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## **GREEN RIVER AREA COUNCIL ON AGING**

June 7, 2016

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

The Green River Area Council on Aging met on Tuesday, June 7, 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	Mattie Jones, Melvin Smith, Nora Bilbro-Richie, Susan Howard, Jennifer Hamilton, Melinda Cornell
Hancock	Franklin Powers, Diann Crask
Henderson	Charlye Jo Griggs, Connie O'Leary
McLean	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
Hancock	Jean Mattingly
Henderson	Sandy Blue*, Suzanne Cravens
McLean	Nancy Wetzel*, Leona Austin
Ohio	J.T. Boling
Union	All Present
Webster	Carolyn Townsend*


### GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT

Lona Kratzer, Hancock County Senior Services  
Dana Peveler, Munday Activity Center  
Wanda Blackwell, Webster County Senior Services

\*Excused Absence

Jack McCaslin, *Chairman* ■ Steve Austin, *Vice Chairman* ■ Kelly Thurman, *Secretary* ■ David Johnston, *Treasurer* ■ Jiten Shah, *Executive Director*

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GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT (cont.)

Margarette Johnson, Webster County  
Melissa Polites, Union County Senior Services  
Linda Brown, The Gathering Place  
Debra Jacob, Department for Community Based Services (DCBS)  
Tabitha Ramos, Sisson Manor  
Vivian McNatton, Associate Director for Social Services, GRADD  
Jeanette Woodward, Social Assistance Mgmt. System (SAMS) Admin., GRADD  
Lisa Flahardy, Aging Contract Specialist, GRADD  
Jennifer Williams, In-Home Services Manager  
Kelli King, Family Caregiver Coordinator, GRADD  
Sheila Howard, District Ombudsman, GRADD  
Taylor Gogel, Public Administration Specialist, GRADD  
Liberty Watson, Support Services Technician, 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 Cluster Belcher led the council in prayer. Chairperson Howard welcomed Jean Mattingly to the council.

II. COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY (CEDS) UPDATE

Taylor Gogel presented a PowerPoint giving a brief overview of the CEDS document and its purpose. The CEDS is a strategy-driven plan for regional economic development and must be updated at least every five years to qualify for Economic Development Administration (EDA) assistance. It is developed through a regionally-owned planning process and addresses resiliency. Mr. Gogel stated that as GRADD staff pen the document they are considering four basic questions concerning regional economic growth and resiliency: What have we done?; Where are we now?; Where do we want to go?; and How do we get there? Mr. Gogel requested input from Aging Council members on their ideas of what a better place for seniors would look like. Often thinking in a purely economic mind set, quality of life aspects can be overlooked when developing such plans. Members readily engaged in discussion bringing up “livable communities,” design of new housing to better meet the needs of seniors and the disabled, and the availability of years of knowledge and experience in the senior population that often goes untapped. Those present were encouraged to contact Mr. Gogel with further ideas.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Minutes of the April 5, 2016, Meeting

Secretary Franklin Powers presented the minutes of the April 5, 2016, 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 April 5, 2016, minutes of the Green River Area Council on Aging meeting. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

B. Program Reports

1. Henderson County

Linda Brown reported that the health fair was very successful with over 100 attendees. Rite Aid provided pneumonia and shingle vaccinations, and Methodist Hospital provided blood sugar screenings. In celebration of Older Americans Month, 12-15 seniors visited senior centers in other counties. A six-week Tai Chi class begins today, led by University of Southern Indiana students. Fifty-two people are registered for a nine-day trip out west, which leaves Sunday. Mount Rushmore, the Badlands, and Black Hills of South Dakota are among the sites they will see. The Gathering Place facility will be undergoing some improvements with new flooring, interior paint, and a new parking lot. The parking lot will provide 14 additional parking spaces and will make the facility more easily accessible for the disabled.

2. Hancock County

Lona Kratzer stated 28 agencies participated in their health fair. Blood sugar screenings, blood pressure checks, and a derma scan were made available to the seniors. A few seniors attended the Aging Gracefully event held at the Owensboro Health Park. Ms. Kratzer stated this event provided good information about a variety of screenings. During Older Americans Month, city and county elected officials served meals at the senior centers. Ms. Kratzer announced Hancock County Senior Services has been approved to apply for a grant from Owensboro Health for the purchase of a van. She thanked GRADD staff for providing statistical information used in the writing of the grant application. Hancock County is partnering with the Munday Activity Center for an evidence-based chronic disease self-management class. It will be a 12-week course with six weeks taking place in Hancock County and six weeks in Daviess County. Lastly, a trip to Amish country is planned and other counties in the GRADD region are expected to join in the trip.

3. Munday Activity Center (MAC)

Dana Peveler reported Older Americans Month was celebrated with a Proclamation made by the judge’s office and the mayor’s office. Seniors from Daviess County attended Aging Gracefully. Recent trips included going to Patti’s Place and to see Phantom of the Opera. The billiards tournament for Masters Athletic Challenge is taking place today at the MAC. A new music class has begun in partnership with the H.L. Neblett Center preschoolers. An art class, made possible through the Marilyn and William Young Foundation, will be offered on June 28. Tomorrow, Attorney General Andy Beshear will be visiting the MAC promoting a new scam-alert system. All were invited to come and hear a few words from the attorney general.

C. Veterans Directed Care (VDC) Update

Jennifer Williams stated GRADD now has three clients in the VDC program. The program provides home-based support for veterans, and has a more flexible budget than the Medicaid waiver programs. Veterans interested in the program will need to be referred by a veteran's clinic or hospital. Screenings are conducted by the Marion Illinois Veterans Administration Hospital. GRADD staff provides case management once a veteran living in the GRADD area qualifies for services.

D. Masters Athletic Challenge

Masters Athletic Challenge is off to a good start. Friday, 52 people participated in the golf scramble. Other events this year are tennis, billiards, and bowling.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Introduction of New Webster County Coordinator

Vivian McNatton introduced Wanda Blackwell, the new county coordinator for Webster County. Ms. Blackwell's first day was May 2. Ms. Blackwell said she already knew many Webster County seniors and is getting know many more. She looks forward to her time with the county senior services program and with the Aging Council.

B. Program to Encourage Active Rewarding Lives for Seniors (PEARLS)  
Expansion Committee Report

Jim Toler reported for the committee stating Dana Peveler shared encouraging statistics from the Daviess County program. Daviess County has applied for a continuation of the program, as well as expansion into Hancock and Ohio Counties. Mr. Toler said the committee identified two primary obstacles for expansion into the other counties: identification of funding sources being one, and the other being qualified providers for the service. The committee does remain optimistic that these obstacles can be overcome.

C. Donations Committee Report

Cluster Belcher reported that today's meeting was attended by three county coordinators and two committee members. The committee will not make a recommendation to the council today, concerning the changing of the requested donation amount for congregate meals. The current suggested donation of \$1.50 has been the same amount for eight years. The committee developed a survey to be administered by the county coordinators to seniors participating in the meal programs. The committee hopes to better determine if an increase would discourage seniors from eating meals at congregate sites, if they are financially unable to make a donation. The committee intends to make a recommendation to the council at the August meeting.

D. Budget Cuts (4.5%)

Vivian McNatton stated that, as discussed in the April meeting, there has been a 4.5 percent cut in funding for April through June of Fiscal Year (FY) 2016. Another 4.5 percent cut will take place for FY2017 and again for FY2018. Ms. McNatton stated that, while clients currently receiving services will continue to receive those services, the waiting lists will grow exponentially.

E. Year to Date Programs Update

Lisa Flahardy reviewed the current budget for catered meals, in-home services, case management and assessment, and legal assistance. Ms. Flahardy stated ideally, at this point in the year, programs should be at 83 percent of their budget. Some programs are over, while others are under. GRADD staff and county coordinators are making efforts to increase services currently under the target, and to control those that could exceed the budgeted amount. A report, representing the district as a whole, with units and dollars was made available to all present.

F. Department for Aging and Independent Living (DAIL) Monitoring Update

Vivian McNatton updated the council of the recent monitoring by DAIL. There were no administrative findings; however, one client file (out of the 12 reviewed) was missing documentation of a nutrition referral. The change was made and the corrected file was forwarded to DAIL. A new policy and procedure was requested for telephone reassurance, which has also been written and forwarded to DAIL. Ms. McNatton stated that overall it was a very good monitoring outcome.

G. Senior Farmers Market

Vivian McNatton informed the council of the Senior Farmer Market Voucher program through the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. Currently, Daviess and Ohio County farmer's markets participate in this program. Henderson County is on the waiting list and should be ready to accept vouchers for the program next year. Seniors who qualify can receive \$28.00 for the season to spend at their county farmers' market. Residents of Daviess County must go to Cross Roads to sign up and receive the voucher, and Ohio County residents can go to the county extension office.

H. New Contract Language

Jeanette Woodward reviewed some of the contract language changes proposed by DAIL. All Area Agencies on Aging and Independent Living (AAAIL) reviewed the proposed changes and noted their concerns. Those concerns were taken to the Kentucky Council of ADDs and are being discussed with the commissioner of DAIL.

- Currently, the AAAIL is held to a 97 percent expenditure rate for programs. The proposed change is 99 percent. If the expenditure rate is not met, funding could be lost or reduced.

- The new language states that performance measures for each program must meet or exceed units of service delivered in FY2014. Ms. Woodward noted this holds the AAAIL to a fiscal year prior to the recent budget cuts.
- There are new requirements on staff for monthly community involvement and documentation of that involvement on an invoice that has not yet been made available for review.
- The AAAIL must provide Information regarding transportation options to all hospitals, doctors' offices, and housing authorities on a quarterly basis. This must also be documented on the invoice system.

Ms. Woodward stated that while community involvement and providing information are good things, the concern is with the reporting that will be time consuming on top of invoices that are already very detailed and tedious to prepare. Staff will be attending training this week on financials and invoicing, which may provide needed insight to the proposed changes.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- TRIAD/Elder Abuse Justice Coalition meeting is June 9, 2016, at 10:00 a.m., in the GRADD Training Room.
- The next meeting of the Green River Area Council on Aging is scheduled for August 2, 2016.
- Senior Day Out at Towne Square mall will be September 22, 2016.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

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

/lw