



Think Progress. Think Tomorrow. Think GRADD.

GREEN RIVER AREA COUNCIL ON AGING

March 1, 2016

M-I-N-U-T-E-S

The Green River Area Council on Aging met on Tuesday, March 1, 2016, at 10:00 a.m., at the Green River Area Development District (GRADD) office. The following persons were in attendance:

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Daviess	Jennifer Hamilton, Mattie Jones, Nora Bilbro-Richie, Susan Howard
Hancock	Franklin Powers, Diann Crask
Henderson	Charlye Jo Griggs, Connie O'Leary, Sandy Blue
McLean	Nancy Wetzel, Leona Austin, Jim Toler
Ohio	Cluster Belcher, Wilda Hardesty, Mary Young
Union	Linda Carter, Larry Strehle, Cathy Strehle
Webster	Tonia Morrow

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

Daviess	Mary Robertson, Melinda Cornell, Melvin Smith
Hancock	Jean Mattingly
Henderson	Suzanne Cravens
McLean	All Present
Ohio	J.T. Boling
Union	All Present
Webster	Carolyn Townsend, Ron Todd

GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT

Lona Kratzer, Hancock County Senior Services
Brenda Renfrow, Ohio County Senior Services
Judele Stone, Ohio County Senior Citizens
Heather McGarvey, Munday Activity Center

Jody Jenkins, *Chairman* ■ Bill Parrish, *Vice Chairman* ■ Jack McCaslin, *Secretary* ■ Steve Austin, *Treasurer* ■ Jiten Shah, *Executive Director*

GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT (cont.)

Dana Peveler, Munday Activity Center
LaDonna Pollard, Webster County Senior Services
Melissa Polites, Union County Senior Services
Tad Webb, Canteen
Cheryl Cureton, Kentucky Legal Aid
Debra Jacob, Department for Community Based Services (DCBS)
Vicky Embry, Audubon Area Community Services
Tabitha Ramos, Sisson Manor
Vivian McNatton, Associate Director for Social Services, GRADD
Jennifer Williams, In-Home Services Manager, GRADD
Jeanette Woodward, SAMS Administrator, GRADD
Lisa Flahardy, Aging Contract Specialist, GRADD
David Clark, AmeriCorps Program Coordinator, GRADD
Leslie Wilson, Senior Resource Coordinator, GRADD
Kelli King, Family Caregiver Coordinator, GRADD
Sheila Howard, District Ombudsman, GRADD
Liberty Watson, Support Services Technician, GRADD
Carolynn Kelley, AmeriCorps Program Assistant, GRADD
Nancy Williams, Aging & Disability Resource Counselor, GRADD
Michael Howerton, Intern, GRADD

I. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS

Chairperson Susan Howard called the meeting to order and asked everyone to join in the Pledge of Allegiance. Vice Chairperson Belcher then led the council in prayer. Chairperson Howard welcomed Diann Crask to the Aging Council.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Minutes of the December 1, 2015, Meeting

Secretary Franklin Powers presented the minutes of the December 1, 2015, meeting of the Green River Area Council on Aging for approval.

A motion was made by Franklin Powers and seconded by Connie O'Leary to approve the December 1, 2015, minutes of the Green River Area Council on Aging meeting. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

B. Program Reports

1. Union County

Melissa Polites reported that Union County has activities planned for March, National Nutrition Month, including a vegetable tasting which will highlight vegetables

to be grown in the raised bed gardens. Ms. Polites stated plans are also being made for Older Americans Month in May, with plans of visiting each county again this year.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. AmeriCorps Evaluation of Senior Connections

David Clark presented a PowerPoint demonstrating the effectiveness of the Senior Connections program. The purpose of an AmeriCorps program is to effectively solve a significant community problem. The problem identified and addressed by the local AmeriCorps program is Kentucky's rank nationwide as 50th for the number of Medicare recipients who are hospitalized. According to 2010 data, 40 percent of Kentucky Medicare recipients are hospitalized. Interventions focused on preventing hospitalization are improved nutrition and socialization. AmeriCorps members participating in Senior Connections help with the nutrition program through meal prep and delivery for Home Delivered Meals and at congregate sites; working at local food pantries and community gardens; participating in the annual "Stop Senior Hunger" food drive. In addition, AmeriCorps members increase socialization among the aging by conducting welfare checks, friendly visiting, telephone reassurance, helping with activities at senior centers, and providing transportation. In 2014, 4,485 seniors were reached through the Senior Connections program. Mr. Clark stated results for the program are measured using a target audience survey. The survey asks three simple questions: 1) are you a Medicare recipient?; 2) in the last 12 months has an AmeriCorps member visited with or assisted you?; and 3) in the last 12 months have you been admitted to a hospital? The survey results reveal that the target audience has a hospitalization rate of 30.9 percent. Given a 40 percent rate in the state; and a target audience averaging 4,390, there were 399 fewer hospitalizations. Considering in 2010 the average hospital stay cost \$15,734, the cost savings over a two-year period were \$6,277,826 (399 x \$15,734). This savings is achieved with a federal grant for Senior Connections in the amount of \$588,720.

B. Request for Proposal (RFP) Bid Reviews and Approval

The proposals for services in Legal, In-Home, Catered Meals, and Senior Center/Supportive services were reviewed. The Executive Committees of the Green River Area Council on Aging and GRADD Board of Directors met on January 13, 2016, to review all proposals and authorized the Area Agency on Aging staff to enter into non-competitive negotiations with responsive bidders regarding the narrative and financial portions of their proposals. The Aging Council Executive Committee further explained the process to those present. Lisa Flahardy made spreadsheets available detailing the unit costs which were bid for each of the services. Jeanette Woodward briefly explained the various categories of services provided by senior centers. Ms. Flahardy explained that bidders provide a unit cost for the service to be provided and then number of units to be served based on the budget provided in the RFP.

A motion was made by Nancy Wetzel and seconded by Wilda Hardesty to approve the recommendation for providers made by the Executive Committee of the Aging Council and the Executive Committee of the GRADD Board of Directors. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

With approval from the Aging Council, the recommendations will now be presented to the GRADD Board of Directors for final approval on March 9, 2016. Services for the approved providers will begin July 1, 2016.

C. Program to Encourage Active Rewarding Lives for Seniors (PEARLS) Expansion Research Committee

At the request of several county judge executives a research committee was formed for the purpose of expanding the PEARLS program to all counties (currently in Daviess County). Members appointed to the council were: Jim Toler, Jennifer Hamilton, and Mattie Jones who will meet with AAAIL staff to discuss further.

D. Emergency Meals for Home Delivery

Two rounds of emergency meals were ordered and delivered this year: one in November and one in January. The decision was made by staff not to order a third round this late in the winter season. Two boxes of emergency meals were made available for those present to see what is received by clients. County coordinators expressed that while the meals may not seem like much, clients are very appreciative of the meals.

E. Veterans Directed Care

Veterans Directed Care will be provided through a contract with Marion, Illinois VA Hospital and the Pennyrile ADD. Case management for these services will begin in March.

F. Area Plan Update

The Area Plan will be discussed and submitted to the council for approval at the April meeting. Updates are due to the Department for Aging and Independent Living on April 15, 2016.

G. National Council on Aging (NCOA) Grant

Leslie Wilson stated GRADD received a \$50,000 grant again this year from the NCOA to remain a Benefits CheckUp Enrollment Center. An additional part-time person will be hired with the grant funding. The new grant cycle began January 1, 2016 and will continue through December 31, 2016. Ms. Wilson provided brochures and copies of the screening tool and asked for help getting the word out to the communities across the region.

H. Introduction of New Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Staff

Leslie Wilson introduced Nancy Williams, the newest staff member of the ADRC. Ms. Williams is a part-time ADRC Counselor.

I. Meal Route

Connie O’Leary of Henderson County related her experience of riding along on a meal route. Ms. O’Leary stated the Meals on Wheels program meets the needs of people from a variety of backgrounds and is an excellent service to the community.

IV. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Owensboro Regional Suicide Prevention Coalition, Inc. presents:
 - The Art of Living Mentally Well, by Kevin Hines: April 13, 2016, 6:30 – 8:30 p.m., at Owensboro Regional Hospital Auditorium.
 - Hope Illuminated: A Comprehensive Approach to Suicide Prevention and Bereavement Support by Dr. Sally Spencer-Thomas: April 14, 2016, 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., at Owensboro Regional Hospital Auditorium.
- The next meeting of the Green River Area Council on Aging is April 5, 2016.

V. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned.

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