

**Older Adult Services Advisory Council Meeting  
Wednesday, December 12, 2018 – 3:30 PM  
311 E. Alcott Street, Kalamazoo, MI, 49001**

**MINUTES**

**Members Present:** Chair Don Ryan, Samantha Carlson, Tim Charron, John Hilliard, Kimberly Middleton, Beulah Price, Kelly Quardokus and Commissioner John Gisler

**Members Absent:** David Eyke, Kim Phillips, Ros Robbert

**Staff Present:** Brien Brockway, Don Saldia, Janice Bonita, Shae McKinnon, Beth Ridge, Jim Rutherford, Deb Lenz

**AASA Rep.:** Cindi Albrecht

**Guests:** Joyce Ryan, Kathryn Hanfland, Sara Wick, MSAC Delegate, Susan VanderLugt, Amanda Willer

- I. **Welcome & Introductions** – Chair opened the meeting with welcome & introductions at 3:36 pm.
- II. **Approval of November Minutes**

**Motion**

**Carried**

**To Approve November Minutes**

**Tim Charron  
John Hilliard**

- III. **Citizen Time** – Cindy Albrecht said AASA is in the process of closing their books. March-April. Expect some Statement of Grant Awards (SGAs) the end of December beginning of January. Joyce Ryan: Held Centenarian Luncheon meeting Monday. By January, we'll have a venue and a date, and we're. Chairman Ryan added that when we do have the date to do put it on your calendar to attend.
- IV. **Member Time** – John Hilliard announced that Home Watch Caregivers, where he's been working, will go out of business this Friday; if you are hiring, let him know. Chairman Ryan: Letter from Scott Wamsley, MI AASA has reviewed the final area plan for FY 19, and budget approved. He distributed list of new Kalamazoo County Commissioners. Online got MDHHS Update, AASA has a new resource guide, a guide to services for older adults, 18 pages; he passed around a limited number of copies. The Commission on Aging is creating a "Network Workgroup on Wait Lists" consisting

of representatives from 11 agencies across the state. Commissioner LaTosch (Ferndale) will represent the Commission on Aging and Don Ryan will represent the State Advisory Council on Aging.

- V. **Financial Report Review** – Beth Ridge reported. Ignore the “Revenue” section—not accurate, it was done a long time ago. Chair Ryan asked, at what point will the millage money be added into it? Beth answered, on Page 9, Community Living Program (CLP) is where the millage money will be. There is a Healthy Living piece in the millage, an Ombudsman piece, Meals, Care Management, and several line items where the contractors are—it will take a while to put the funding into operation. For Meals, we should be able to start spending at the beginning, because we have a Purchase of Service contract already. The CLP current clients will be there, as will the care consultants’ salaries. John Hilliard asked: Are there budgets in place for this fiscal year, or are you waiting for them? Cindy Albrecht answered: Award will be coming through. Jim Rutherford added: There is a forecast of what we’ll be spending for FY19. County Commissioners have vetted and approved the budget, so we do have an approved budget for FY19. There may be a Federal Government shut-down, but this probably won’t affect the state and local level. Shut-downs don’t usually last very long, and the County has enough to keep going for 5 days or so. We don’t try to fill holes, if we lose a grant source, that grant source goes away. Kelly Quardokus asked about USDA, Meals on Wheels figures. Beth said there was a problem with the October report, so the figures are readjusted.

**Motion**                      **Carried**                      **To approve Financial Report with adjustments**

**Kelly Quardokus**  
**John Hilliard**

- VI. **Advocacy Report** – Sara Wick provided printed report. Their last meeting for the year was last Wednesday. She got their as it was ending due to severe weather delays. She visited with all of our local legislators. Our message was to thank the legislators. Older Michiganians Day is May, 15, 2019. Lame Duck session has produced the largest number of bills probably in its history; rushed through committee process. Rep. Brandt Iden, Chair of Regulatory Reform, in his committee alone there were 22 bills. So far, no talk of any of the elder abuse, or auto no-fault bills. Auto no-fault is probably the first thing on the agenda with new House Speaker. Rep. Jon Hoadley had meeting at Brite Eyes, and expressed frustration over bills. Sara suggests that we all get a copy of the MI Constitution; there’s a 5-day rule, any bill introduced has to be acted upon by one of the houses within 5 days. Implementation rules were what were

adopted during the recession. Governor will be working until Jan 1<sup>st</sup> until 11:59 AM. He can sign into law legislation or use his veto power. Rep. Hoadley suggested we pay attention, and call our legislators and express your opinions on these bills. Rep. Hoadley asked to be on the appropriations Committee again this year. Committees are assigned in January. Iden will be chair of new House Ways and Means Committee. Chair Ryan stressed that we need two new MSAC delegates. Sara said she would probably go as a guest in January.

**Staff Reports** – Jim Rutherford: Provided update with the search for a new AAA Director. Deb Lenz is stepping into that roll for the interim. We do have a candidate, we've extended an offer, but she hasn't accepted yet. We're excited about this potential candidate. Millage work continues. As we evolve, this is a new funding stream for us—requirements and restrictions are different. We will be reporting to you about how that funding is coming in—still much of an unknown. Purposely, it's going to be separate, not comingled. Millage funding will be a lot of pass-through. We made commitment to the Commissioners that we want most of resources going out in the community. Jim is presenting at Vicksburg Rotary tomorrow updating them about the millage. Kelly Quardokus: Where are you with the RFPs? Jim: Very similar process to what we already do now. Brien Brockway added that it is good that it coincides with what we are already doing.

Brien reported that last week we held a provider meeting, which had a good turn-out. There were questions about the millage; they want to be kept in the loop. Kelly Q: Where are you going to advertise RFPs? Brien: With the provider network we have now, media, web sites etc. He is open to suggestions. Jim: We do things a certain way in the County, and we have to subscribe to that. We will be doing the RFPs the right way. Kelly Q: So the RFP process is the way the County has done it in the past for other millages, on the same plane? Jim: There's some flexibility there. John G. added that because we didn't have a full time Administrator for some time, the procedures became somewhat "lax." With Tracy Moored, it's much better. John H. asked if there a proposed timeline to get RFPs out. Brien: Sometime April/May. Jim added that we know that on January 1 we will not be able to hit the ground running. But, that's okay because the millage money will just start to come in. He concurs that it will be by spring. And, we anticipate to be able to enhance funding for a provider such as Senior Services. Kelly Q. would just hate to see (AAA) locked into a provider that is not doing a good job. Jim agrees that we feel the same. We need to do a needs assessment, and a needs assessment done every 3 years will be incorporated into this millage. Brien continued that regarding the Needs Assessment, the 3 year contract Multi-Year Plan (MYP) ends in September, and one of the things on the docket is a needs

assessment. Brien encouraged [those present] to do it yourself and pass it along; you will be updated on developments in the coming months. The RFP has been advertised until January 24<sup>th</sup> for Caregiver Counseling. The provider retired with one year left on that contract. If you know anybody who is a licensed counselor who may be interested in providing this service, contact him. Brien had written an elder abuse template for our providers. There's been a lot of discrepancies in providers' reporting. We are not requiring them to use the template, but we endorse its use. Kelly Q: MCL says that anyone in health care, etc., is required to do mandatory reporting. They were given an outline and how to report. The person who saw the incident has to do the reporting. The State suggests they follow the template. Brien resumed that he emailed the template to our providers. Next, we'll be working on the MYP. It is broader than the Annual Implementation Plan. Kelly Q. suggested that because surrounding counties may have millages and needs assessments we could consult with them. Jim said we will certainly look at where we can partner.

Chair Ryan: We did an LGBTQ resource guide with the Resource Center some time ago and we should also get back to that.

Don Saldia reported: One of our Care Consultants just became trained as a PATH Master Trainer. We will continue having Matter of Balance and resume PATH classes. Also, we will hold a new workshop on Dealing with Dementia for professional caregivers, in January and another one in February. Some of the other things AAA is doing: Laurie Palanca, our I&A Social Workers, often reports that someone will move into Kalamazoo County and they'll call us for resources. We have a monthly meeting to discuss clients working on their monthly deductibles for spend-down for DHHS. A Care Consultant worked the entire month of November to get the items the client needed Medicaid to pay for, and on the 28<sup>th</sup>, she finally got it. Know that regarding moving to a nursing home that individuals have a right to seek other options; we went to see an individual and was able to get her out of the nursing home. Regarding advocacy; one issue we have is getting them to report financial abuse and exploitation. Coordinated services, safely living in their home. Person able to get to an Adult Day Care provider twice a week; this individual has late stage Alzheimer's, and his caregiver had been taking care of him for a long time. We called her and told her that we were able to get approved ADC 8 hours a week. Tomorrow we're putting together and delivering our client Christmas baskets.

Shae McKinnon, Care Consultant, presented a case story.

Chair said her story is amazing and humbling to him, and that this is just one case. And to know in 2019 we have the potential to serve many more. There are so many people needing help. Thank you for what you do.

Kelly Q: What is happening with the Hoarding Task Force that Anne started? Don S.

said we're looking at it to revamp it as it involves a considerable amount of resources and time.

VII. **Other Business or Additions to the Agenda** –

John G. talked about the speculations on who will be the new Chair of the Board of Commissioners, and when the swearing in will be for the Board.

**Motion**

**Carried**

**To Adjourn at 4:57 PM**

**John Hilliard**

**Kelly Quardokus**

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Bonita