

Southwest Dane Outreach Board Meeting- September 9, 2025

The meeting was called to order by Pat Farrell at 5:05pm. In attendance were Cheryl Sutter, Lynn Forshaug, Pat Farrell, Theresa Judd, Karen Tetzlaff and Mary Ann Nelson. Cecile McManus and Janis Hiltbrand were absent. The minutes from the June 11, 2025 meeting were reviewed. Cheryl S. made a motion to approve the minutes and Mary Ann N. seconded the motion.

49.4% of the Outreach budget has spent and 43% of the Nutrition budget has been spent through June 30, 2025.

Dane County is proposing a 4% reduction for all POS (Purchase of Service) Agencies in Dane County, which would include our Case Management funding. This reduction would be about \$3,900.00. The Area Agency on Aging of Dane County is also proposing an \$8,000.00 reduction for our Nutrition Program. Our Nutrition meal counts have been down in the past year. The Area Agency on Aging is using meal counts from 2024 to determine the 2026 budget. The total meal count for 2024 was 1,940 meals. $1,940 \text{ meals} \div 250 \text{ serving days} = 7.76 \text{ meals/day served}$. We should be serving 15 meals/day. One major reason that meal counts were down last year is that Finks Café was closed due to a renovation project for 6 weeks and then they closed in mid-December to go to FL. Some of the other criteria that affected our nutrition program include people participating in our meals are not living alone and there are not as many minorities being served in this area. We will only get funding to serve meals two days/week for 2026, which will include the "My Meal My Way" at Finks Café. Dane County reimburses Finks Café \$7.50/meal.

The Board discussed the shortfall from Dane County for the 2026 budget. A motion was made by Cheryl S. to apply funds needed for the 2026 budget shortfall from the "Special Project Fund". This was seconded by Karen T. Hopefully, the Dane County Board will reconsider the 4% decrease in funding. The Board also discussed the 2026 contributions from the local municipalities. In the five-year plan that we have been following, this being the fifth year, the Senior Center will request a 3.3% increase from each municipality. Lynn will send out letters this week to all the municipalities that we serve, requesting this increase.

The Board discussed getting some help from Denise to set up another spreadsheet for a 5-year plan for the municipality's contributions.

Updates from Senior Center- Finks Café is for sale. If Finks Café does sell, maybe we could look into having our meals at the Spring Garden Restaurant. It has a big Dining Room and great parking. The Senior Center will be hosting a "Brat and Bake Sale" at Millers on Sept. 20, from 10:00am-2:00pm. Julie is working with LPI (the printing company for the monthly newsletter) on new software for the newsletter. There is no cost to the Senior Center for the current newsletter because different businesses place ads in the newsletter to help cover the cost. Lynn and Julie may look into a different program for the newsletter in Spring. Lynn has applied to the Mt. Horeb Community Foundation for a \$1,500.00 grant to help offset the cost of postage for the monthly newsletter. The monthly Caregiver Support Group is going very well with lots of caregivers coming together for guidance and support. The Mt. Horeb Senior Center will be hosting a "Quilt of Valor" program on Oct. 17 at 1:00pm, honoring and presenting Veterans with a beautiful patriotic quilt. The Center is planning a bus trip to Holy Hill in Oct. A boat trip is planned for Sept. 17 to ride a River Boat on the Mississippi River launching in Prairie du Chien.

The next meeting will be held on Wed., December 3 at 5:00pm.

Cheryl Sutter made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Karen T. seconded it.