

**Minutes of the Commission On Aging Meeting  
Garvey Center – Leonardtown, Maryland  
Monday, August 28, 2006**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Start Time: 12:00 p.m.  
Location: Garvey Senior Center, Leonardtown, MD  
Chaired By: Daniel Hinz, Chairperson

**PRESENT**

**COA Members:** Daniel Hinz, Mary Ruth Horton, Mary Ann Grusholt, Sherrie St. Clair, Pat Myers, Kathie Reich, Florence Lanham and Kitty Turner.

**Commissioners:** Commissioner Thomas A. Mattingly, Sr.

**Department of Aging Staff:** Lori Jennings-Harris, Jennie Page, and Valerie Pilkerton.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Mary Ruth Horton requested under Old Business to add Senior Housing Advocacy Status. Motion was made by Pat Myers to approve the agenda with one change, and was seconded by Kathie Riech. The board agreed.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mary Ruth Horton stated under September Forum Report to take out Education. Motion was made by Pat Myers to approve the minutes 07-24-2006 with one change, and was seconded by Florence Lanham. The board agreed.

**Welcome New Director, Ms. Lori Jennings-Harris**

Ms. Jennings-Harris stated the three issues she will be looking at as high priority are;  
Transportation  
Senior Centers  
Meal Programs

Mary Ruth questioned if any of the COA members should come to the BOCC meeting tomorrow evening. The agenda item of discussion concerns transportation.

Ms. Jennings-Harris' indicated that staff recognize the importance of transportation in what we do. It is an open meeting and if the members would like to attend the meeting to hear what is discussed, maybe in the future there will be some ways to support transportation with any changes that may be made in collaboration.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Senior Tax Credit Status:**

Mary Ruth reports that it is in a holding pattern as far as working out details with the state entities. We hope working with the County Attorneys and Department of Aging staff that by the next meeting things will be worked out. It is getting close to the time that legislation items are to be turned in, legislation is already in place time restrains need to be worked out.

**Northern Senior Housing Status:**

Pat Myers waiting on Charlotte Hall Veterans Home's rely to Phil Rollins' request of tying into the sewage system. If able to use their sewage system, would be a good thing because we would be able to put more housing up there, if we can not than the housing would be minimal and don't know if there would be any builders interested in coming in and doing a small project like that. Jennie spoke to Phil and his understanding is that Fred at Charlotte Hall Veterans Home is still waiting on comments from the state and clarification weather the county would have to own senior housing or possibly contract it out. So there are several things that have to be clarified not only can we use their treatment system but how the housing will be set up. Pat Myers comments, if the state has some questions, rather than running back and fourth maybe a group can get together. Kitty Turner questions, is it located on the grounds of the former Charlotte Hall Military Academy are they keeping that main building? Jennie Page answers, the treatment plant is located there. Discussion ensued of what buildings are used for and where the senior housing will sit.

#### **Senior Coalition Statue:**

Mary Ruth stated she spoke to Claire Whitebeck she is still the chair person of record. The coalition has not meet in quite a few months, it is very inactive status at this point. Which is I think just fine, because the purpose of the coalition is to assist with any issue that come up relating to aging and to particularly assist with, because of its 501C3 status with some grant writing and that sort of thing. And to possibly go a step further than those on the Commission on Aging would be able to go given the guidelines that we have being positions that we are in with the county. If and when we do have an issue like transportation or the meals which has certainly been an issue in past years and our senior centers and their future as you know are defiantly changing. Those are things that I feel once we have reason to reactivate things that we can discuss quite a bit and we will probably, one of the first thing we will do when we meet again is discuss officers my understanding is that Claire really does not want to continue as chair-person. I will certainly keep in touch as I have in the past with the coalition and keep you up to date membership would state as you read in your minutes with the state organization has been renewed. That's pretty much it any questions. ????? asks who volunteers to be the rep from the Commission on Aging? Mary Ruth replies that Daniel was going to, ????? stated that if he could't make it for some reason I would, it has been shuffled around. Mary Ruth, there haven't been any meetings it has just been a verbal communication. Kitty Turner asks, who is it, who are you talking about? Mary Ruth, we are talking about the Senior Coalition. Kitty Turner, yes and who is the representative? Mary Ruth, I have been representing as chairperson to the coalition for the past two years, and Daniel became chairperson so Daniel said he wanted to go but there has not been any meetings yet so really nobody has gone to any meetings. Daniel anything further on that any questions or I think Mary Ruth has a very good handle on that, so far. Mary Ruth it's something we really should keep in place though because it really will do good for us. Daniel is saying we do not it does not we are not required to come up with any fees for it. Mary Ruth no, no money whatsoever.

Daniel at this time may I interrupt just a moment to welcome our current Commissioner Mattingly.

Commissioner Mattingly states just want to thank you all for the contribution you make to the Department of Aging it is important piece of the operation to have feed back from the community and you all are very much active and out there into it. We are excited with Lori to have Lori onboard and thank those that were able the other day to stop by the other day for the little reception we had to greet her and to get to know her and know that she and Jeanie and the rest of the staff are all getting together everybody get their heads together get to know each other their personalities look at the system see what we have what's working what needs tweaking I know you all are going to be part of that you always have been and I'm sure

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **DOA ACTING DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be on September 25, 2006 at 12:00. Pat Myers moved to adjourn the meeting and Pat Myers seconded the motion. The board agreed. The meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Prepared by:

Valerie Pilkerton

Senior Administrative Coordinator, St. Mary's County Department of Aging