

**Older Adult Services Advisory Council
MEETING MINUTES
August 9, 2017 – 4:00 PM
HCS Conference Room B**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman Don Ryan, Tim Charron, Beulah Price, John Hilliard, David Eyke, Commissioner Mike Quinn, Commissioner John Gisler

MEMBERS ABSENT: Samantha Carlson, Deb Josephson, Kimberly Middleton, Kelly Quardokus, Ros Robbert

AASA REP.: Cindy Albrecht

GUESTS: Sara Wick, MSAC Delegate; Danna Downing, South County Community Services; Hillary Kerr, Bronson; Tauhric Brown, Dan Pontius, Mark Premer, Mark Vlietstra, Senior Services; Amanda Lemmer, Pinnacle, Joyce Ryan,

STAFF: Jim Rutherford, HCS Director, Charlotte Smith, HCS Deputy Director, Anne Zemlick, Brien Brockway, Janice Bonita, Beth Ridge

- I. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:** Chair Ryan called the meeting to order at 3:03 PM, with welcome and introductions.
- II. **APPROVAL OF JULY 2017 MINUTES:** Sara Wick. Correction on Page 2, Motion To Recommend a 4.25 millage...: should read “.425 millage...”

Motion	Carried	To Approve the July Minutes with correction as stated
	John Hilliard John Gisler	

- III. **CITIZEN TIME:** Dan Pontius: Channel 3 news story, Jake Rigley, one of Senior Services' volunteers of 25 years, recognized by Bankers Life; originally donated \$500, they added another \$500 his behalf. Tauhric Brown Channel 3 ran a piece on their Senior Companion program. He asked that anyone knows of anyone over 55 interested in volunteering, let Tauhric know. Dan Pontius: MOW working hard on wait list, going into beginning of this calendar year, about 250 people were on list, now down to about 50 people. Anne asked if they are finding that these individuals can't afford meals. Dan: They're waiting on grant-funded meals, either through AAA, United Way, or Community Action Agency. There is not necessarily a decrease in funding; it's just an increase in need, as aging population grows.

Amanda Lemmer: In her role as an Alzheimer’s Association volunteer, the Kalamazoo Walk to End Alzheimer’s is coming up Sunday, September 10th. If you have questions, contact her. Research Night is this evening, and you can still attend. Physician speaker. 6-8 PM at the Fetzer Center.

Hillary Kerr distributed a flyer and reviewed Bronson’s Advanced Care Planning program. Anne said the staff learned from the presentation Hillary gave to our care consultants last week.

- IV. **MEMBER TIME**: Don Ryan distributed Creative Arts and Aging Reports from the State Advisory Council.

John Hilliard announced he is remaining on Lending Hands board as treasurer. The new Executive Director is Lucinda Stinson. The mother of Mayor Hopewell is getting an award.

Commissioner Gisler began a discussion on the Senior Millage and what transpired at the Board of Commissioners meeting. Don said that we made the recommendation that the vote be moved to May 2018. There’s still an existing committee who will work together to this end. Tracy Moored, County Administrator, indicated she would work with the taskforce on providing the necessary information to present to the Board.

- V. **FINANCIAL REPORT REVIEW**: Beth Ridge reviewed the June financial report.

Motion	Carried	To approve Financial Report
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	David Eyke John Hilliard	
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- VI. **ADVOCACY REPORT**: Anne distributed the KCASI flyer. Sara said they haven’t had any MI Senior Advocacy Council meetings. Sara reviewed her legislative update report.

Anne added that another advocacy issue is the elimination of SHIP funding or MMAP (Medicare Medicaid Assistance Program) as it is called here. If this funding goes away, MMAP goes away. Senators Stabenow and Peters have signed a letter to keep funding. We have through end of March 2018 on the current funding. (Beth said that at this point in time, they’ve only released six months of funding—not typical.) Legislators need to know just how important this service is. Volunteers with MMAP are so well versed on these programs. Tim Charron said he is a MMAP volunteer and he is amazed at the educated people who don’t know anything about Medicare or Medicaid, or where to turn.

- VII. **STAFF REPORT**: Brien Brockway distributed and reported on 3rd quarter “Dashboard” report. He distributed 3rd quarter Narrative Report, and Units, Clients, Demographics report. South County Community Services are going to use their funding by the end of

the FY. They had not used funding in the first quarter, but following a recent email-blast communicating the availability of these funds for those who qualify, they should spend their funding by the end of the fiscal year; and they have people on a waiting list.

He is making videos with staff, aiming for one a month, to post on the AAA's Facebook page to introduce our staff, what we do, and success stories. There are qualitative data in these stories.

Anne report that CFI is opening more clients (see dashboards for data). Today the wait list is 130.

Janice Bonita reported on plans for the Senior Expo scheduled for October 3rd.

Anne would like to revive the Celebrate Elderhood Planning Committee.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS:

- a. **Annual Provider Funding Applications–Review & Approval** – Anne reported that we received and reviewed the funding applications for FY18, and there were no concerns. Financial piece may change. These are annual providers who already have a multi-year contract with us; this is the 2nd year. We already have the funding for 3-years.

After discussion regarding the length of the funding applications that were disseminated to OASAC and the perception that there was not enough time to review them for comment at this meeting, Jim Rutherford suggested comments be accepted by Anne electronically over the course of the next week. Discussion continued regarding time frame to allow these applications to be presented to the Board of Commissioners for their approval. Beth explained that changes in funding are presented as an amendment to their contract. Questions and answers followed about the step-by-step process whereby this subsequent year funding is approved. Anne said she would do a synopsis of the funding applications. OASAC does not have to vote on these funding recommendations. Charlotte Smith also clarified that providers get 3-year contract that stipulates what you get in year one, year two, and year three. With other programs she supervises, she has submitted just 2 pages to the BoC.

Questions and concerns about actual funding changes were addressed by Jim who indicated that they work closely with the Program Manager and Financial Analyst, and that there are checks and balances so that the BoC is always aware. There was a question that if the contracts are approved for 3 years, why do these funding applications go back before the Commission? Jim and Charlotte: It has to do with money—whenever there is any change in the funding, even if it's \$5. John H: in the future, to save time and 132 pp, say the only difference, it's summarized as who the provider, what's the \$\$ amount.

- b. **Millage Status** – Jim Rutherford expressed that he hoped the Advisory Council was apprised of what transpired at the Board of Commissioners meeting. He said a good consensus of the Board wanted to pursue a millage. Put together a millage rate that you are comfortable with. Involve Commissioners who have position of “no new taxes”. Have more and better data to present. After much discussion, Jim said he senses we need to open up a conversation that accurate data about the AAAllIA is not being provided, and wants the good work that AAA does, recognized. He cautioned that we not attack one another, and that at the end of the process, it devalues all of us. If you have questions about the AAA, come to us, and we will provide you with real data.

Don asked Jim if he would want to be the one to correspond directly with Tracy Moored. Jim said he thinks it’s a good idea Don and Tracy communicate between themselves, too. You’ve got the right representation here to move forward with the discussions.

- c. **OASAC and the Future** –Don read part of the OASAC By-laws. Regarding the report Don handed out, he talked about how often they meet, for how long, what they research and do. Don had said to Anne that if there’s anything we can do as an Advisory Council, let us know. Anne came up with helping us promote what the AAAllIA does. Don distributed packets of AAAllIA informational brochures for each of the members, and he challenged them to give them out, and report back at the next meeting. Joyce Ryan said she would distribute them at the Aging Mastery Program she teaches. Sara Wick said we could distribute them at the KCASI meetings, including Executive and Legislative Committees. Don, in closing, said “volunteerism is very important.”

Motion

Carried

To adjourn at 4:41 PM

John Hilliard

Tim Charron

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Bonita