



Think Progress. Think Tomorrow. Think GRADD.

GREEN RIVER AREA COUNCIL ON AGING

December 3, 2019

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

The Green River Area Council on Aging met on Tuesday, December 3, 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, Daisy James, Sim Davenport, Lydia Fusco, Melinda Cornell
Hancock	Franklin Powers, Diann Crask, Jean Mattingly
Henderson	Charlye Jo Griggs, Connie O'Leary
McLean	Leona Austin, Jim Toler
Ohio	Mary Ashford, Mary Young, Wilda Hardesty
Union	None
Webster	Patty Tapp

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

Daviess	Betty Medley-Wallace
Hancock	All present
Henderson	Suzanne Cravens
McLean	Nancy Wetzel
Ohio	All Present
Union	Emily Dominguez
Webster	*Tracy Henry, *Jim Townsend

GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT

Jason Anderson, Owensboro Health, Health Park
Brenda Renfrow, Ohio County Senior Services
Melissa Polites, Union County Senior Services

*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.)

Linda Brown, The Gathering Place/Henderson County Senior Services
Wanda Blackwell, Webster County Senior Services
Scott Settle, McLean County Senior Services (MCSS)
Daniel Miller, MCSS
Tiffanye Johnson, Senior Community Center of Owensboro-Daviess County (SCCODC)
David Tucker, SCCODC
Lona Kratzer, Hancock County Senior Services
Renee Byrne, Lee Manor
Renee Beasley Jones, Messenger-Inquirer
Dave Farley, Kentucky Legal Aid
Jennifer Williams, Associate Director for Social Services, GRADD
Amber Phelps, In-Home Services Manager, GRADD
Amber Gebhard, Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) Coordinator, GRADD
Jeanette Woodward, SAMS Database Administrator, GRADD
Leslie Wilson, Community Services Manager, GRADD
Kelli King, Family Caregiver/SMP Program Coordinator, GRADD
Heather Mullican, District Long Term Care Ombudsman, GRADD
Rita Gazell, Data Services Coordinator, 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 that December is the birth month of Bingo. Invented in Italy in 1530, Bingo did not arrive in North America until 1920, was originally known as “Beano,” and became known as Bingo by a slip of the tongue.

Chairperson Howard welcomed Lydia Fusco, who will serve as the Veterans Administration representative on the council.

II. FALL PREVENTION

Jason Anderson, manager at the Healthpark, presented information on Fall Prevention classes provided at the Healthpark. The program is ideal for seniors who may be experiencing mobility or balance issues. It is not necessary to have a doctor’s referral to enroll in the 12-week small-group program. Participants will receive an assessment by Healthpark staff upon enrollment with a follow-up assessment when the program is completed. The class costs \$60 and is not insurance billable. The facility also offers Tai Chi classes, which is proved to help maintain balance and improve mobility. Mr. Anderson completed his presentation with a question and answer time and left brochures about the program for anyone interested.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Minutes of the October 1, 2019, Meeting

Secretary Franklin Powers presented the minutes of the October 1, 2019, meeting of the Green River Area Council on Aging for approval.

A motion was made by Franklin Powers and seconded by Melinda Cornell to approve the October 1, 2019, minutes of the Green River Area Council on Aging meeting. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

B. Program Reports

1. Ohio County

Brenda Renfrow reported that 43 seniors were served through the Feed Seniors Now Food Drive. Medicare Part D open enrollment has kept staff busy. Ohio County seniors recently returned from a trip to the Smokey Mountains. Several seniors enjoyed an outing to the Patio restaurant in Cannelton. Walk with Ease classes and Tai Chi classes are offered regularly. In November, a veteran's celebration was held and a Thanksgiving meal. Today, seniors are enjoying shopping in Owensboro and lunch at the Briarpatch. Upcoming events include a candy making class and cookie swap. Mary Ashford has coordinated an angel tree for seniors in the county.

2. Union County

Melissa Polites stated a Christmas dinner is scheduled for December 20, and 125 seniors have already signed up for the event. Ms. Polites reported that through the assistance provided for comparing Medicare Part D plans, over \$46,000 has been saved in Union County. Seniors recently enjoyed a mystery trip to Gasthof Village in Washington, Indiana. The annual Christmas Wish project is underway and receiving a lot of local support.

3. Daviess County

Tiffanye Johnson said it's beginning to feel like Christmas at the Senior Community Center. Students from Heritage Park High School helped decorate the center for the holidays. The Thanksgiving meal was attended by 200 seniors. The first annual Christmas bazaar had eight vendors and was a good experience. U.S. Bank will be sponsoring a Christmas party on December 11. Two Christmas dances will be held this year, one during the day and one at night. Morrisons will be hosting Christmas with Santa. Seniors recently enjoyed a trip to Nashville. Upcoming trips include Key West in March and Mackinaw Island in June. The center will be partnering with Golden Partners for a trip to Egypt.

C. Ombudsman Conflict of Interest (COI)

Several members completed the COI form in October. The form was made available to those members who had not yet completed it. Jennifer Williams explained that state

regulations require all Aging Council members and ADD Board of Director members to complete a conflict of interest statement for the Ombudsman Program. Ms. Williams stated that should a conflict of interest exist, members can still serve on the council, but it will be necessary to remedy the conflict; for example, abstaining from voting on matters relating to the Ombudsman program.

D. Feed Seniors Now

Amber Phelps stated 534 seniors were served across the six counties that participated in this year's food drive. All participants received a ham and package of hotdogs in addition to the non-perishable food delivered. Delivery went very smoothly this year with many volunteers.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Year to Date Report

Jennifer Williams briefly reviewed the year to date report provided by Lisa Flahardy. Ms. Williams stated that while some services are under the target goal and others have exceeded the goal, there are no concerns at this time regarding services. Ms. Williams also assured members that providers continue providing services even after the goal has been reached.

B. Silver Bells

Heather Mullican said this is the fourth year for the Silver Bells project which collects items for distribution to residents of personal care homes. These residents have very limited funds for personal needs, making the gifts very meaningful for them. Collection of items continues through December 9 and delivery will be December 18. Anyone who would like to help assemble the bags can come to GRADD on December 17. Members are also welcome to help deliver. This year, residents of Fern Terrace, Rosedale, and Sunny Acres will be the recipients.

C. Be a Santa to a Senior

Amber Phelps stated 38 GRADD homecare clients will receive gifts through this annual project sponsored by Home Instead. Gifts will be wrapped on December 17 at Owensboro Christian Church. All are welcome to help.

D. Report from Nominating Committee

The nominating committee met and recommends the following officers for 2020: Franklin Powers, Vice Chairperson; and Connie O'Leary, Secretary. There were no nominations from the floor and the GRADD Board of Directors will appoint a chairperson.

A motion was made by Charlye Jo Griggs and seconded by Sim Davenport to approve the slate of officers, as presented. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Aging Council meeting – February 4, 2020, 10:00 a.m.
- TRIAD – January 23, 2020, 10:00 a.m.
- Mental Health & Aging Coalition – January 23, 2020, 10:00 a.m.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

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

/lw