

Older Adult Services Advisory Council
MEETING MINUTES
June 8, 2016 – 4:00 PM
HCS Dept. – Conference Room B

Members Present: Chair Don Ryan, Kathy Grueter, John Hilliard, Kimberly Middleton, Beulah Price, Kelly Quardokus and Commissioner Larry Provancher

Members Absent: Tom Danielson, Deb Josephson, Clinton Lewis, Ros Robbert, Beverly Solik

Staff Present: Judy Sivak, Anne Zemlick, Beth Ridge, Dani LaCoss, Janice Bonita

ASSA REP: Cindy Albrecht

Guests: Rachel Dedes, Oakland Centre Adult Day Services, Vicki Martin, Senior Services; Theresa Zieleniewski, Bronson at Home, Joyce Ryan

Welcome and Introductions: Chair Don Ryan opened the meeting at 4:08 PM with welcome and introductions.

Citizen Time: None

Member Time: Don sent a letter to John Taylor, Chair, Board of Commissioners, a month ago, but has not received a response. Don distributed a hand-out from Michael Sheehan, Chair of the State Advisory Council on Aging, regarding Creative Aging: Enrichment Activities Using Arts and Crafts as the assignment for the committee's next report. Don attended the event at the Air Zoo honoring Vietnam veterans which all began with a letter from an 8 year old boy. 200-210 vets honored; 500 people attended. Zemlick family did great job. Each vet was escorted by a Boy Scout.

Beulah said the VFW's were going to help try and find the oldest Veteran.

Financial Report: Beth reviewed the April financial report. We're right in line with the target.

Advocacy Report: Judy urged everyone to attend and distributed the KCASI meeting flyer for June 20th at Portage Senior Center on Community for a Lifetime (CFL). AASA's requiring we work with a community to become a CFL, and we hope Portage will step up. KCASI Legislative Committee meeting is tomorrow. Frank Cody, Chair, is out of commission due to surgery. We'll be talking about fall programs, and legislators who are up for elections, how we want to handle that. Good news from state budget: 2.5 million

dollars into community services for the aging—huge. We get about 55 thousand dollars for FY '17. John asked, is \$55K general fund money, and can you use it anywhere you want? Judy: It is state money and will be assigned appropriate categories.

Staff Report: Anne reported that the Choices for Independence program served 259 so far this year, and they're in the process of opening up a few more cases. Anne's been involved with several focus groups: Hoarding Task Force (HTF) partner, ServiceMaster, who also administers the HTF Web site, put on two seminars yesterday with Matt Paxton, TV's *Hoarders*. Between these two events, a little over 100 people attended. Matt said Kalamazoo's Hoarding Task Force is so ahead of the rest of the country in that there are many different partners on the HTF. Adams Outdoor Signage put up that ad for free (also did for the veterans' event). Anne did get her name off the 2-1-1 number. They are looking at training for apartment complexes. Anne was asked to co-present at State Public Health Conference in October (will be here in Kalamazoo). Judy added that Anne is also doing the LGBT training, and she and Kelly Jonker are co-teaching the class at WMU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI). Janice talked a little about plans for the Senior & Caregiver Expo. Judy for volunteers to be on a committee to get celebrity greeters for the Expo. Kimberly suggested Peter Strazdas as a greeter. Dani suggested Miss Greater Kalamazoo, she knows the director of the Miss GK pageant. Joyce suggested Ben Zylman. Kelly Q. said Mattawan H.S. just put on *Beauty and the Beast*; they may have costumes, props, (Portage Central also performed it). The kids know the songs and may be willing to sing at the Expo. Kelly would be willing to get in touch with them to see if we can use the props. Also the Civic may have stuff their willing to lend. Judy added we are having a scavenger hunt, and they are going to connect the items with the sponsors. We will have Ask the Experts workshops for caregivers and we're doing a different workshop in the morning, such as the Alzheimer's training Erin Van Groningen does. Kelly said she could help with the celebrity greeter committee. John will call Mayor Hopewell. Judy said we'd have a quick meeting but we don't have to do it for a while.

Judy reported on the Elder Death Review meeting with Anne, Dani, Kelly J., WMed students and herself. The met with the medical examiner and pathologists and talked about, and make good inroads into, the need for the elder death review team. They were not aware of what the ombudsman can do for them. We found out, deaths from nursing homes have not been reported to the ME as a matter of protocol. That initiative, and multidisciplinary and hoarding task force going to need a coordinator, and we're trying to find funding for that. Judy has a new boss, Charlotte Smith, was HCS-Community Action Agency Director. She's involved in social justice issues. CAA gave us money, and gave Senior Services money. Judy was on Lori Moore show today because of the LGBTQ work we did and the award we got. We're meeting with head of

case management at Borgess; they've had changes there. Taking them the referral form we developed to refer to our Healthy Living Programs. Judy's presenting our Multi-Year Plan to the Board June 21st at Committee of the Whole, at 4 PM. That brings her to the Administration finance issues and being told to now utilize all of our fund balance, wherein she asked for reconsideration which wasn't given. Most agencies have a fund balance to use to plug holes or start new projects with. A motion was made after much discussion:

Motion **Carried** **To send a letter to John Faul and County Commissioners from OASAC on the issue of AAA's funds**

Kelly Q.
Kathy G.

Don and Kelly will write letter.

The following two motions were voted on after the Council had a quorum:

Motion **Carried** **To Approve May Advisory Council Minutes**

Kimberly M.
John H.

Motion **Carried** **To Approve the Financial Report**

Kimberly
Kathy

Request for Proposal: Judy sent members the RFP information. Judy reviewed the process. Technical assistance meeting is June 22nd. You're invited to come if you want to. If you have any questions, these amounts come from the plan you approved last time.

Motion **Carried** **To Approve the Request for Proposal**

John
Kimberly

Celebrate Elderhood (CE): Judy distributed to group info on what we're trying to achieve. There's a lot of excitement. Don said we had an excellent steering committee

meeting and that KCASI (as a 501c3) has agreed to be fiduciary for CE. Beulah indicated there are 60 people in Kalamazoo who are 100+ years old. Judy reported we've decided to have a special luncheon for them apart from the dinner event. Found out Calhoun County through their AAA and millage sponsored an event at Schuler's for 100+ year olds that we can learn from. Probably the most difficult thing will be finding them! Beulah related a story from 1960 when she was working with visiting nurses in lower east side of Detroit. Judy said there might be a CE event on Grandparent's Day, September 11. Kimberly added the City of Portage has wanted to do a "progressive event," since they draw about 1,500 people to Portage Senior Center parking lot to the farmer's market; and we're looking at riding on their coattails. Judy added that this would be the first event where we want to have the pin-on CE buttons. Judy thanked everyone who has been working on the CE initiative.

Motion Carried To Adjourn at 6:07 PM

John H.

Kelly Q.

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Bonita