

Minutes of the Commission On Aging Meeting
Garvey Center – Leonardtown, Maryland
Monday, February 22, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

Start Time: 1:00 p.m.
Location: Garvey Senior Activity Center, Leonardtown, MD
Chaired By: Elfreda Mathis - Chair

PRESENT

COA Members: Claudia Knowlton, Florence Lanham, Elfreda Mathis, Peggy Reardon, Sheral St. Clair

Department of Aging Staff: Lori Jennings-Harris, Director; Dana DiGregorio, Sr. Administrative Coordinator.

Guests: Sithy McGraw

ABSENT

COA Members: Betty Broadhurst, Sam Brown, Vicki Brown, Kathie Reich, Sandra Wheeler

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as written was made by Florence Lanham and was seconded by Sheral St. Clair; all were in favor and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the January 2010 meeting minutes was made by Sheral St. Clair and was seconded by Peggy Reardon; all were in favor and the motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Privatization of Ripple Center Update:

- Lori Jennings-Harris, Director and Rebecca Kessler, Manager Home and Community Based Services Division, presented information on the privatization of the Medical Adult Day Service program to the Board of County Commissioners. After the presentation the Board of County Commissioners elected to continue forward with the privatization of the Medical Adult Day Service Program.
- El Shaddai, the organization that is potentially taking over the Medical Adult Day Service Program, has agreed to take all the employees currently employed at the Ripple Medical Adult Day Services Center.

Friends of Ripple Projects:

- The Friends of Ripple Group's Butter Braid fund-raiser is underway.

2009 Tri-County Commission On Aging Meeting:

- Invitation letter updated by Department of Aging staff, and ready to go out.
- The Commission discussed formatting of the presentations and agenda for the Tri-County Commission On Aging Meeting scheduled for April 29, 2010. Elfreda Mathis contacted the Department of Public Safety, Claudia Knowlton contacted Maryland Extension Services and St. Mary's County Health Department, and Lori Jennings-Harris contacted St. Mary's Hospital Health Connections to request a staff member be a presenter at the Tri-County Commission On Aging meeting, and has also invited Mike LaChance, Legislative Liaison for the Maryland Department of Aging, to attend. All have agreed to participate.

Site Information Visits /Presentations:

- It was recommended that the Commission make regular visits to sites around the county as well as have presenters attend Commission meetings throughout the next year to give brief updates and information on facilities and programs around the county.

NEW BUSINESS

Update Bylaws:

- Lori Jennings-Harris spoke with the St. Mary's County Administrator's Office to determine how often the Commission On Aging By-laws must be updated, and determined that there is no formal timeframe for updating the bylaws. A review is optional and at the discretion of the Commission members.

Annual Report Update:

- Kathie Reich submitted the 2009 Annual Report for the Commission On Aging to the Board of County Commissioners.

ACTION ITEMS

- No action items to report.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Maryland Department of Aging Visit:

- Representatives from the Maryland Department of Aging came down to St. Mary's County to visit the new congregate meals site at NewTowne Village. Additionally Maryland Public Television was there taping highlights of what Maryland counties are doing with the stimulus funds received. Lori Jennings-Harris will obtain a copy of the video and bring to a future meeting for viewing by the Commission members.

Loffler Sr. Activity Center Update:

- Due to excessive snow accumulation a portion of the roof at the Loffler Senior Activity Center collapsed and the building has been closed since. Staff members have relocated to other Senior Activity Center facilities. Once a structural engineer has reviewed the building damages we will know how extensive the damage is and how long we will be displaced. At this time staff is looking into alternate facilities to house Senior Center Activities so that the center can resume daily activities.

PERSONNEL CHANGES

- No personnel changes this month

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 22, 2010 at 1:00 p.m. at the Garvey Senior Activity Center.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Claudia Knowlton and was seconded by Peggy Reardon; all were in favor and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 2:32 p.m.

Prepared by:

Dana DiGregorio

Sr. Administrative Coordinator