



**Think Progress. Think Tomorrow. Think GRADD.  
GREEN RIVER AREA COUNCIL ON AGING**

August 7, 2018

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

The Green River Area Council on Aging met on Tuesday, August 7, 2018, at 10:00 a.m., at the Green River Area Development District (GRADD) office. The following persons were in attendance:

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Daviess	Susan Howard, Henrietta Harris, Nora Bilbro-Richie, Jon Higdon, Melinda Cornell, Betty Medley
Hancock	Franklin Powers, Diann Crask, Jean Mattingly
Henderson	Charlye Jo Griggs, Connie O'Leary, Suzanne Cravens
McLean	Nancy Wetzell
Ohio	Mary Young, Wilda Hardesty
Union	Emily Dominguez
Webster	Patty Tapp, Tracy Henry, James Townsend

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

Daviess	*Sim Davenport
Hancock	All Present
Henderson	All Present
McLean	Jim Toler
Ohio	*Susan Chinn
Union	Cathy Strehle, Larry Strehle
Webster	All Present

GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT

Dana Peveler, Munday Activity Center (MAC)  
 Heather McGarvey, MAC  
 Wanda Blackwell, Webster County Senior Services  
 Lona Kratzer, Hancock County Senior Services  
 Scott Settle, McLean County Senior Services

\*Excused Absence

Kelly Thurman, Chairman ■ David Johnston, Vice Chairman ■ Brad Schneider, Secretary ■ Al Mattingly, Jr., Treasurer ■ Jiten Shah, Executive Director

GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT (cont.)

Daniel Miller, McLean County Senior Services  
Brenda Renfrow, Ohio County Senior Services  
Becka Skaggs, The Gathering Place  
Melissa Polites, Union County Senior Services  
Ashley Glenn, Sisson Manor  
Bill Cooper  
Robyn Mattingly, Audubon Area Community Services (AACS)  
Abbie Arrendell, AACS  
Angela Mayfield, Hospice of Western Kentucky  
Erin Kamuf, Hospice of Western Kentucky  
Whitney Hankins, Twin Rivers  
Jennifer Williams, Associate Director for Social Services, GRADD  
Janet Clancy, In-Home Services Manager, GRADD  
Leslie Wilson, Community Services Manager, GRADD  
Jeanette Woodward, SAMS Database Administrator, GRADD  
Sheila Howard, District Ombudsman, GRADD  
Lisa Flahardy, Aging Contract Specialist, GRADD  
Kelli King, Family Caregiver Support Program, GRADD  
Liberty Watson, Support Services Technician, GRADD

I. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS

Chairperson Susan Howard called the meeting to order. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance, then Chairperson Howard led the council in prayer.

Chairperson Howard shared statistics from a recent Census Bureau report. The year 2030 will mark a turning point for the United States population with all the Baby Boomers being over 65 years of age, and one in five residents being of retirement age. By 2035, persons 65 and older will outnumber those 18 and under. She also shared from the article *Aging in America: Land of the Free, Home of the Gray*, published in U.S. News & World Report, which points to shifts in attitudes of the aging population. For example, 74 percent of those surveyed plan to work beyond retirement age. In the area of healthcare, people have the expectation of remaining in their homes and dying at home. Life-long learning experiences are also a priority for persons 65 and older.

II. GUEST SPEAKER

Angela Mayfield shared about resources available through Hospice of Western Kentucky. Ms. Mayfield stated most people are familiar with traditional end-of-life Hospice care but are unaware of the palliative care services available. Palliative care provides support for individuals who have been diagnosed with a serious chronic illness. Families of those under palliative care find support for managing medication, making decisions when they are uncertain if an ER visit is called for, and help in future planning and decision making in regard to the chronic illness. Palliative care provides quality care and support during the patient's life regardless of the outcome of the illness/disease.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Minutes of the June 5, 2018, Meeting

Secretary Franklin Powers presented the minutes of the June 5, 2018, 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 June 5, 2018, minutes of the Green River Area Council on Aging meeting. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

B. Program Reports

1. McLean County

Daniel Miller provided an update on activities taking place in McLean County. A bone density, exercise-based class is being conducted at both Livermore and Calhoun sites. Some seniors are enjoying the class so much that they attend at both sites. Community partnerships include: Caretenders providing Bingo; Rite-Aid providing flu shot clinics; and EMTs providing blood pressure and blood sugar checks. Calhoun has an active walking club, with one senior committing to the hundred mile walk between Memorial Day and Labor Day. The monthly dances were held through June but suspended for the summer, and will start back in the fall. Staff has provided much assistance to persons turning 65 who are overwhelmed by the amount of insurance information and offers they receive. Trips were made to Shady Cliff, Adams Breezy Hill, and Tropicana. Since the closing of both the Livermore and Calhoun IGAs, Calhoun Baptist Church has offered van rides twice weekly for seniors who may not have transportation to Owensboro for grocery shopping. The senior services is also providing van rides once a week for the same purpose. Some of the McLean County Seniors participated in a summer program through the county library.

2. Daviess County/Munday Activity Center

Dana Peveler announced the upcoming annual fundraiser to be held Thursday, August 16, at 5:30 p.m., at Immaculate Parish Hall. This year’s theme is Silver Salute honoring seniors from different areas of leadership. Theatre Workshop of Owensboro will present “Voices of History,” telling life stories of local seniors. There will also be a silent auction and music by the Owensboro Symphony Jazz Trio. Tickets are \$35 each (tax included).

3. Webster County

Wanda Blackwell was excited to announce that construction began yesterday for the new Webster County Senior Center and the tentative completion date is May 29, 2019.

4. GRADD Provider Report

Lisa Flahardy provided all present with a copy of the budget for July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018, showing the amounts expended district wide for each service. Ms. Flahardy emphasized that GRADD’s providers have performed very well, meeting and often exceeding the goals. She pointed out the congregate meals and MIPPA services, which reflect a

much lower percentage of funds spent, and explained these programs receive funds which are on a different fiscal year schedule and are on track to meet goals. Questions regarding specific county information can be directed to Ms. Flahardy either after the meeting or by calling her at 270-926-4433.

C. Senior Day Out

Lisa Flahardy shared that Senior Day Out, set for September 20, has some new entertainment and speakers in the lineup and will include a fashion show again this year. All members are encouraged to attend and spread the word.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. New Member Introduction

Chairperson Howard welcomed Emily Domiguez who is representing the Union County Judge/Executive on the council.

B. AmeriCorps 2018-2019 Service Year

Jennifer Williams informed the council GRADD's Senior Connections has 38 member slots this year. Of those, about half will be filled with returning members. Members commit to 1,700 hours of community service between September 1 and August 31. They receive a living allowance of \$13,732.00 and at the end of their commitment receive an education award of \$5,920.00. For persons 55 and older, the education award can be transferred to a child or grandchild. Members fulfill their service hours through a local nonprofit organization. Anyone interested in applying can contact David Clark at the GRADD office.

C. Department for Aging & Independent Living (DAIL) Update

Jennifer Williams stated that after more than a year with an interim commissioner, Shannon Gadd has been appointed the new commissioner of DAIL.

D. Budget Cuts

Jennifer Williams reported the aging department sustained a 6.7 percent cut this year and will be cut another 6.8 percent next year. GRADD staff has worked hard to minimize reduction in services with the loss of funds; however, approximately nine client slots will be cut from both Homemaking and home-delivered meals. These cuts will take place through attrition. Unfortunately, longer waiting lists will be the result. GRADD continues to explore new sources of funding to help off-set the budget cuts.

E. Request for Proposal (RFP) Aging Plan Schedule

Copies of the RFP Aging Plan Schedule were made available to all present. Jennifer Williams stated both the RFP for Senior Center Services and the Invitation For Bid (IFB) for Catered Meals have been submitted to DAIL for approval. After receiving approval, they will be advertised in the Messenger-Inquirer and Henderson Gleaner on Sunday,

September 9, and available for pickup at the GRADD office on Monday, September 10. Ms. Williams pointed out that the schedule is set to have providers approved by both the Aging Council and the GRADD Board of Directors before Christmas.

F. Senior Celebration: August 21, 2018

Janet Clancy provided information about Senior Celebration. Registration forms were sent to members and were also available at the meeting. GRADD will pay the registration fee for any council member who wants to attend.

G. Staff Updates

In recent months, GRADD has lost a part-time case manager and full-time case manager. Additionally, the Aging & Disability Resource Center Coordinator position has been vacant for a couple of months. To help offset budget cuts, staff has been shifted in-house to fill some of these positions. Amber Gebhard, who has worked in the GRADD waiver program, is the new ADRC Coordinator. Sarah Ackerman, also a support broker in the waiver program, will now split her time between waiver and case management. Tarren Wilkey was hired as a part-time employee for waiver. Currently, GRADD will be hiring a part-time, temporary case manager. The position is being advertised as temporary since caseloads should decrease as budget cuts are sustained through attrition, at which time the position would be eliminated.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Robyn Mattingly with AACS stated that volunteer opportunities are available for persons 55 and older in the Foster Grandparent Program, Senior Companion Program, and Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP). Anyone interested in volunteering through these programs or would like information about receiving services through one of the programs can call the AACS office;
- Senior Celebration – August, 21, 2018, at Owensboro Christian Church;
- 2018 Walk to End Alzheimer's – August 25, 2018, 9:00 a.m., at Smother's Park;
- Senior Day Out at Towne Square Mall – September 20, 2018, 8:30 a.m.;
- GRADD 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Annual Dinner – September 21, 2018, at the Owensboro Convention Center;
- Mental Health & Aging Coalition meeting – September 27, 2018, 10:00 a.m.; Guest Speaker: Dave Farley, Western Kentucky Legal Aid, discussing Medicaid Preparation; and
- Next Aging Council meeting – October 2, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the council, the meeting adjourned.

/lw