

**Older Adult Services Advisory Council
PUBLIC HEARING
AND
MEETING MINUTES
May 11, 2016 – 3:30 PM
HCS Dept. – Conference Room B**

Members Present: Chair Don Ryan, Tom Danielson, Kathy Grueter, Deb Josephson, Clinton Lewis, Kimberly Middleton, Beulah Price, Kelly Quardokus, Ros Robbert, Beverly Solik, and Commissioner Larry Provancher

Staff Present: Judy Sivak, Anne Zemlick, Norma Bour, Beth Ridge, Janice Bonita

AASA Rep.: Cindy Albrecht

Guests: Dave Carroll, Senior Services; Jill Sunicki, WMU Aging Services; Joyce Ryan

Public Hearing: Chair Ryan opened public hearing at 3:30 PM.

Judy Sivak stated that the FY2017-19 Multi-year plan draft was mailed to OASAC members and emailed to a wide range of stakeholders in the community. There were no questions from stakeholders or OASAC members. Judy reviewed the public hearing at Portage Senior Center May 5th, which was attended by Don Ryan and John Hilliard. Judy read comment by a member of the public in attendance having to do with transportation concerns. Dave Carroll brought a letter from President and CEO of Senior Services, Robert Littke; and we will upload that into the Plan. We have added the organizational chart, and a response to Question 8 in the Scope of Services section regarding Advisory Council input.

Dave Carroll: Read letter from Bob Littke.

Jill Sunicki: Asked a question about the difference between provider services and POS services to which Judy said we can answer later.

Public Hearing closed at 3:43 PM.

- I. **Welcome & Introductions:** Chair Ryan opened the meeting with welcome & introductions.
- II. **Approval of April Minutes:**
Motion Carried To accept April 2016 Minutes

**Ros R.
Kimberly M.**

III. **Citizen Time:** None

IV. **Member Time:** Beulah P. thanked Sara Wick for directing her to Sen. O'Brien's assistant, Megan, to help find people in Kalamazoo County 100+. Now on assignment to find oldest veteran in county, and will ask VFW Commander.

Kimberly M: Thank you for sending out the article from gentleman who wrote about what we're going to do with this great big Boomer rush. Kimberly distributed event flyer for Allegan Boomer Bash, June 2nd.

Don R.: Don read letter addressed to Judy Sivak from N4A (National Area Agencies on Aging Association). AAA received 2016 N4A Aging Achievement for Improving Life and Care for LGBT elders. Will be honored at the July 24-28 N4A Conference in San Diego. Judy added she's proud of this work, and that involved were Anne Zemlick and Kelly Jonker, and we partnered with GLRC (Gay Lesbian Resource Center) to do this work. Judy and Anne will be attending the conference in July. She will do a press release on the award.

Don R. read and distributed to members a letter he prepared to send to John Taylor, Commission Chair, about the Senior Millage. Would like to send letter tomorrow. Kelly Q. suggested a word change.

V. **Financial Report:** Beth R. reviewed. AASA gave updated funding in the last week.
Motion Carried To Approve March Financial Report

**John H.
Kimberly M.**

VI. **Advocacy Report:** Judy reported on Older Michiganians Day in Lansing today. Ros R. went and said it was a productive meeting, and well attended across all agencies. They learned that Rep. Maturen introduced legislation to change rules so that "big box" stores don't get to reduce their taxes by 90% because of a loophole. Sen. O'Brien met with us on the lawn, and we thanked her for the CARE act. Judy passed around KCASI pins for KCASI members to take; she wore one today and got asked about it. Judy distributed flyers for the May 20th KCASI meeting. Both the House and Senate passed funding bills with increases for in home service programs, and there will be a conference committee to determine the final amount. Kelly Q. asked if that includes the Waiver? Judy responded that it didn't.

VII. **Staff Report:** Judy distributed the Annual Report for 2015 and the WMU Osher Lifelong Learning booklet. Anne and Kelly Jonker are doing an OLLI class on the

Unexpected Turns in the Journey; Patti Stratton and Anne, are teaching *Supporting Caregivers*. Judy distributed the OASAC members contact list and Spark.

Norma Bour reported on the WMed Student's research project for Diabetes Path (Personal Action Toward Health). Kimberly M. asked if a person who was taking a class but dropped out can take the class again. And, are most of these for Type II Diabetes? Norma: Everybody has the opportunity to take the class again. And it's for all. Don R. wanted to know if there's a cost, and, how you get signed up. Norma: There is no cost. Our funding paid for the books. And, you can call her (Norma) to sign up. Ros asked the title of the book. Norma: Living with Chronic Health Conditions. Don asked if PATH is just Diabetes. Norma: There are 3 PATH classes: PATH, Chronic Pain, and Diabetes. It's great for caregivers and spouses too. Judy S. reminded members that this is a program that is almost going to go away (including Matter of Balance) if we don't raise a lot of money. We're going to request funds through the budget process with the County. Norma will send the materials from her presentation to the OASAC members electronically. Bev S.: Is this for low-income individuals; and, can you charge for it? Judy said it's for all income levels. And, according to the Federal guidelines, we can't charge for it. We are going for a Medicare number because Medicare can cover some. Some insurance companies may be willing to pay once they know our funding is gone.

Judy reported on the Conference on Elder Abuse: It was wonderful! We had a 68% response rate to our evaluation form. Strongly agree, agree, responses were received. We're now achieving what we hoped for to get people excited and engaged. Bev: How many attended? Judy: About 160. Kelly Q.: Can you tell a little about the afternoon (she had to leave early)? Anne Z.: Great Q&A; we've been hearing [comments such as] I never knew this, I never thought about that. Our Care Consultants say they learned how to talk to their clients. Scott Teter from the MI Attorney General's office gave us good direction. Judy added that with the change in the laws in 2012, law enforcement *has to* report. Kimberly added that Prosecutor Jeff Getting said that once a crime has been committed, the victim is simply a witness!

Judy said we will meet with WMed and the medical examiner and pathologists and students to discuss elder death review team.

Judy updated group on Ombudsman news: Kelly Jonker has just come from nursing home dealing with a 97 year old who was going to be put on a bus to a psychiatric hospital in Indiana [against his wishes]. Kelly and the family got involved and person will go home with family and be on Waiver. Upshot is the importance of the Ombudsman program.

Judy reported that we have a Request for Proposal (RFP) to do and she will get it out mid-June. At our June OASAC meeting, she will present funding amounts in different service categories, which will be part of the RFP. Every 3 years we have an open process for our annual contracts. We also have to change kinship care service—current provider is having difficulty holding programs through no fault of their own. They're not getting referrals or support for people who would benefit from this program. We are going to meet with schools to see if we can set up a program that would pay for needed items, such as summer camps, athletic fees, shoes, etc. Anne reported on Choices for Independence Program: 256 unduplicated clients served to date. We came in to a little bit of money through Community Action Agency and will not need to cut more services this year. Pleased to report that the waiting list is down to 115. Vietnam Veteran celebration on May 28th at Air Zoo, Anne distributed flyers. Hoarding Task Force will bring back Matt Paxton from the Hoarders TV show for training. Veterans Community Partnership presents on Recreational Therapy June 21st at the Battle Creek VA Med Center.

- VIII. **Other Business:** Don R. said he's sure everyone on this Council is astounded when we hear what the [AAA] staff does; and he thanked everyone.

Don announced that Celebrate Elderhood Steering Committee will meet May 25th at 3:00 PM in Conference Room C.

June 8th is our next OASAC meeting.

Approval of AAAlIIA FY17-19 Multi-Year Plan Draft

Motion	Carried	To approve draft plan
---------------	----------------	------------------------------

**John H.
Tom D.**

Motion	Carried	To Adjourn at 4:55 PM
---------------	----------------	------------------------------

**Clinton L.
John**

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Bonita