



Think Progress. Think Tomorrow. Think GRADD.

GREEN RIVER AREA COUNCIL ON AGING

August 6, 2019

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

The Green River Area Council on Aging met on Tuesday, August 6, 2019, 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, Sim Davenport, Melinda Cornell, Henrietta Harris
Hancock	None Present
Henderson	Charlye Jo Griggs, Connie O'Leary, Suzanne Cravens
McLean	Nancy Wetzel
Ohio	Mary Ashford, Mary Young, Wilda Hardesty
Union	Emily Dominguez
Webster	Patty Tapp, Tracy Henry, Jim Townsend

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

Daviess	Jon Higdon, *Betty Medley-Wallace
Hancock	*Diann Crask, Franklin Powers, Jean Mattingly
Henderson	All Present
McLean	Jim Toler, Leona Austin
Ohio	All Present
Union	All Present
Webster	All Present

GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT

Brenda Renfrow, Ohio County Senior Services
Brenda Knollenberg, Hospice of Western Kentucky
David Farley, Kentucky Legal Aid
Bill Cooper, Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts
Erica Wade, Owensboro Health Regional Hospital (OHRH)
Shawna Hempfling, Redbanks Colonial Terrace

***Excused Absence:** David Johnston, Chairman ■ Brad Schneider, Vice Chairman ■ Al Mattingly, Jr., Secretary ■ Steve Henry, Treasurer ■ Jiten Shah, Executive Director

GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT (cont.)

Jeremy Crowder, OHRH
Melissa Polites, Union County Senior Services (UCSS)
Linda Brown, The Gathering Place/Henderson County Senior Services
Wanda Blackwell, Webster County Senior Services
Scott Settle, McLean County Senior Services (MCSS)
Dana Peveler, Senior Community Center of Owensboro-Daviess County (SCCODC)
Tiffany Johnson, SCCODC
Jennifer Williams, Associate Director for Social Services, GRADD
Amber Phelps, In-Home Services Manager, GRADD
Amber Gebhard, Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Coordinator, GRADD
Lisa Flahardy, Aging Contract Specialist, GRADD
Jeanette Woodward, SAMS Database Administrator, 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.

A. Welcome New Member

Although not present at today's meeting, Chairperson Howard announced that Daisy James will be the new representative for the Daviess County Committee on Aging. Nora Bilbro-Richie has decided to step down from the role after many years of faithful service.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Minutes of the June 4, 2019, Meeting

Chairperson Susan Howard presented the minutes of the June 4, 2019, meeting of the Green River Area Council on Aging for approval. Sim Davenport requested the minutes be amended to reflect his presence at the meeting.

A motion was made by Connie O'Leary and seconded by Charlye Jo Griggs to approve the June 4, 2019, minutes of the Green River Area Council on Aging meeting, as amended. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

B. Program Reports

1. Ohio County

Brenda Renfrow stated a weekly walking club has been the result of Walk with Ease classes. Home Instead joins Humana and Signature Health Care in providing Bingo. First United Bank made a donation of \$150.00 to help with the purchase of Bingo prizes. Ohio County seniors recently joined McLean County seniors on a trip to visit Amish sites. Several

seniors traveled to Webster County and enjoyed playing noodle hockey. McLean County Seniors joined Ohio County on a trip to the Ark Encounter, with a total of 44 participating. Pickling and canning classes have been held. A back to school bash was held for grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Fordsville held a fundraising dance. Upcoming trips include the Kentucky State Fair, Senior Celebration, Pine Knob Diner, and the Smoky Mountains.

2. Daviess County

Dana Peveler stated the annual dinner fundraiser is Thursday, August 15. Invitations were made available to anyone interested in attending. The Silver Salute awards will be presented, and Theatre Workshop of Owensboro will perform. Ms. Peveler introduced Tiffany Johnson who is the program manager at the center and will be working with the supportive services programs provided by the center.

3. Henderson

Linda Brown reported the fundraiser, Pasta with a Purpose, raised enough funds to provide private pay meals for four home-delivered meal clients. Several seniors recently returned from a trip to New York. In October, two buses will be taking Henderson seniors to Maine. Ms. Brown stated Henderson County Senior Games is making a return this September. The week of September 16 through 20, seniors will have the opportunity to compete in multiple events. Students from Madisonville Community College help coordinate the games and keep scores. Ms. Brown invited seniors from all the GRADD counties to participate in these games.

III. GUEST SPEAKER

In lieu of a speaker, members viewed a Tedx Talk video by leading geriatrician, Dr. William Thomas, titled, *Elderhood Rising – the dawn of a new world age*. Dr. Thomas asserts that since the baby boomers entered adulthood an imbalance has been created in the human life cycle. This imbalance results from over valuing productivity, efficiency, and achievement. He states childhood has become a staging ground for adulthood, and older adults are valued only to the extent that they can “still” function as they did in their youth. Dr. Thomas says aging is not the problem, but rather an obsession with youth is the problem. However, since aging and mortality are unavoidable, the baby boom generation may help restore the balance through their own experiences in aging. More from Dr. Thomas can be found at www.changingaging.org.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Senior Day Out

Lisa Flahardy stated Senior Day Out at Towne Square Mall will take place September 26, 2019. The event is coming together very well with only a couple of items to be finalized. This year, Owensboro Health is partnering with TRIAD and will have a night light exchange as part of their fall prevention initiative. Senior can bring in a pair of “sloppy slippers” to exchange for a night light.

B. Safe Aging Coalition

Jennifer Williams said the “Sloppy Slipper/Night Light Exchange” is the first project promoted by the Safe Aging Coalition. The coalition is working to identify programs available in the region which can address safety from different aspects relating to seniors, such as Bingocize or other evidence-based exercise programs that help with balance, etc. As programs are identified, the coalition will strive to promote those programs to the aging population. Ms. Williams invited anyone interested to attend the coalition meetings.

C. Livable Communities

Jennifer Williams stated this committee continues to meet and review work needed to earn the AARP designation of a Livable Community for Owensboro-Daviess County. The mayor and judge/executive continue to be involved in the application process. Livable Communities are characterized by services and spaces providing accessibility to all ages and abilities.

D. Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Performance Report

Lisa Flahardy reviewed the final report on services for FY 2019. Ms. Flahardy pointed out that many services had exceeded the performance goal. In the area of supportive services provided by the senior centers, Title III D Health Promotions has historically been a difficult goal to meet; however, this year the goal was exceeded. Programs funded through the Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) have an additional three months, as they run on the federal fiscal year, and Ms. Flahardy anticipates these goals will also be met.

E. FY 2020 Aging Program Funds

Jennifer Williams discussed the FY2020 Aging Program Funds, which reflects a \$16,457 decrease in funds from last year, although a much larger funding cut was anticipated. In addition to the decrease in funds, Ms. Williams reminded council members that the new contracts with senior service providers began July 1 and those new contracts do have increased costs. These two factors combined will result in some decrease in the number of individuals served.

F. Medicare Advantage Learning Collaborative

As an avenue to diversify funding sources, the Kentucky Council of Area Development Districts (KCADD) is in discussion about possible contracts with providers of Medicare Advantage Plans. These plans are now looking at social determinants of health (nutrition, transportation, in-home supports, etc.) as an allowable service to improve the health of their members. The AAAILs have the system in place to provide these services to Medicare beneficiaries. If a contract were negotiated, the advantage plan provider would pay GRADD or other ADDs to provide a needs assessment and possibly the identified services needed for that Medicare beneficiary. Bill Cooper stated KCADD was one of 11 agencies chosen to be part of this collaborative. Mr. Cooper also urged members to continue to advocate for increased funding from the state and federal governments.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Aging Council meeting – October 1, 10:00 a.m. Please bring a canned good/non-perishable food item for Feed Seniors Now.
- New Council Member Orientation – October 1, 9:00 a.m.
- Safe Aging Coalition Meeting – August 13, 10:00 a.m.
- TRIAD – September 17, 10:00 a.m.
- Mental Health & Aging Coalition – September 19, 10:00 a.m.
- Senior Day Out at Towne Square Mall – September 26, 8:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
- Feed Seniors Now – October 22, 2019.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

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

/lw