



## CALVERT COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING

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### *Board of Commissioners*

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### **Minutes March 21, 2019**

Pam Williams called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. at the Southern Pines Senior Center. The meeting began with a prayer and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Attendees:** Kathy Baron, Sudha Haley, Jeannette Findley, Harriet Gossett, Pam Williams, Susan Justice, Bessie Hoskins, Tanea Granlund, Terry Long, Darlene Boerlage, Yolanda Hipski

**Non-Attendees:** Len Winkler, Elizabeth Foster, Liz Youngblood, Robin Madera, Beverly Butler, Frank Krohnert, Margaret Phipps

**Guests:** Maura Vilkoski – DSS Adult Protective Supervisor

**Agenda/Minutes:** The agenda/minutes were distributed. Motion to approve the minutes from the February 21 meeting. Motion: Jeannette; Seconded: Tanea. Minutes approved.

**Chair and Vice Chair Remarks/Reports:** Pam Williams

- Thankful for all
- Pam attended an Adult Interdisciplinary team meeting.

**OOA Report:** A written report was provided on the following topics:

#### **Staffing**

#### **Programs/Events/Services**

- Thank you to Elizabeth, Bessie, Kathy for attending the recommended staff 2020 budget meeting.
- Elizabeth provided testimony for a new Long-Term Care Manager position to oversee OOA LTC programs.
- Introduced new team at SPSC – Melinda Gaines, Program Specialist, Cathy Richards, Food Service Coordinator, and Brian Ward, Office Assistant. They all came into the meeting and said hello. Also on team but not at meeting: Anne Sledge, Joan Carroll, Jeanne Holtery, Grace Graham and Cathy Tewell.
- Looking for a contractual health mentor for the OOA.
- SPSC is growing fast. 10 people enrolled just last week
- Colleen Cofod accepted a position with Bowie Senior Center, leaving NBSC
- CFC program if chosen will help 7,000 people statewide off waitlist. Reimbursement we received does not pay for staff. Reimbursement rate for that program is not where it should be before they release those 7,000 people. Not sure how many clients Calvert will get.
- Caregivers Conference – Passed out programs to share and help spread the word. Friday, May 3 at SPSC/SCC.

**Guest Report:** Maura Vilkoski with Adult Services Supervisor at DSS

- Many programs and services available
- Respite – Developmentally Disabled can receive up to 120 hrs. of respite care per year. Sliding scale fee
  - Do not vet the caregiver
  - 40 people currently receiving care in this program
- Project Home – Adult foster care model for those 18 years and older, mental health disability. Currently 3 project home providers and 3 residents in place. Project home is an open home to take care of those who need additional support. Doesn't meet criteria for assisted living. Have to be able to take care of

their own daily living, medications, etc. (Home provider can give verbal reminders but cannot give the medication). Anybody can make a referral for someone they know that needs this type of care.

- Requirements: Have to live in this county, doctor note stating disability, must be ok with living in a group home, must pay for own care
- To be a provider – Have to have a separate room in the home. Provider can rent the home, does not have to be a homeowner. Provider must be CPR/First Aid certified, have to continue ongoing training. Providers are reimbursed. Providers have to be a support and have a backup if they cannot be home. Does not need to have eyes on client 24/7.
- Similar to foster care. No liability and there are rules about animals in the home. Provider must be financially independent. Biggest challenge with this program is there is not enough people who know it's available and there is a lot of training involved. Adult Services Supervisor provides oversight and case management. There is a budget of \$5,000 from DSS to help with items that the client may need like pill boxes, calendars, blood pressure cuffs, training, supplies, etc.

### **Delegate and Committee Reports:**

#### United Seniors of Maryland: Sudha Haley

- All went well at the USM Legislative forum. Handout provided. Main ones to look at are the Priority Support, End of Life Options Act (some stated doing, want to pass in MD. If they pass in MD, it means they must have a terminal illness and don't want to go through Hospice care at that time or pursue any further treatment/help/pain management can choose to end their life right then with a simple pill as long as they have 2 doctors notes stating 6 months or less to live), Prescription Drug Affordability Board (trying to lower prices), Hospitals: Bill of Patient Rights (trying to get same price across for all MD hospitals), Oppose Bill – Criminal Law (see handout for details). Really working on SB 906 Income Tax Itemized Deductions (very important to all seniors). Sudha said Dr. Edith Patterson from Charles County came to talk about these issues. Yolanda said there is a bill coming up to study-non emergency transportation (e.g. Dialysis)

#### Community Awareness and Outreach: Kathy Baron

- Went to support Elizabeth at the county's new budget hearing, very interesting, and good info

#### Housing: Harriet Gossett

- Pump station at SP II signed off on
- Installation of apartments' LED lights at CP I & II completed
- Land exchange with fairgrounds (working on) 8 acres could build low income housing

#### Transportation: Pam Williams/Terry Long

- Meeting with St. Mary's Senior Rides
- Pick brains with Jen Moreland and Susan Justice
- Grant – April 12 (wait and apply next year possibly)
- Any ideas and thoughts welcomed anytime with transportation
- Terry gave an update for the Wheels to Wellness program – 6 months did 1,000 rides, 102 clients, clocked in 11,783 miles. The pilot program ends Aug. 2019.

#### Senior Wellness: Jeannette Findley

- Dementia focus group at hospital – subcommittee of PACT, Jeannette will present at next month's meeting.
- Alzheimer's Support Group continues to meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of every month, well attended

### **Unfinished Business:**

- Major Accomplishments/Objectives Report – email info/ideas to Liz. Need everyone to look at and add something, change, remove, please let us know. Need done ASAP. Please respond to email.

### **New Business: None**

### **Member Concerns: None**

### **Announcements:**

- Yolanda attended the Tri-County Council Reception – Had a good turnout!
- A statewide COA meeting will be held in Laurel
- The next COA meeting will be **Thursday, April 18 at the North Beach Senior Center.**
- There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tanea Granlund (substituted for Liz)