

**Older Adult Services Advisory Council
MEETING MINUTES
July 8, 2015 – 4:00 PM
HCS Dept. – Conference Room F**

Members Present: Vice Chair Ros Robbert, Tom Danielson, Kathy Grueter, Clinton Lewis, Beulah Price, Kelly Quardokus, Beverly Solik

Members Absent: Chair Don Ryan, Al Heilman, Deb Josephson, Kimberly Middleton

Staff Present: Judy Sivak, Anne Zemlick, Liz Brass, Judy Adlam, Beth Ridge, Janice Bonita, Shelby Tuthill, Intern

Guests: Commissioner Larry Provancher, Dave Carroll, Senior Services Southwest Michigan

I. **Welcome and Introductions:** Vice Chair, Ros Robbert, opened the meeting with welcome and introductions. New summer intern from Kalamazoo College, Shelby Tuthill. Update on Don Ryan.

II. **Approval of May Minutes:**

Motion Carried To Approve May 2015 Minutes

**Clinton L.
Tom D.**

III. **Citizen Time:** None

IV. **Member Time:** None

V. **Financial Report Review:** Beth R. reviewed the May Financial Report, copies sent.

VII. **Advocacy Report** (agenda item taken before Staff Report): Judy S. reported on plans for Social Security and Medicare anniversaries at Kalamazoo County Advocates for Senior Issues meeting scheduled for August 17th. Flyer will be available at August OASAC meeting.
MLive had a good article on road funding bill. House has bill to eliminate earned income tax credit, which would be bad for low-income wage earners. Both bills would rely on unspecified funding which translates to cuts. Also, watch for sequestration, which would mean cuts to meals, supportive services. Let your voice be heard by your legislators.

- VI. **Staff Report:** Liz B. attended Friends of Transit meeting in June. Metro Transit has community ride-share in the works. Transportation millage vote coming up August 4th.

At the last OASAC meeting information was requested on our Custom Care program. Judy S. directs attention to the Custom Care page of the financial report and explains that it is a private pay program—no grant/no budget. Judy Adlam, LMSW, is here to explain what she does as the primary staff person for the Custom Care Program. She is paid by the hour by the client. She keeps track of her time. Her first visit was on March 2013. She has about 10 clients at any given time. Main issues are encountered by adult children of aging parents looking for where to turn for the next step in caring for parent. Often children don't live nearby. They can hire Judy on a retainer basis to check in with the client regularly. She goes out to home, does assessment with individual and/or family member(s). Connects them with services—does not provide hands-on care. \$71 hour. Mileage extra. Can travel to other counties.

Janice B. distributed Senior & Caregiver Expo exhibitor registration forms mentioning that the deadline for early-bird registration fees is July 31st. The event will be held Tuesday, October 6th from 9 AM to 3 PM.

Liz B. reviewed that AAA Web site she has been updating is now finished.

Anne Z. reported that the Veterans Community Partnership and ADRC are holding a presentation, Advancing Healthcare for the LGBT Community, at KVCC on Thursday, July 16th from 8:30 AM to Noon. The Elder Abuse Prevention Coalition is hosting Training to Prevent Adult Abuse and Neglect for direct-care workers on August 27th from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM here at the HCS Department. Also, there will be a presentation on substance abuse in November, and more information will be provided at a later date.

The Choices for Independence wait list was 192 as of the end of June.

Patti Stratton will facilitate another Creating Confident Caregivers workshop beginning August 4th at St. Martin's Church; flyer distributed. Another CCC class will be held starting in October.

The Safe, Sound & Secure Conference was a success and had a good turn-out.

Judy S. added that we're going to do it again, and if you didn't go to this one, you should consider going the next time as there is so much good information.

Judy S. distributed an updated OASAC member contact list; and, the July Spark magazine.

Turning attention to the "dashboard" report, the funding applications were sent out—Liz did a great job. They go to this Advisory Council for approval in August, then to the Board of Commissioners for theirs.

The Healthy Living Programs lists the number of graduates beside the classes. We've found the libraries great to work with; very accommodating.

July 24th, the Disability Network Southwest Michigan is holding a celebration of the Americans with Disabilities Act, from 11 AM to 1 PM; includes free lunch and program. Postcard circulated.

Judy presented to the Board of Commissioners in March on the Annual Implementation Plan. At that meeting, Commissioner Dale Shugars was very interested in doing something to make the community aware of aging issues—perhaps have an event once a year in May. Liz and Judy met with him recently and thought of a few ideas of what we could do, such as an awards dinner for best practices in a nursing home or innovative service delivery; scholarship to draw in young people in fields of study concerning older adults—CNAs, Social Work, etc. Fitness, honoring senior Olympians; recognize politicians. Suggestion of a 5K walk to raise money to pay for awards/scholarships. We would like members of the Advisory Council to work on this; perhaps a couple of members to spearhead and anyone else can email ideas. Ros Robbert and Tom Danielson volunteered. Judy added that American Society on Aging gives awards and has information on how to replicate what they do. Judy would like people to go on the Web site ChangingAging.org and find the meaning of "GIST". She'd also like to promote the concept of "aging smartly."

Motion Carried To Adjourn Meeting at 5:10 PM

**Kathy G.
Clinton L.**

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Bonita