

SALLY BEAUMONT, CHAIRPERSON
RUTH BEIDEMAN
JAMIE MAGEE
JAMES MOSELEY
PENNY ORNDORFF
SCOTT PHILLIPS



LARRY SAVAGE
FRANCINE SHOCKLEY
ANNA SHORT
FRAN SMITH
JOHN WILLIAMS

Advisory Committee on Aging & Adults with Physical Disabilities for Sussex County

Minutes of Meeting

Monday, January 28, 2013

A meeting of the Advisory Committee on Aging & Adults with Physical Disabilities for Sussex County was held on Monday, January 28, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. at the Sussex County West Administrative Complex, 22215 North DuPont Boulevard, Georgetown, Delaware. The following members were present:

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| 1. Sally Beaumont | 6. Larry Savage |
| 2. Ruth Beideman | 7. Francine Shockley |
| 3. Jamie Magee | 8. Anna Short |
| 4. Penny Orndorff | 9. Fran Smith |
| 5. Scott Phillips | 10. John Williams |

Also in attendance were Barbara Vaughan, Marty D'Erasmus, and Mary Anne Murray, Greater Lewes Community Village; Cindy Mitchell, CHEER; Linda Connors, Delaware Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health; Jeanne Dukes, Beebe Medical Center Home Health; and Chip Guy, Sussex County Communications Director.

Call to Order

Sally Beaumont, Chairperson, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone on behalf of the Advisory Committee.

Approval of Minutes

A Motion was made by Ms. Short, seconded by Ms. Beideman, to approve the minutes of November 19, 2012, as distributed. Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.

Correspondence

E-MAIL FROM TODD F. LAWSON, SUSSEX COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR, TO SALLY BEAUMONT, ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AGING & ADULTS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES FOR SUSSEX COUNTY

RE: Response to questions raised regarding conference being planned by the Advisory Committee.

Ms. Beaumont quoted from Mr. Lawson's e-mail as follows: "As to the conference, I have a couple of points/comments. I don't see any issue with having the conference, I'm pleased to see your activity and enthusiasm. I'm under the mindset to try this and see how successful it is. We do need to be conscientious about the cost. To keep costs down, I would recommend offering minimal food (like a light continental breakfast) and no lunch. Once you have hard numbers, please let us know. I'm copying Susie Webb [Finance Director] for her review as well. As to mailing checks and registration, I do not think we should have the registrations and checks sent here [County Administration Office]. I would suggest someone on the Committee should receive them. That being said, I think we can process the checks for you and pay the catering/rental costs."

Member Attendance

Ms. Beaumont advised she has spoken with Advisory Committee member James Moseley who has been unable to attend meetings over the past few months due to illness, but he is on the mend, is still very interested in serving on the Committee, and expects to be able to attend meetings again soon.

Guest Speaker

Ms. Short introduced representatives of the Greater Lewes Community Village—namely, Marty D'Erasmus, Co-President; Barbara Vaughan, co-founder and Vice President; and Mary Anne Murray, Treasurer—who were invited to speak on the community village concept. It was noted that Co-President Carol Wzoreck was out of town and unable to attend as scheduled.

As one of the original co-founders of the Greater Lewes Community Village (GLCV), Ms. Vaughan explained that she and Jackie Finer have spent a considerable amount of time acquainting individuals and various organizations with the community village concept. They first approached the Lewes City Council who was very receptive, and have met with the Sussex County Council, who was also very interested in the concept and made a generous donation to the GLCV. They have established a good working relationship with James Falk, Director of the University of Delaware Sea Grant Program in Lewes as well. Mr. Falk has considerable experience in surveys and generously agreed to do a survey on behalf of the Greater Lewes Community Village. They elected to use the 509 Census Tract, which basically includes the City of Lewes and greater Lewes out to Route 1.

One of the selling points of GLCV is that they are the first of such villages in Sussex County, and they would like to serve as a model for the rest of the County. With the southern part of Delaware having such a large and growing retired population, it is their hope that other communities will see the village concept as a possibility as well. Before going further, Ms. Vaughan read into the record the following revised mission statement of the Greater Lewes Community Village:

"The Greater Lewes Community Village is a volunteer-driven, non-profit organization dedicated to enhancing the lives of residents 50+ years of age in

the Lewes area. GLCV provides support, services, and programs that make it possible for its members to live independently and safely in their homes as they grow older, while also helping them remain engaged in the variety of social and cultural activities available in our community.”

Referring back to the survey, Ms. Vaughan stated that through the expertise of Mr. Falk, 1,500 surveys were sent out to residents they were able to identify as age 50 or older in the 509 Census Tract, with just under 300 surveys being returned. Of those returned, 82 percent said they were extremely interested in joining a village, and 89 percent responded that they really want to age in place.

Ms. Vaughan turned the podium over to Mary Anne Murray who is not only Treasurer of the Greater Lewes Community Village, but also owner of the Delaware offices of Griswold Home Care, whose mission is much the same as the GLCV in that they want to help people stay in their homes independently and safely for as long as possible. According to survey results, approximately 75 percent of people believe they will need help in the future in order to remain in their homes. It is the intent of GLCV to have a group of volunteers in the community not only to provide transportation, which is a big piece of the volunteer effort, but also to assist with various activities of daily living, and health, educational, social, and home repair needs.

At the present time, Ms. Murray stated the Greater Lewes Community Village is in need of raising money to support some of the startup costs and publicity to educate the public about this village concept that actually started in the Boston, Massachusetts, area—Beacon Hill Village being the first. With more than 200 villages throughout the United States, a variety of models are in existence, either combining paid staff and volunteers, or fully volunteer-run. In all cases, volunteers are a key component as service coordinators and deliverers.

Marty D’Erasmus continued the presentation stating that “this is a very exciting project...amazing thing is that we have gotten so much interest with people either wanting to join or become a volunteer.” Ms. D’Erasmus advised they are currently in the organizing phase, with the appointment of a highly participating Board and three assigned committees—membership, volunteers, and vendors. Individuals volunteering with GLCV will be screened through an interview process and criminal background check. Services such as transportation to medical appointments/shopping/other needs, light home maintenance, basic yard work, respite care, computer and/or electronic assistance, etc., will be provided. The GLCV is also in the process of creating a vendor list of companies that will have agreed, for example, to pre-established discount rates for services such as plumbing and electrical repair, painting, gutter cleaning, snow removal, and other home maintenance services. Vendors will be vetted and selected with respect to reputation in the community, recommendation, and references; however, there will be no official business relationship between the GLCV and the vendor.

Ms. D’Erasmus stated that annual membership fees have been established at \$500 for individual and \$750 for household (comprised of at least one person in the household over the age of 50). They are also looking at putting into place discounted memberships on a case-by-case basis, depending on financial need. An advisory committee has been established bringing together

another collection of individuals, each of whom brings both an interest and some area of knowledge that can assist in the GLCV's development. The term "neighbors helping neighbors" is a vital component of the village concept that the GLCV is working to provide.

It is the hope of the Greater Lewes Community Village that the Advisory Committee on Aging & Adults with Physical Disabilities for Sussex County will want to work with them in promoting the community village concept, providing advice and suggesting venues where they may be able to seek financial assistance. An interim Executive Director has been appointed, and the Volunteer Coordinator position is in need of filling as soon as possible. A software package is also necessary to manage membership (who they are, where they are, where to reach them), volunteers (tying their skillsets to where they are needed), and vendors (in terms of vetting them and getting them out to members in need of their services).

Questions raised by the Advisory Committee and members of the audience were addressed by representatives of the Greater Lewes Community Village as follows:

- Insurance – Although they have not received a quote at this point, the GLCV is part of a group called Village to Village which has established relationships with various insurance companies, and this may well be their best option. They also have several leads on companies that work with nonprofits and will be checking those out as well.
- Volunteers – Services will be provided at no charge to members of the Greater Lewes Community Village, although many villages have found it necessary to impose some limitations on the number of visits, transports, miles traveled, etc., in any given month.
- Vendors – The GLCV will negotiate terms with vendors who are vetted, such as a discounted fee for service, providing materials at cost, no charge for overtime, but there will be no formal contract. A vendor list will be maintained, and the GLCV will follow-up with members to learn if their experience was satisfactory and if the problem was solved.
- Transportation – The recommendation of other villages is that volunteers save their fuel receipts for tax deduction purposes. Volunteers using their personal vehicles as a means of transportation will sign a release/waiver as one level of protection, and an umbrella policy was suggested as another option.
- Medical Care – Representatives of the GLCV emphasized that they will not be addressing medical care. Their focus is providing the structure for a person to be able to remain in their home and maintain their independence for as long as possible.
- Membership Fees – The GLCV would like to quickly get to the point where they can offer a discounted fee for those who are truly in need. It is envisioned that family members may pay the membership fee as a gift at Christmas or birthday for the peace of mind it provides. A payment plan is being considered as well.
- Fundraising – The following agencies/organizations were suggested as possible contacts for

grants and/or to assist with fundraising efforts: Lunch With A Purpose, Chicks for Charity, Delaware Community Foundation, Delaware Money Management, Delaware Association of Nonprofits, and Lewes-Rehoboth Association of Churches. Ms. D'Erasmus explained that their 501 (c) 3 is currently pending, but they have obtained nonprofit status as a component fund of the Delaware Community Foundation to allow for tax-deductible donations.

- Referrals – Since the GLCV will not handle any type of skilled nursing care, it was emphasized that should a volunteer or vendor see a need in the home, alerting the GLCV of that need will be expected and encouraged. Communication is a key factor in the community village concept, and it is anticipated that relatives of members will play an important role in this communication linkage as well.
- Goal – It is the hope of the GLCV that others will want to replicate their village, and they are more than willing to mentor and give a hand.

Linda Connors stated she is familiar with the village concept and is grateful that it is being started in Sussex County. She noted that Tree House is a community of different ages where youth help seniors and seniors help youth with tasks such as shoveling sidewalks versus assisting with reading, and the Gray Panthers are also very active with seniors and youth working together. Ms. Vaughan stated the GLCV has considered enlisting the help of interns from local high schools and/or Delaware Technical & Community College, and she is also working with a builder and architectural designer on a co-housing concept. The idea is to build small, energy-efficient houses, one floor, designed for people of a certain age yet not restricted, essentially affordable housing for anyone. Ms. Beaumont advised there are also projects in Massachusetts that match housing for people based on certain criteria.

Ms. Beaumont applauded the Greater Lewes Community Village and the concept of helping seniors to age in place. By way of information, she advised that members of the Advisory Committee appointed from the Lewes area are Larry Savage and Francine Shockley. Ms. Beaumont also noted that in addition to recently sending out an interest survey of their own, the Advisory Committee will be hosting a conference in the fall, and the GLCV would make for an excellent mini-session.

On behalf of the Advisory Committee, Ms. Beaumont thanked the Greater Lewes Community Village representatives for their presentation.

Old Business

- (a) In follow-up to the Strategic Plan for 2011-2012, Ms. Beaumont advised that the “Interest Survey” in regard to forming a new coalition has been distributed to approximately 100 e-mail contacts and 13 contacts via the United States Postal Service (USPS).
- (b) The schedule of community meetings which are to be held in each of the five councilmanic districts to establish and/or corroborate the unique needs of each community was discussed. The meetings are an opportunity for Advisory Committee

members, County Council members, and the public to come together and validate the needs assessment for each community. Copies of the “Interest Survey” will also be on hand for those who may be interested in the new coalition being formed. Ms. Beaumont and Ms. Short will work on finalizing the presentation for the community meetings using the PowerPoint originally prepared by Ken Bock. The following schedule was agreed upon, subject to approval of the County Council. A news release announcing the meetings will be published once the schedule is confirmed.

Date	Time	Council Member	Advisory Com. Member	Location	Reserving Location
4/11/13	10:00-11:00 a.m.	Cole	Magee, Orndorff	Long Neck CHEER Center	Cindy Mitchell
4/18/13	6:00-7:00 p.m.	Vincent	Short, Moseley	Nanticoke Senior Center	Sally Beaumont
4/25/13	10:00-11:00 a.m.	Wilson	Beideman, Smith, Williams	Greenwood CHEER Center	Cindy Mitchell
5/02/13	6:00-7:00 p.m.	Deaver	Savage, Shockley	Milton Library	Francine Shockley
5/09/13	3:00-4:00 p.m.	Phillips	Beaumont, Phillips	Brandywine Assisted Living, Fenwick Island	Sally Beaumont

New Business

- Ms. Beaumont took the opportunity to once again acknowledge and thank Scott Phillips for his work in preparing the letter and on-line survey, and Susan Webb, Administrative Secretary, for assistance in combining the contact lists and distributing the information via e-mail and the USPS (a copy of which was provided for each Committee member). Mr. Phillips reported that as of this date, 16 responses have been received.
- Means of communication preferred by the Advisory Committee, hard copy or e-mail, was discussed. It was the consensus of the Committee to continue receiving correspondence by hard copy via the USPS.

Public Comment

1. Linda Connors, Delaware Division of Substance Abuse and Mental Health, distributed for the Advisory Committee’s information the following publications:
 - ❖ December 2012 and January 2013 editions of UR INDEPENDENCE, Delaware’s Voice For The Voiceless, bringing to the Committee’s attention the article “Saint Francis LIFE is the newest healthcare choice for seniors living in New Castle County” in the December issue, and “Who are Delaware’s Homeless? Delaware’s 2013 One Night Count” in the January issue.

- ❖ Flyer regarding “Brain Injury Across the Lifespan” conference being held Friday, April 5, 2013, 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., hosted by the Doubletree Hotel, 700 North King Street, Wilmington (suggested as possible topic for future guest speaker).
- ❖ Pamphlet entitled “Summing Up Seniors and Gambling” published by the Delaware Council on Gambling Problems, offering alternatives to gambling, since many seniors use gambling as a way to pass the time in their later years and some become addicted, risking relationships, finances, and health (suggested as possible topic for future guest speaker).
- ❖ Pamphlet entitled “Protecting Delaware’s Seniors” published by the Attorney General’s Office, containing information regarding the various forms of abuse, knowing the warning signs, and reporting suspected abuse.

Ms. Connors also stated that she was a co-presenter recently at the Greenwood CHEER Center on the subject of grandparents and great-grandparents raising grandchildren and great-grandchildren, and welcomed pointers from anyone who is, or already has been, in this position.

2. Cindy Mitchell advised that CHEER continues to work on the opening of an Adult Day Care at the CHEER Community Center on Sand Hill Road in Georgetown, hopefully March 1, 2013, which will provide a strong dementia program. Beth Seeds, RN, Nurse and Program Director, has been hired. Tuition will be charged on a sliding scale, with private pay, Medicaid waivers, grants, and sponsorships accepted. Anyone with additional questions should contact Ms. Mitchell at 856-5187.

Additional Business

Ms. Magee announced the following upcoming events:

- (a) The Sussex Delaware Mental Fitness Partners will be sponsoring an interactive *Living a Brain Healthy Lifestyle* program on Thursday, March 14, 2013, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., at the University of Delaware Carvel Research and Education Center, 16483 County Seat Highway, Georgetown. This year’s presenter is Dr. Sharon R. Yoder, who is an assistant professor in the College of Arts & Sciences at Wilmington University, as well as President of Make It Happen Training Programs. The program is free.
- (b) The Alzheimer’s Association, in partnership with Easter Seals, will be conducting a “*Fundamentals of Alzheimer’s Care*” training, targeting CNA’s in need of continuing education credits, on Tuesday, March 5, 2013, 2:00 to 5:00 p.m., Easter Seals conference room, DuPont Boulevard, Georgetown. The charge is \$35 per person; however, there are 15 seats open due to scholarship funding provided by Nikon Precision. For additional information, contact Jamie Magee at 854-9788.

Next Meeting

It was agreed that Ms. Beaumont will contact Heritage Shores in Bridgeville, a 55+ community which has offered their facility at no charge, regarding availability for the next meeting venue of the Advisory Committee on Monday, March 18, 2013, at 10:00 a.m. The guest speaker will be a representative(s) of the Delaware Senior Medicare Patrol Program.

NOTE: It was not possible to schedule the March meeting at Heritage Shores as originally planned; therefore, the meeting will take place at the Laurel Senior Center, 113 North Central Avenue, Laurel, Delaware, at 10:00 a.m.

Adjournment

A Motion was made by Mr. Williams, seconded by Ms. Smith, to adjourn at 11:31 a.m. Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Short, Secretary
Advisory Committee on Aging & Adults
with Physical Disabilities for Sussex County

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