

Older Adult Services Advisory Council
MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 14, 2018 – 3:30 PM
HCS Conference Room B

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Don Ryan, Samantha Carlson, David Eyke, John Hilliard, Kimberly Middleton, Kim Phillips, Beulah Price, Kelly Quardokus, Ros Robbert, Commissioner John Gisler and Commissioner Mike Quinn

MEMBERS ABSENT: Tim Charron

STAFF: Anne Zemlick, Brien Brockway, Don Saldia, Janice Bonita, Beth Ridge, Jim Rutherford

AASA REP.: Cindy Albrecht

GUESTS: Kathryn Hanfland, Aetna Better Health; Joyce Ryan; Jessica Torrey, WMU Senior Day Services

- I. **WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS:** Don Ryan opened the meeting at 3:32 PM with welcome and introductions.

- II. **APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES:**

Motion	Carried	To approve January 2018 minutes
	David E.	
	Ros R.	

- III. **CITIZEN TIME:** Kathryn Hanfland, Aetna Better Health, announced new employee, Jessica T. Cindy A., has been given a new job, emergency management. She'll be in touch when something comes up like flooding.

- IV. **MEMBER TIME:** – Kimberly M., one of her roles is as Committee Chair for Professionals Focused on Aging. PFA will have meeting on Friday, March 23rd, 8 AM at Senior Services, with guest speaker, Larry Yachcick, on the affordability and availability of housing for seniors. Don R.: March is Social Workers Month, and he extended his appreciation to Patti Stratton, Kelly Jonker, Laurie Palanca, Judy Adlam, Carol Decker, Kelly Milliman and Shae McKinnon, AAA staff; and to Samantha Carlson, OASAC member, also with the West Michigan Cancer Center.

- V. **FINANCIAL REPORT REVIEW:** Beth R. reviewed. A summary sheet was added, AAA Grant Summary, most of what AAA does is grant funded (other side--\$300,000 for community living programs). Ros mentioned at the last meeting she noticed we only show a small amount for staff training; this gives a better picture. We're on track with the budget as a whole, as long as we get the money we are supposed to get. Ros R. About the employee training, it had been mentioned our Ombudsman gets training paid through another State-level resource, which doesn't show up in our budget. Beth: She turns her paperwork in elsewhere. Ros does think it would be interesting for her especially as an educator, what training we receive. She would like people to go to more national conferences. Jim: In many of the grants we receive,

there is quite a bit of travel that goes on that it is required. Anne Z. will provide that information.

Motion Carried To Approve the Financial Report as Reviewed

Kimberly M.

Kim P.

VI. **ADVOCACY REPORT**: Anne, Older Michiganians Day (OMD) is May 16th, KCASI supporting a charter bus again this year. If you would like to go, please sign up—members free, or \$10. Kimberly said she would be glad to make goodie bags. Anne: Sara Wick, Michigan State Advocacy Council (MSAC) delegate, provided Anne with her report. Budget will most likely be flat, waiting for the Feds. \$3 million for Silver Key. MSAC is getting a public service advocacy award. Anne read OMD Platform issues from the draft. She urged advocacy of proposed bills to eliminate No-fault Insurance. Also, SHIP is still in jeopardy. Kimberly M.: If that SHIP funding were cut, would Senior Services continue to fund it? Anne: That’s uncertain. The State SHIP provides all the training for the largely volunteer MMAP counselors, and provides the oversight of the AAAs for funding. Kelly Q. said she just went to a meeting on Elder Abuse Legislation yesterday. Physicians Scope of Treatment was passed last fall; new bills introduced this year.

VII. **STAFF REPORTS**: Brien B. distributed FY17 Annual Report. Anne and Brien are starting on the Annual Implementation Plan (AIP); doing assessments of the vendors. Don S., new Choices for Independence Program Manager, reported that he and Brien attended AASA’s Access & Care Coordination Summit; and, Cindy A. was there. They have another meeting later this month to go over suggestions and talk about Care Management and Case Coordination & Support. Anne commends the State for holding this meeting.

Anne shared the “Purpose Statement” that the AAA staff wrote during a 4-hour off-site retreat, at the Kalamazoo Community Foundation. The Purpose Statement: “Through collaborative engagement we promote opportunities to enhance the quality of life for older adults by confronting barriers with advocacy, education and community partnerships.

First, staff participated in a “windshield assessment”—drove through different areas, right after the flood—that they were to observe what the clients have to experience. Brien, Don and Anji Phillips, our Investigative Teams Coordinator, who was great facilitator, helped with the planning.

Kelly Q. suggested: “promote...and provide...services”. Anne reported that regarding the flooding, a meeting with partners is planned for this Friday. Gryphon Place is still working with some people affected. City of Kalamazoo put on a listening session and did a really good job. Senior Services could not access their building, so Home Delivered Meals were not able to be prepared or delivered. Policy is that they have to have delivered 2 shelf-stable meals. Potential of 5 days that they didn’t have meals delivered. Also, the flooding happened at the end of the month when some victims’ Social Security funds could be running low. Our staff called their individual clients. One of our care consultants delivered food to an individual.

Anne & Brien have scheduled a meeting with Senior Services this Friday to discuss emergency response related to closures. We were in contact with Jeff Parsons, HCS Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, who was helpful. One man did drown. David E.: The gentleman who drowned worked for Zoetis (where David's wife works) as a maintenance person. Kelly Q.: Did Channel 3 scroll that no meals on wheels would be delivered? Anne: No. John H.: Is there a back-up plan for MOW? Anne: That's one of the things we're going to discuss. Jim R.: Senior Services' facility is in a 50-year flood plain, which is something that we should explore. Anne added that in the AASA Standards, they have to have a contingency plan—we will get clarification. We need to look at what WE could do better. While the CFI program has an emergency response plan, it is not specific to the various seasons, such as tornado season, etc., but should.

In February OASAC held a retreat instead of a regular meeting, and several asked for information from us. One questions was about how the money flows into us and goes out. Anne distributed and reviewed a chart she put together. She can send it out electronically, too. Don R. suggested to Anne she put her explanation in an email and send it to the County Commissioners. Next month Anne will bring the "training" information. Also, a suggestion was made that other staff members come more frequently, not just to the December meeting to share their stories.

There is a KCASI meeting March 19th at Portage Senior Center, and Kelly Q. and Hilary Kerr, from Bronson, will be presenting information on advance directives and the newly legislated Physician Orders for Standards of Treatment (POST).

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS:

- **MILLAGE DISCUSSION**

Jim R. reached out to our corporate counsel for clarification about the roles and responsibilities of Kalamazoo County Government employees, with regard to the senior millage; and, unfortunately, staff can't have any involvement, unless it is on personal time. Regarding OASAC meetings, he has to get clarification from the Counsel and County Administration what can be discussed. Jim said employees cannot attend millage work group meetings. He has to get clarification from Legal Counsel with regard to an OASAC member discussing the millage during OASAC meetings. Kelly Q.: Is it the "advocacy" part of it? Jim: Yes. Regarding the Commissioners, he thinks their involvement is different. Don Ryan clarified that, per Tracie Moored, she thinks his and John Hilliard's involvement in the work group is fine. Anne asked Cindy if there's anything she could add. Cindy: Not that familiar with millages, but she can look into it. Don R. said he is having a difficult time with OASAC being the group that initiated the senior millage proposal; and now they can't discuss it. Kelly Q. wanted to know if we could be told what the law it is. Jim: Don R. could reach out to Tracie and ask her to articulate that. Ros asked how soon we can get this information, because OASAC initiated the senior millage proposal. Jim suggested that we get all of our questions in writing to give to the Administration to seek answers.

Don distributed copies of what the Board of Commissioners passed.

Don read: Michigan Finance Act 57 “staff member during the time they are compensated cannot advocate.” Beth R. said that salaried employees are basically always on the clock, however; they can educate only. Kelly Q. asked Don if he still has that lawyer’s PowerPoint, and would he mind sharing it? Don agreed to share it. And, he added that the ballot initiative would not be called a “senior millage;” but “Say YES to Seniors.”

- OTHER:

Don R. asked Brien for 30 copies of the AAA FY 17Annual Report.

At the retreat, a sheet was passed around for members to list their skills (Don distributed).

Don R. was reappointed to the State Advisory Board in Lansing.

May 18th is the Centenarian Luncheon at The Beacon Club. Joyce Ryan is the Chair of the Luncheon Committee. Joyce provided a review, and had reservation forms for OASAC members interested in attending. Don R. added that Maranda “Where You Live,” from Wood TV 8, is coming to the luncheon.

Don reminded us it is 141 days until the 7th of August, and we need all the support and donations we can get.

John Gisler, recently became aware of elder abuse and neglect (gave a brief story). Anne said she would ask Anji Phillips to come and talk to this group about elder abuse prevention at some point. We are looking to do an elder abuse ad campaign. Anne thanked John G. for sharing his experience. Cindy A. added that there legislation coming into the House that will help with this, SB713. Kelly Q. added that the isolation of the person is something else we’re trying to get in the bill. Kimberly M. Jeff Getting has said he doesn’t need permission from the elder person to prosecute, for example, a son who’s financially exploiting an elderly mother.

John Hilliard asked if our LTC Ombudsman has been involved with the recent issues with the Upjohn facility. Anne responded that she has. Upjohn has been stopped from forcing anyone to leave. Cindy added that one person has even come back to Upjohn who was made to leave. Anne said they are still going reduce the number of beds, and will continue to work with the State to do this properly. They told residents they were remodeling and reducing the number of beds.

Motion Carried To adjourn at 5:17 PM.

**John H.
Samantha C.**

Respectfully submitted,
Janice Bonita