

**Older Adult Services Advisory Council**  
**MEETING MINUTES**  
**December 13, 2017 – 3:00 PM**  
**HCS Georgian Annex**

**PRESENT:** Chair Don Ryan, Samantha Carlson, Tim Charron, John Hilliard, Kimberly Middleton, Beulah Price, Kelly Quardokus; Commissioner John Gisler and Commissioner Mike Quinn

**ABSENT:** David Eyke, Ros Robbert, Cindy Albrecht–AASA Rep.

**STAFF:** Anne Zemlick, Janice Bonita, Brien Brockway, Carol Decker, Judy Hayes, Kelly Jonker, Shae McKinnon, Kelly Milliman, Anji Phillips, Allan Puplis, Beth Ridge–HCS, Don Saldia, Patti Stratton, Kelly Sutcliffe, Jim Rutherford–HCS, Denise Ulrich–HCS, Lisa Henthorn–County Administration

**GUESTS:** Laura Ferrara–CentraCare, Kathryn Hanfland–Aetna, Dan Pontius–Senior Services, Joyce Ryan, Sara Wick–MSAC Delegate

- I. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:** Chair Don Ryan called the meeting to order at 3:10 PM. Don said the County Commissioners meetings minutes are posted online, and Commissioner Julie Rogers had mentioned John Hilliard’s retirement.

II. **APPROVAL OF NOVEMBER 2017 MINUTES:**

**Motion**                      **Carried**                      **To Accept November Minutes**

**Kimberly Middleton**  
**John Hilliard**

- III. **CITIZEN TIME:** none

- IV. **MEMBER TIME:** Kimberly M.: as of January 1 Life EMS Ambulance will be the new 9-1-1 provider for Gobles and Bloomingdale.

- V. **FINANCIAL REPORT REVIEW:** Beth R. reviewed report for October. Noted that Association Dues traditionally get billed at the beginning of the fiscal year, which accounts for that amount.

**Motion**                      **Carried**                      **To Accept October Financial Report**

**John Hilliard**  
**Kimberly Middleton**

- VI. **ADVOCACY REPORT:** Sara W. reported on the updates on No-Fault Medicare Coverage; HB4674 (Long-term Care Study); OPEB (municipal benefits); No leadership changes for Senate or House for 2018; Elder abuse legislation (4885-4886)—no action to move out of committee; 4994-4995, AAAs doing public education campaign about collecting data for number of incidents of elder abuse—no hearing or action. Sara visited all five Kalamazoo Representatives, plus Rep. Bizon Dist. 62, B.C. Saw Maturen and thanked him for his “no” votes on No-Fault and Income Tax Repeal. Sara attended Hoadley’s town hall, and Iden’s coffees in November. Legislature scheduled through December 14<sup>th</sup>. Next MSAC meeting January 24<sup>th</sup> in Lansing. Senate January session reconvenes on January 10 (House has not posted dates as of this meeting).

Anne distributed the AAAAMi Aging Network News which reports on the budget and proposed tax cut legislation. MMAP/SHIP – still no resolution, slated to be eliminated end of March. To maintain the program that’s crucial to older adults, she encourages you to be a voice. Kelly Q. added information about proposed legislation (Sen. Marleau), for seniors under guardianship of POA, and visitors who are told they cannot visit, provides them with the ability to petition to visit. And, to come, Physician-Ordered Sustained Treatment, if you have serious or life threatening condition, your doctor can put this into your order.

- VII. **STAFF REPORTS:** Anne announced that, as of Monday, Don Saldia has been chosen the new Choices for Independence Program Manager. And, Kelly B. married and is now Kelly Milliman. CFI last year served 303 people (with Care Management, Case Coordination & Supports, Community Living Program, Custom Care, and Veteran-Directed programs). This year 280 seniors waited for services and there were 134 still waiting on the last day. Have not hired a master trainer for the PATH and MOB program yet; hope to after the first of the year. Anne distributed the new AAA brochures—only real difference is Healthy Living Programs phone number is now listed as our I&A line.

Brien B.: Friends of Transit suspended monthly meetings. Advocacy for Kalamazoo County goals have been met. Will maintain the email list if they feel they need to contact to committee.

John Gisler added that Linda Teeter has resigned as Chair of Kalamazoo County Transit Authority. Greg Rosine, of WMU, has taken on both those responsibilities.

**VIII. OTHER BUSINESS**

1. **MILLAGE DISCUSSION:** Don R. introduced the discussion. For over a year we've had a group (he listed different orgs/companies) meeting; and we've made great strides. He expressed appreciation to Jim Rutherford, Lisa Henthorn, John Gisler, and Mike Quinn. Tracie Moored said we want to move ahead in a cooperative fashion, and prospects look very good. Don distributed flyer, "Why we need a Senior Millage," and the Millage Services and Budget page. He reviewed the budget.

Sara W. asked: Is it in your plans to do a telephone survey? Don: We haven't gotten that far. Next step is to find out if the BoC approves putting it on the ballot. We have to raise \$75,000 for advertising, etc. Sara: Suggested that before you arrive at the definitive millage amount, to do a survey. Tim C. asked: Are you comfortable with that mil? Don: Yes, because of all of the service providers in the County have given us their input. Kelly Q. asked: What about other millages? Beth R. answered that it depends on what this translates into per household? Anne provided that the yearly cost on a \$100,000 home would be \$35 or \$2.92/month. Kelly Q. added that she's anticipating what the questions might be from the BoC (and we should be prepared to answer them). Anne: How much is coming in from other counties, like Kent County. Kelly Q.: What if you get questions, such as, "Why \$1 million, when the waiting list appears to have only 130 people on it". Anne: The detail isn't under there (on this budget). It includes what services those people will be receiving. The \$1 million is also to cover the cost of those who are presently being served under the CLP now (Kal County funding). Kelly Q. asked, if Medicare were to lose their funding, would that be agreeable to use the money for MMAP? Tim C. (who is a MMAP volunteer counselor) said that the problem is that the program wouldn't be there anymore for the money to help with. Samantha C. said she thinks it's a low number but appropriate for right now.

John G.: David E. has been working on a spreadsheet compiling counties with millages and what their mils are. John will send us this. He said the average is around .4913 for 5-8 years for the 40 counties he had explored.

Tim C. asked when we prefer this to be on the ballot, May or August. Don doesn't really care, he just doesn't want to go another 5-6 years. It may go before the Board in February, for consideration, whether it's May or August. Kimberly M. said that three months is right around the corner (emphasizing the quickness

with which we'll need to move on this). John Gisler appreciates your bringing in line (for the mil) with what's the average in other counties.

**Motion                      Carried                      To Accept the Proposed Millage Budget**

**Samantha  
John H.**

2. UPDATES FROM THE AAA STAFF: Don said he looks forward to this every year, to hear from those who we don't usually get to hear from.

Staff members presented brief recaps regarding their positions and case stories with the AAA.

Don R. concluded by reading a poem by Shel Silverstein, "The Little Boy and the Old Man."

**Motion                      Carried                      To Adjourn at 4:56 PM**

**John Gisler  
Kimberly Middleton**

Respectfully submitted,  
Janice Bonita