

The August 2, 2016, meeting of the AAA was called to order by Chair Farran Fullilove at 10:06 A.M. Prayer was offered by Rev. Henry Frasier from Liberty County. Roll was called by council secretary Ceola Foreman.

Minutes from the April 26, 2016, meeting were presented. Motion to accept the minutes was made by Mrs. Pevey-Shuman and they were seconded by Dr. Daniel Brantley. Two corrections were offered before minutes were accepted: (1) Mr. Shuman should be listed as a guest, not as a seated member of the Council; and (2) that "Levey-Shuman" under Announcements should read "Pevey-Shuman."

Old Business began with a report from Mrs. Dionne Lovett, Director of Aging Services. She attended the National AAA conference in San Diego, CA. She voiced that she is proud of the work that AAA is doing to manage the budget but had a concern about the department's handling of some Title 3 Federal funds used for program development approximately 2 years ago. As a part of the care management program, the department generally does a 30-day intervention with patients returning home or to nursing facilities; this is done in an effort to help prevent them from being re-admitted to the hospital. Further attention will be given to this matter to ensure that funds are managed appropriately.

On a more positive note, she reported, the AAA ranks high on the job in the care transition program. The department is being encouraged to utilize a fee-for-service program in working with patients being discharged from hospital. For example, when AAA does the 30-day follow-the-patient plan, the hospitals pay a per patient fee for the services. The same is true when AAA presents chronic disease management and care transition classes as part of health and wellness programs in the counties.

Dr. Brantley asked if AAA has the funds available to finance the programs mentioned above, since there is a six-month (data/results) waiting period before being paid. Mrs. Lovett responded with a tentatively "yes" because there are grants and partnership programs that help the hospitals or health systems to pay us for the work we do. She added that AAA has been doing that and developing the program most recently with the Southeast GA health Systems in Brunswick and Kingsland and has been following patients for 30 days, giving them those crucial services they need. The hospitals pay a fee for the patients. Also, AAA recently contracted with Ashley place in Bryan County to do a chronic disease self-management workshop for residents at their independent living facility as part of their health and wellness/ disease self-management/ living well program. Ashley Place has further contracted AAA to do an additional 6-week course.

A Savannah hospital is also interested in piloting the care transition program. Staff members will meet to be work out tentative details for the program. The outcome of these meetings will be presented at the November meeting. There will be funds available from the Brunswick project and from grants to do the pilot program for the hospital in Savannah. There is also the possibility of working with a partner agency in the Savannah area.

REACH (Resources for Enhancing Alzheimer's Caregivers Health), is a program financed by a grant received through the Roselyn Carter Institute. It helps caregivers assisting people with dementia or any kind of memory problem; however, it is presently available only in the city of Savannah. The program needs more individuals to serve as volunteers so that it can meet the requirements for this grant. REACH hopes to serve approximately 50 caregivers; only about 11 or 12 are being served and

\$81,000 are available for others who qualify for the services. The news needs to get out in to the community. The pharmacy at Kroger is helping in the effort by placing the information on their grocery bags.

Members were asked to help spread the word about REACH and other programs designed to help those in need of such services. The Alzheimer's Association gives referrals to this program. Various communities offer similar services.

New Business

The new fiscal year began July 1. Details were given about the 4 million plus monies allocated for all the AAA's and the various services offered. Details were also given about the new data system and the issues that remain to be worked out in it. There were numerous questions and discussion about it.

Mrs. Lovett suggested that our AAA members join CO-AGE, a group that does an outstanding job in keeping people updated on legislation involving senior issues, etc. Some of the current issues include (1) funding for adult protective services, including staff salaries and training; (2) pay increases for service providers, (3) transportation; (4) the Family Care Act; (5) Medicaid waiver program for dementia patients; (6) oral healthcare for seniors; (6) pharmacy; (7) R.N. care, etc.

Along with an increase of budget, CO-AGE is advocating for a home community care act, oral healthcare at nursing facilities without a licensed dentist present, and a registry of CNA abusers.

Lobbying can be done by groups as well as individual citizens, as in the case with Mrs. Collier and others in the group present at the meeting. AAA cannot lobby but it can advocate. The Alzheimer's Association usually sponsors a bus trip to the Capitol during Senior Week in February; however, Mrs. Collier felt that the trip may be cancelled next year (February 2017). Theresa Bayman may be asked to come speak with this group in the future.

Other Issues Discussed

1. Dr. Brantley brought concerns about fundraisers, initiated by Rev. Dees, to help shorten the list of people waiting for services. His goal was to raise \$50,000 by Oct. 2016. To date, \$2,800 has been raised. Mrs. Lovett will send out information about the golf tournament, which is usually held the first week in November.

Dr. Brantley further suggested that each member of this AAA make a donation to further the cause initiated by Rev. Dees.

2. Dr. Dawson suggested that someone volunteer to chair a committee to take up the fundraiser

Members were urged to continue to contribute to turn in jokes for the book, another fundraiser initiated by Rev. Dees.

Chairman's Observations

Chairman Farran Fullilove requested information about special events/actions going on in the various counties. He shared that we, as well as others, should be diligent in traveling, especially in watching out for buses and leaving early for appointments. He also informed us that Sam's Warehouse

will be opening soon in Brunswick. He also suggested that Bryan works diligently to fill its vacancies on the Aging Council. He later shared that Camden is attempting to get a college built at Coastal Pines.

Mrs. Pevey-Shuman of Bulloch County shared news that her husband's team, the Eagles, had its first game and that the team is very "hot!" Bulloch also started a semi-professional soccer team.

Chatham County, under Mayor Heath, initiated a staff of attorneys to handle cases of elder abuse. Cemetery cleanup using inmates has begun in Chatham. This information was shared by Mr. & Dr. Dawson.

Mrs. Mercer reported that Effingham is in need of better transportation services for doctor appointments. There is also a new Kroger and a new health facility there.

Glynn County reported that a new hearing aid facility was now located there.

Liberty County/ Hinesville has a new shopping mall coming on Highway 84. Rev. Fraiser of Liberty added that the county has two new schools that a tech school is coming. There is also a eating place there.

Mrs. Watford from Long County encouraged everyone to try the App called Goodrx for medications at a much cheaper price. She also mentioned that there is a long waiting line for medications. Suggestions were made about getting Tele-help for the school system. A doctor on TV will examine the individual and prescribe treatment. A new school will also open there.

Lorraine Koenn of McIntosh County expressed pleasure upon being appointed to serve as member of the Aging Council for three more years. She will bring a friend next time.

It was suggested that Claudia Collier and Rick Ellison become members at-large, due to their continuous service.

Chairman Fullilove announced that the next meeting of the AAA will be Oct. 25, at 10:00 A.M., in Richmond Hill. In closing, Rev. Frasier was asked to offer a blessing for the food. The meeting was then adjourned.

Farran Fullilove, Chairperson, Aging Services Advisory Council, CRC

Ceola Foreman, Secretary

