

Office for the Aging Advisory Council Report

On the 21 October 2016 Meeting

To Taghkanic Town Board

The Advisory Council of the Office for the Aging met on Friday, 21 October 2016. It was the second of three scheduled fall meetings. The meeting was held at the OFA Offices on Columbia Street.

Agency News:

- ◆ **OFA:** A new transportation program is close to finalization. It will offer bus rides for non-medical purposes like getting non-drivers to the OFA nutrition sites. The routes will be set with an eye for short duration and customer convenience.
- ◆ **NY Connects:** A broad-based outreach program is underway to help people understand the open enrollment process for healthcare programs. It also is working hard to make people aware that if a person is in "Observation" at the hospital, medical coverage not the same as when that person is "Admitted".

Council Reports:

- ◆ Members reported several types of issues occurring in Columbia County towns such as wells going dry, fighting mining in a residential area, high medical bills for "Observation" in hospitals, inconsistent grocery store delivery policies (e.g., Price Chopper in Hudson delivers prescriptions but the one in Chatham does not), and the possibility that charges at Rapid Care facilities *may* be higher, or not well understood yet.

The next Advisory Council meeting will be 18 November 2016 at the OFA office in Hudson.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Thompson

Town Representative to the Office for the Aging Advisory Council

11 November 2016