



2375 Gordon Road  
Alpena, MI 49707



## Community Advisory Groups Meeting Highlights Monday, June 3, 2019

FGP and SCP Advisory Group meetings were held on June 3<sup>rd</sup> at the NEMCSA Alpena Annex.

FGP was chaired by Nancy Wedge, SCP by Pat Rondeau.

Highlights from the February 11, 2019 meeting were reviewed.

A request for nominations and a vote for NEMCSA Board representation from the Foster Grandparent volunteer membership resulted in Becky Kwilinski maintaining her place on the Board as both a Foster Grandparent Volunteer and Advisory Group representative.

The Senior Companion Advisory group nominated and elected volunteer member Donna Richey to the NEMCSA Board. **PLEASE NOTE:** This procedure was done in error, nominations should have included Pat Rondeau for representation. New nominations and a vote will take place at the next meeting scheduled in August.

Director's Report, Heidi Powers, FGP/SCP Project Director:

- **FGP Volunteer Census** (Actual and by Volunteer Service Year (VSY) – 1 volunteer equals 1044 hrs. Funded for 47 VSYs)
  - Average age: 72, up by (.5 from last quarter) serving an average 27.5 hours per week (down by .5 due to the exhaustion of paid leave).
  - 46 volunteers - 44 currently serving with 2 waiting for placement
  - Currently averaging 60.5 VYS per pay period, adjusting for lack of summer service opportunities, 50 VSYs.
  - Average 23 VSYs needed to spend out by June 30<sup>th</sup>. We are currently exceeding this at 60.5 VSYs and will need to reallocate funding from other volunteer line items.
  - 1 new volunteer enrolled and 1 discharged (lack of participation) since prior meeting.
- **SCP Volunteer Census** (Actual and by Volunteer Service Year (VSY) – 1 volunteer equals 1044 hrs. Funded for 45 VSYs)
  - Average age: 73.7 (down slightly from last quarter), serving an average 23 hours per week (up slightly from last quarter).
  - 34 volunteers serving (down significantly due to the exhaustion of leave time).
  - Currently averaging 39 VSYs per pay period, a shortfall of what is needed and a decline from previous reporting. .
  - While we may fall short of spending 100% we anticipate ending the year within an acceptable range to avoid negative action in the way of a warning letter from our funder.
  - 1 new volunteer enrolled and 2 discharged (retirement and moved) since prior meeting.
  - In an effort to continue to expend SCP VSYs, a limited number of FGP volunteers are being invited to serve in the Senior Companion capacity during the summer when other FGP activities are not available.



- **Criminal History Checks:** CNCS extended the March 23<sup>rd</sup> deadline to complete the criminal history rechecks. Approximately ten more volunteers need to have a recheck completed by the new deadline of June 30, 2019.
- **New Venue for In-Service Meetings and Recognition Events:** meetings and recognition for 2019 will be at the Alpena Events Complex (APLex).

NEMCSA board representative Pat Rondeau provided updates from NEMCSA's Board of Directors meetings to both groups.

Additional FGP Group discussion included:

- Declining opportunity for summer FGP hours due to the transition of summer reading programs to more of an on-line format.
- Future initiatives for summer programming may include a partnership between FGP, Head Start, and the local libraries to help preschoolers enhance reading abilities. This not likely to come into fruition for the 2019 summer but could be considered for 2020.
- Overall the Recognition Luncheon was well received however there were a few areas for improvement:
  - Some of the plated meals were cold
  - Entertainment would be a welcome addition
  - We may need to rethink decorations due to a current helium shortage

Additional SCP Group discussion included:

- A new "Friendly Visitor" initiative sponsored by the Crawford County COA resulted in a potential SCP volunteer applicant.
- Good discussion on improving In-Service Meetings in the new venue ensued.

Round table updates from the membership were shared with both groups.

Dates to remember:

- SCP Recognition Luncheon: June 25<sup>th</sup>
- Next meetings: August 12, 2019 FGP 9:30 am, SCP 11:00 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Heidi Powers, FGP/SCP Project Director