

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

July 21, 2014

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Advisory Committee on Aging & Adults with Physical Disabilities for Sussex County was held on Monday, July 21, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. at the Sussex County Administrative Offices West Complex, 22215 North DuPont Boulevard, Georgetown, Delaware. The following members were present:

Sally Beaumont
Ruth Ann Beideman
Jamie Magee
Jill McCoy (nonvoting)
Penny Orndorff

Scott Phillips
Larry Savage
Francine Shockley
Fran Smith

Other attendees included:

Patsy Bennett-Brown
Ken Bock
Bob Chu
Anthony Delfren
Sal Dom
Nancy Feichtl
Linda Forte
Ann Gorrin
Michelle Griffith

Alexis McKenzie
Rebecca Moscoso
Randy Nelson
Rachel Pacella
Linda Rogers
Doris Schonbrunner
Elizabeth Skinner
Steve Tull
Brenda Whitehurst

Call to Order

Sally Beaumont, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Approval of Agenda

The agenda was presented and discussed. A Motion was made by Jamie Magee, seconded by Penny Orndorff, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.

Approval of Minutes

A Motion was made by Fran Smith, seconded by Jamie Magee, to approve the minutes of May 19, 2014, as distributed. Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.

A Motion was made by Jamie Magee, seconded by Francine Shockley, to approve the Conference Planning Subcommittee minutes of May 19, 2014, as distributed. Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.

A Motion was made by Francine Shockley, seconded by Ruth Ann Beideman, to approve the Conference Planning Subcommittee minutes of June 26, 2014, as distributed. Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.

Correspondence

Sally Beaumont shared a response from Susan Webb, Sussex County Administrative Secretary, in regard to questions raised about Committee appointments and election of officers, as follows: “According to my notes, you [Sally], Ruth Ann, and Anna were all three elected May 20, 2013. The Bylaws state that officers are elected for a term of two years, or until their successors are elected. Should a vacancy occur in a position, it shall be filled by election of the voting membership at the next scheduled meeting.”

It was noted that all Committee member terms expire in September 2014. Any Committee member(s) choosing not to continue serving should contact Sally Beaumont or County Administrator Todd Lawson. Contact with members who have not been attending meetings will be made by Sally Beaumont to establish their interest in continuing to serve. The next election of officers will be held in May 2015. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the Advisory Committee should also contact Sally Beaumont or Todd Lawson.

Introductions

Members of the Committee introduced themselves and advised the councilmanic district they were appointed to represent. Guest attendees were also given an opportunity to introduce themselves and tell about the organization they represent.

Guest Speaker

Dr. Alexis McKenzie, Master Clinician/Eldercare Consultant, House Calls, LLC, was invited to speak on the topic of “*Assisting the Elderly with Self-Isolation and Being Safe in Their Home.*” Dr. McKenzie stated that 47 percent of people over 75 years of age live alone, one-third of people over 100 years of age live alone, and one-fourth of the number of seniors in a community live alone. Living alone brings about social isolation and lack of contact, and increases the risk of dying. Therefore, it is important to talk about what can be done for people living at home alone and to give them a purpose in life. Transportation is a huge issue; however, there are other ways to help those living alone, such as encouraging them to talk, share their faith, join a senior center, find something for them to take care of such as a pet of their own or a neighbor’s pet, and making adaptive equipment available for them. Other means of engaging

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those living alone include house-sitting for a neighbor, inviting them to dinner, urging them to see a doctor if health issues are suspected, being supportive if they have lost a spouse or child, and letting people know how they can get help in their home. Sometimes just a phone call means a lot. Dr. McKenzie advised anyone having concerns about someone living alone to contact a family member or neighbor.

At the conclusion of Dr. McKenzie's presentation, there was an opportunity for questions from the audience, which included the following:

- **How does House Calls work?** Information can be obtained by going on-line to their website.
- **What does House Calls do?** They can administer cognitive and other tests.
- **What is the cost of a cognitive test?** The cost is \$150.00 and is not covered by Medicare, but payment plans can be worked out if necessary.
- **Is there follow-up?** The amount of follow-up depends on the client's need. If there is family involvement, Skype or a conference call can be utilized for the testing and follow-up.

Old Business

Drafts of the flyer and program for **The LIVE Conference: Live Safe, Live Secure** scheduled for October 13, 2014, were discussed. Eventbrite registration information from last year will be deleted to eliminate any confusion. An article regarding the conference will be published in the CHEER magazine's September issue. It was suggested that information regarding **The LIVE Conference** be included in mailings from Osher Lifelong Learning in Lewes, as well as the 31st Annual Craft Fair being held at Delaware Technical & Community College.

New Business

- Jamie Magee shared information regarding a program to be held at Westminster in Dover and Cadbury at Lewes on September 8, 2014.
- Discussion was held relative to a decrease in Adult Day Services for the elderly with dementia in Sussex County. The Title III rate is low, with an application process every four years. It was reported that Laurel Senior Center is closing their Adult Day Services on September 30, 2014, possibly due to the loss of Title III funding. The Laurel closing leaves Gull House in Rehoboth and CHEER and Easter Seals in Georgetown as the only facilities that continue to offer Adult Day Services. With the growth of the senior population in Sussex County, this decrease in services is of great concern.
- Crisis Assessment—and the lack of education for police, EMT, and emergency room staff on how to handle crisis situations—was also addressed. Advocacy cards were provided for mailing to members of Congress and/or personal contact concerning this issue was urged.

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The Crisis Assessment Center in Ellendale is staffed 24/7 and they have the ability to do home assessments, but they do not conduct assessments in the hospital. The Delaware Disabilities Council is working on funding to train police and emergency room staff in Crisis Assessment.

Next Regular Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Advisory Committee is scheduled for September 15, 2014, at 10:00 a.m. at the Sussex County Administrative Offices West Complex, 22215 North DuPont Boulevard, in Georgetown.

November Meeting

It was noted that the regularly scheduled meeting in November will be held at the Millville United Methodist Church, 36405 Club House Road, Millville, Delaware.

Adjourn

A Motion was made by Jamie Magee, seconded by Francine Shockley, to adjourn at 11:40 a.m. Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Ann Beideman
Acting Secretary