

**Older Adult Services Advisory Council
MEETING MINUTES
September 14, 2016 – 4:00 PM
HCS Conference Room B**

Members Present: John Hilliard, Vice-Chair, Kathy Grueter, Deb Josephson, Kimberly Middleton, Beverly Solik, Beulah Price, Kelly Quardokus, Ros Robbert, and Commissioner Larry Provancher

Members Absent: Tom Danielson, Clinton Lewis, Don Ryan

Staff: Judy Sivak, Anne Zemlick, Brien Brockway, Beth Ridge, Janice Bonita

Guests: Dave Carroll, Senior Services; Sara Wick, MSAC Delegate

I. **Welcome and Introductions:** John H. opened the meeting with welcome and introductions.

II. **Approval of August Minutes:**

Motion Carried To Approve August Minutes

**Kimberly
Ros**

III. **Citizen Time:** None

IV. **Member Time:** John attended Aetna advisory council meeting Tues., Sept. 13. Laurie Palanca gave presentation and did a very good job; it was well received.

V. **Financial Report:** Beth R. reviewed for July report. Right on track. No concerns. John asked, if you have excess in one service can you divert to another? Judy S. said d that in some circumstances we may be able to reallocate for services that are overspending, but there are some restrictions with state and federal funds.

Motion Carried To Approve Financial Report for July

**Deb
Kimberly**

VI. **Advocacy Report:** Judy reported that joe schmitt, MSAC Delegate, has resigned that position; leaving an opening for this volunteer position. Delegates travel to Lansing usually monthly to meet with legislators or their staff, and talk about what was discussed at the MSAC meeting. We reimburse for mileage and parking. Kelly Q. added that sometimes you learn more by meeting with the staff because of term

limits, the staff has been around for longer and knows more. Judy: if you know of someone who might be interested, let Judy know.

KCASI program on Monday, Sept. 19. Flyer distributed.

Sara added to the advocacy report that MSAC meets Sept. 28. They asked for update on energy legislation, what may happen in lame duck, and no-fault legislation.

Judy reported that she and Brien B. were at a strategic planning session in Lansing Tuesday, Sept. 13. Direct care worker crises is a big issue coming up.

Kimberly M. added that they were just talking about that at the Professionals Focused on Aging planning meeting. Sara added that it's a wage issue. Feds have some time to work out a budget so they don't shut down the government.

Kelly Q. added that she had a client in her law office whose circumstance activated the Senior Alert system to find her father (who has some dementia). Father drove away and was found a couple of days later in Chicago...think this saved his life.

- VII. **Staff Report:** Brien B., new Quality Assurance and Planning Coordinator, shared a little about himself and what he's been working on. Provider assessments have been started, hopefully set for contracts to go out Oct 1. Working on veterans' homeless Stand-Down. Brien is the point of contact for the Expo Celebrity Greeters; he'll send out an email with his contact info. Janice added we still need a greeter between 2-3 PM. Judy added that she is on the Lori Moore show 4 PM on Sept 27th. She also got Patsy Burnett to sing, in the morning. Janice would like at least two more volunteers at the Information Table; sign-up sheet circulated. If you have friends you'd like to do it with, that's okay. Being a greeter, they'll ask where a particular vendor might be, restrooms. 99 exhibitors to date, 17 sponsors. We still have some space available. Judy added: Don't forget: dress up. September Spark magazines made available with the Expo section.

Judy reported that she spent time in August writing the grant to the State for the Elder Abuse Coalition, and should know Friday who were awarded the grants. The grant will be for one position to pull together the various facets of elder abuse multidisciplinary teams. The position is not scheduled to start until December as it will take time to get through the county system.

Judy followed up on last month's presentation from Mr. O'Brien, who made a plea to not cut the Creating Confident Caregivers (CCC) classes. He donated \$100, which we still have, and we're looking to see if we can somehow offer at least 3 classes and preferably 4 during the year. However, there are only 2 in the budget and we

won't know until we see if the county board will approve an increase in our Healthy Living Programs budget.

Assessments: Council members received two packets. Judy had our intern, Dani, go to every congregate meal site with a form she created, and as Dave Carroll will agree, she did a very thorough job. We are pleased with Senior Services' response. Beverly asked if the student intern was from WMU? Judy: MSU. Ros R. said the findings were pretty minimal. Dave said the findings weren't difficult to fix.

Anne Z.: Anne and Ann Rozsi did an assessment together initially, then Ann did them on her own. Assessed for best practices; and the opportunity for us to learn what we can do better. Anne briefly reviewed what they got back from the providers. There are some who have yet to reply, they will get a letter this week.

John: What happens if you don't get reply back from providers? Anne said that that's a good question—we don't have enough vendors as it is, and a lot of the fixes are simple. Anne pointed out that sometimes it's hard to validate where the provider is calling from, since some have gone to a call-in system, but some have gone back to the paper time sheet for us. John had a follow up question: Do you go back to the client [for verification]? Anne: We have a database, so when we get billed from provider for a date of service when the client was actually in the hospital, for example, we can go back to the provider [and let them know there was an error in their billing]. Anne added that our costs are going up (around 20%). Contracts going to the Board of Commissioners on the 20th for approval. Anne suspects it will impact the number of people we can serve next year. This fiscal year, 282 clients served. New nurse, doing great. Wait list numbers 130 right now.

VIII. Other:

Celebrate Elderhood (CE): Judy distributed pins. We had at the September 11th event that Kimberly will talk about. Judy showed the Celebrate Elderhood power point to WMU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI); and she's showing next week to a group called Encore.

Kimberly reported on Generation Celebration event on Sunday, Sept. 11th, that she organized with Kathy Grueter, and Kim Phillips. Kim came up with the idea of riding on the coattails of the Portage Senior Center (PSC) farmer's market, and invited vendors. Kimberly considers it a success. Each booth had activities for children and adults. She thanked Lending Hands for bringing 5 wheelchairs. Lots of people stopped by the Lending Hands booth (Kathy G. staffed that booth). Anne was there with her husband and grandchildren and said it was a really great event. Each

vendor contributed a \$25 gift card. Kimberly sent an online survey to all exhibitors. So far, responses are positive.

Judy S., who also attended and staffed the AAAlIIA table, added that we had perfect weather. One of the goals was to raise awareness of resources and aging issues. We brought a picture of a 101-year-old, and asked people how many 100-year-olds they thought there are in Kalamazoo County; Judy told them at the end, there were 62 at a point in time.

Judy showed CE power point presentation.

Anne distributed Award and Nomination form that we will put on the Web. She explained it. Beverly asked where on the form would someone indicate family recognition, and said we could add "Family Caregivers." Anne said that might go under "You Name It". Anne will take the suggestion to the committee.

Judy said OLLI wants to partner with CE for a Brain Health seminar in the spring. Mary Doud is working on a possible poetry contest.

Sara wanted to know if committees thought about doing something in Bronson Park. She sees people doing vigorous activities like lifting weights all the time.

Kelly added CE could be at the Borgess Run, or the Mud Run, to advertise to these participants. Chris or Blaine would know.

Kelly said the slide show is great, and it really makes you think. Judy said if you have places you would like her to present this CE presentation, let her know.

Beverly suggested we take the presentation slides and put them into a booklet. At her church they would have a good group to give this information to. Judy: we are going to have a brochure; Jan Underhill is volunteering her time to help us. We want to have a lot of these dates solidified first.

Motion Carried To Adjourn at 5:30 PM

Kelly Q.

Kathy G.

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Bonita