

FAIRFAX AREA COMMISSION ON AGING FINAL MINUTES OF MEETING

Wednesday, February 16, 2011

Braddock District, 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke, Va 22015

Commissioners Present: Tena Bluhm (Chair), Eileen Duggan (Vice Chair), Julie Bloom Ellis, Mary Jo Rasmussen, Kenneth Malmberg, Maureen Renault, Sally Hottle

Commissioners Absent: Nazir Bhagat, Joe Heastie, Faviola Donato-Galindo, Suzanne Rudiselle

Staff Present: Sharon Lynn, Jacquie Woodruff

Others Present: Tom Bash, *Broker, Long-term Care Insurance Programs*; Rosemary Ryan, *Supervisor Cook's Staff*, Ann Sharp, *Supervisor Cook's Staff*, Cherie Lejeune, *Chair of Human Services, Federation of Fairfax*
Guest speaker: Dr. Shirley Travis, *George Mason University*

Call to Order, Adoption of the day's Agenda

The Commission on Aging (COA) meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m. by Chairperson Tena Bluhm. Tena introduced new commissioner, Ms. Mary Jo Rasmussen, a resident of Fairfax for 48 years. Ms. Rasmussen has been an advocate at St. Mark's Church, served on the INOVA and Anchorage Library Foundation Boards, and is currently involved with the Village of Mosby Woods. The commissioners introduced themselves.

Tena asked Maureen to introduce the guest speaker, Dr. Shirley Travis. Dr. Travis is Dean of the College of Health & Human Services at George Mason University and has worked with the Rosalynn Carter Institute. Dr. Travis spoke about trends in family caregiving, the illness trajectory, and communication.

Acting Director's Report

A recent hospital transition meeting included Sharon Lynn, Acting Director of the Area Agency on Aging (AAA), and Cathy Cole, Director of the Fairfax AAA ElderLink, a Vice President of INOVA, and representatives from the Fairfax County Health Department, the Long Term Care Coordinating Council, Prince William Area Agency on Aging, and the Loudoun County AAA..

The new PACE program will be located at Braddock Glen.

The Fairfax AAA nutrition program is working on an initiative to provide more diverse meals, with a goal of improving quality and increasing choice while staying within budget. Several staff members visited Food & Friends in Washington, and Sharon also visited a food bank in Richmond to learn from their approaches.

Sharon and Jacquie Woodruff attended the V4A meeting in Richmond.

Sharon and Maureen Renault met with Aerospace Corporation to discuss a series of presentations for employees about adult day health care and other county services for older adults, caregivers and adults with disabilities.

Sharon and other staff are also working on a Neighbors Care pilot with Maureen. This neighborhood approach is a less formal approach than the Village model, without a fee structure. An organic resident organization has already occurred in Maureen's neighborhood and another neighborhood in Mt. Vernon. Tena Bluhm's neighborhood would also make a strong pilot.

Commissioner Updates

Ken attended the Health Department MAPP meeting. MAPP priorities have been identified from the 6000 survey responses received. The Disaster Preparedness Committee still hasn't met.

Eileen met with staff from Supervisor's Foust's office, Jerry Hopkins, & Patricia Rohrer to plan an April 7th meeting in McLean focusing on older adults. The Great Falls Citizens Association will have a panel presentation on April 19. Sharon has been contacted to speak.

Julie and Bruce Patrick presented their plan for the Senior Citizens Council to community developers. Julie recommends that the COA have a display at Supervisor Hyland's town hall meeting next year.

Maureen continues to work on the adult day health care marketing project. She is participating on the housing committee for the Aging in Reston Village group. Supervisor Frye would like to tour Braddock Glen and Greenspring.

Old Business

Sally motioned for an approval of last month's minutes. Julie seconded the motion.

Ken called the constituent who wrote to the COA regarding older adults over 70 who would like to remain in Fairfax County.

Tena wrote the Commissioner's Corner article for the March Golden Gazette. Julie will submit the May Commissioner's Corner; due April 1st. A COA photo will be taken at the March meeting.

New Business

May is Older Americans Month. Several agencies want to honor older adults and the volunteers who serve older adults. A reception will be co-hosted before or after the proclamation. Sally will ask Supervisor Herrity to sponsor the proclamation.

Staff will send the COA information about the county budget and budget hearings.

Next month's meeting will be held at the senior center at Little River Glen.

Meeting Adjournment

Eileen motioned that the meeting be adjourned. Julie seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.