

## OFA Advisory Council Report to the June 2019 Town of Taghkanic Town Board Meeting

The second 2019 meeting of the OFA Advisory Council was held on 17 May 2019 at the Human Services Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Conference room, at 325 Columbia Street. The meeting was opened at 1:00 P.M.

### **News from the OFA:**

Home Health Aides: The shortage continues and there are currently 15 people on the waiting list. **To correct an error in last months' report**, the State has assigned \$15M to address the problem and **Columbia County's portion is \$30,000**. OFA is working with the Department of Health to establish a program in which the Aide will be paid ~ \$25 per hour plus mileage. Of that amount, approximately \$12 goes to cover the cost of a Nurse Supervisor, Social Security payment and background checks. Several program iterations have failed for a variety of reasons but the County Agencies continue to work the issue. As of the date of this OFA Advisory Council meeting, the latest program was not yet finalized.

Administrator Kevin McDonald asks that when making an inquiry at the OFA, please ask for an Intake Worker. It is the fastest way to get information and help.

### **Department of Health:**

Residents need to be aware that ticks and rabies are a severe problem this year. Also, DOH now offers a Lifestyle Coach for people suffering from diabetes and obesity.

Respectfully,  
Joyce Thompson  
Taghkanic Representative to OFA/AC