**INDEPENDENT COUNCIL ON AGING**

**4/9/21**

**11:30am**

**Zoom**

**GENERAL MEETNG MINUTES**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Ray Maholtz and Patrice Mitchell

**SPEAKER:** Caitlin Driscoll, Public Relations Director “Avoiding Scams and Fraud”

* Seniors lose money more to scammers
* Top Reasons for Engaging: They seem official, I was under pressure, I thought the person was nice
* Scam Tactics: Government Impersonation, Easy money, Internet Fraud
* BBB.org/coronavirus
* Median losses to government impersonator scams for those 60+ were $2700
* Fake Contract Tracers: Will never ask for payment, financial info or government ID. The identity of the person who tested positive will never be revealed
* Vaccine Scams: Confirm vaccine information with official sources, no COVID 19 vaccines can be purchased online
* You cannot pay to get moved to the front of the line
* Special Enrollment Cons: Beware of free health screenings. Be wary of anyone who contacts you unsolicited.
* Enroll Medicare at Medicare.gov or in a marketplace health plan at Healthcare.gov
* Scams initiated online via website or social media are more risky
* Online purchase Scams: Verify our using a legitimate company
* Phishing Scams: E-mails appear to be from legit organization. Never provide info in response to an unsolicited e-mail. Avoid clicking links/attachments. Be cautious of generic e-mails. Confirm directly with the company
* 80% of money lost in sweepstakes, lottery and prize scams is from consumers 65+ 2.52 million lost
* Pyramid Schemes: Join a blessing loom or money board to earn money and help others. Recruit more participants and as the circle widens, everyone makes loads of money. Pyramid Schemes are illegal.
* Phony COVID 19 Grants. Check for look a likes and confirm on Grants.gov
* 1-877-267-5222 BBB
* Cdriscoll@pittsburgh.bbb.org

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT:**  Sister Pat Hause

* Nothing to report

**VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT:** Kathie Soudan

* Speaker for May is Cheryl Curtis AHN Rehab on Women’s Pelvic Health
* No speaker in June

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** Wendy Wallace

* See attached report
* Still working on tax exempt status

**SECRETARY’S REPORT:** Stephanie Garcia

* Nothing to report

**MEMBER’S AT LARGE:** Carolyn DiMattio

* Nothing to report

**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT:** Amy Chevalier not present

* Nothing to report

**ARTS AND CULTURE REPORT:** Mary Beth Pfister and Ray Maholtz

* Gallery up and running: Starving Artists sale.
* Requested sponsorship money from UPMC

**VALENTINES DAY SENIOR LUNCHEON:** Kathie Soudan

* Secured Feb. 14 2022 at Bayfront Convention Center

**COMIC RELIEF:** Amee Weislogel

* Discussed doing in the Fall
* October 3rd and 10th available at Zem Zem

**BY-LAWS:** Amy Chevalier not present

* Nothing to report

**ELDER JUSTICE:** Amanda Merski

* Will not be holding conference this year
* Amanda has accepted position at Bay Pines VA in Florida in about 4 weeks

**PUBLIC RELATIONS:** Pam Marlowe not present

* Pam has taken another position
* Participation in ICA will be limited

**GUIDES TO SERVICES:** Todd Kuzdzal

* Todd will do guides for next year

**FINANCE:** Wendy Wallace

* See attached report

**LEGISLATION:** Matt Trott not present

* Nothing to report

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE:** Trevor Pearson not present

* Sister Pat will get a hold of him and let board know

**NEW BUSINESS:**

* None

**NEW MEMBERS AND GUESTS:**

* None

**ANNOUNCEMENT:**

* Patrice Mitchell: LIHEAP has extended deadline to April 30th
* Wendy Wallace from Meals on Wheels: Looking for persons under 60 with permanent disability in need of meals. Call 814-452-6930
* Ann Flick: GSWA Awards Ceremony: Social worker of the year Gina Lombardo and Member of the Year Alissa Scalise
* Next GSWA meeting May 13th 2:30pm at Independence Court
* Terri Myers at Methodist Towers had surgery and is recovering at home

**Motion to Adjourn:** Ann Flick and Amee Weislogel

**NEXT BOARD MEETING: Thursday, April 29th at 8am via Zoom**

**NEXT GENERAL MEETING: Friday, May 7th 11:30am via Zoom**

**Minutes Submitted by Stephanie Garcia Secretary**