

# Senior Outreach Services Committee

## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 29, 2025

8:30 AM

McFarland Municipal Center

### 1. CALL TO ORDER, ROLL CALL

Members Present: Lowell J. Prill, Ken Boyd, Jerry Adrian, Colleen McCormick, Barb Vanderwerff, Kathy Lyons

Members Not Present: Diane Mikelbank

Staff Present: Katie Gletty-Syoen

### 2. PUBLIC APPEARANCES

- a. There is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Senior Outreach Services Committee. Members of the public who wish to address the Committee should fill out a public comment form and turn in into the meeting chairperson. Members of the public may speak during public appearances or during their selected agenda items as they designate on the public comment form. Please adhere to the 3 minute time limit. Additionally, you may send your public comments to [senior.outreach@mcfarland.wi.us](mailto:senior.outreach@mcfarland.wi.us) to be included as part of the meeting. There were no public appearances

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- a. Motion to approve the minutes of September 17, 2025 Meeting.

Motion by Member Jerry Adrian. Seconded by Colleen McCormick. Vote 5-0 in favor. Lowell Prill abstained.

### 4. BUSINESS

- a. Review Village of McFarland Proclamation that November is Social Connection Awareness Month and discuss programs during the month of November to raise awareness of the negative impact of social isolation and loneliness for older adults.

Committee discussed the Village of McFarland proclamation that November is recognized as Social Connection Awareness Month. Staff discussed the programming and initiatives taking place during the month of November.

McFarland Senior Outreach Services will continue to focus preventing social isolation and loneliness for older adults and promoting opportunities for social connection throughout the entire year. Staff shared publications on research and data about social isolation and loneliness including the brief from the U.S.

Surgeon General's Report, "Our Epidemic of Loneliness and Social Isolation,"

and “Staying Okay,” from the organization, Engaged. Senior Outreach programming to support this initiative during the month of November includes:

- 1.) Senior Social Connection Bingo promoting engagement in senior-specific programming at McFarland Senior Outreach, E.D. Locke Library, McFarland Activities and Play, and Spartan Bowl. If a senior marks off 4 blocks in a row for corresponding programs attended, they can enter to win a door prize drawing for two ticket vouchers at Stoughton Opera House and a gift certificate for Palenque Mexican Restaurant.
- 2.) Additional programs for the month of November include:
  - a. Line Dancing with Nancy,
  - b. Hospice Presentation with Moments Hospice,
  - c. Honoring Veteran Stories Presentation,
  - d. Caring Quilts Reception and Exhibition Opening,
  - e. Monday afternoon Card Club,
  - f. Aging with Wisdom Program, “Preventing Caregiver Burnout,”
  - g. Meals with Melody Thanksgiving Program with John Duggleby.

b. Discuss Dane County budget and impacts on McFarland Senior Outreach funding.

Katie Gletty-Syoen shared that the Dane County Budget process continues. All Dane County departments were tasked by County Executive Aagard to trim 4% from the budgets due to a deficit in the county budget for 2025. The Department of Health and Human Services cut 4% across the board for Case Management services of all Senior Focal Points. The County Executive then cut an additional 4% for senior meal sites. The amendment process for the budget is ongoing, and County Board Members are submitting amendments to that budget, including amendments to recoup some of the cuts to the senior meal programs by sourcing funding from vacant positions in the Dane County Sheriff’s Department.

c. Discuss some senior center models in Dane County that can serve as examples for future senior center program and space expansion.

Katie Gletty-Syoen shared information about the Fitchburg Senior Center to serve as a model for future evolution of space, staffing and programming.

d. Discuss Planning for 2026

Briefly discussed program planning for 2026. Discussion will continue at November meeting.

**5. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING DATE**

Next meeting will be scheduled Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at 8:30am.

## 6. **Adjournment**

Colleen motioned to adjourn the meeting and Kathy Lyons seconded motion. 6-0 in favor.