attendance has dramatically declined. Fran Smith talked about the numerous resources currently available to seniors. When the committee first started there were no resources for seniors and now there are many resources. Many of the speakers the committee has, have already spoken at the CHEER and/or Senior Centers. There was discussion about whether it is worth the effort to meet all year to plan a conference. There was a lengthy discussion about holding a conference or a health fair.

Fran Smith made a motion to table the discussion until the next meeting seconded by Linda Forte. Motion adopted by voice vote.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Advisory Committee on Aging & Adults with Physical Disabilities will be held on Monday, July 17, 2023, at the Sussex County Administrative Offices West Complex, 22215 North DuPont Boulevard, in Georgetown.

Adjourn

A Motion was made by Linda Rogers, seconded by Scott Phillips to adjourn at 12:11 p.m. Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbi Albright