

Minutes of the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council Meeting
Coastal Regional Commission
July 28, 2015 10:00 a.m.
Richmond Hill City Center

Call to Order:

Rev. Lloyd Dees called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone and opened with prayer. Reverend Ralph Bailey played the saxophone. Claire Frasier sang.

Members Present:

Rev. Lloyd Dees	Ceola Foreman	Farran Fullilove
Rev. Henry Frasier, Sr.	Margie Pevey-Shuman	Kenneth Shuman
Dessie Baker	Linda Mercer	Linda Wright
Lillian Simmons	Janet Watford	Elizabeth Jones
David Anderson, Sr.	Oliver Miller	Walter Gibson
Howard Dawson, Sr.	Daniel Brantley	Eleanor Legg

Members Absent:

Deborah Scariano	Pat Rentz	Lorraine Koenn
Lloyd Flanders		

Guests Present:

Tony Chiarello	Richard Ellison	Margaret Kramer Ellison
Maudie Anderson	Delores Dees	Vermelle Bailey
Reverend Ralph Bailey	Laverne Miller	Dr. Beckie Gaston-Dawson
Lucy Powell		

Staff Present:

Dionne Lovett, Allen Burns, Pam Rogers, Loreatha Jenkins, Gale Barr, Tori Windsor, Teresa Townsend

Minutes Approved:

Minutes were approved with no corrections or additions.

Old Business:

Dionne Lovett recognized the new officers for the next two fiscal years: Farran Fullilove – Vice Chairperson, Ceola Foreman – Secretary, and Reverend Lloyd Dees – Chairperson. She thanked the officers for accepting these positions that they were voted for.

Ms. Lovett reminded members they received a copy of House Bill 72 in the mail prior to the meeting. This bill is one of the issues that we worked on as advocates across the State strengthening the laws and language against elder abuse. Every year AAAs across Georgia and other agencies get together with the Council on Aging to coordinate advocacy issues and submit issues to be considered by State Membership of CoAge; twelve issues were submitted for us to consider. Voting is open to all Co-Age members. The Coastal Area Agency on Aging (AAA) has 5 paid memberships. Ms. Lovett explained that she will present a short video clip describing each issue and let the Aging Advisory council members help the Coastal AAA cast our available votes as a group (1 budget issue and 3 legislative issues). The following were the issues presented:

1. Issue A (Budget): Funding for Comprehensive ANE Training

Provide \$500,000 in additional funding to combat/investigate abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

2. Issue B (Budget): Funding for GBI Agents to Fight Elder Abuse

There is a need for more Georgia Bureau Investigators to help fight the crime of elder abuse. Elder abuse has no boundaries in Georgia and we need agents in all 15 regions.

3. Issue C (Budget): Transitions Services Funding

This issue relates to moving people from nursing homes back into the community. We currently have services and the funding from the Federal budget (Money Follows the Person) but that money is going away.

4. Issue D (Legislative): Aging in Place Study Committee

Over 80% of people want to remain in their homes to age. This issue is asking that an Aging in Place Study Committee be created. Once the committee is created, a plan has to be submitted and then implemented.

5. Issue E (Legislative): Caregiver ID in Education and Hospitals

This issue will support caregivers by providing support and training to the caregiver upon discharge from the hospital so they can adequately support and care for a person in their home. Currently, hospitals are mandated to educate the patient upon discharge, but there is no mandate to educate the caregiver.

6. Issue F (Legislative): Elder and Disabled Abuser Registry

This issue supports having a registry that will help employers access accused or substantiated cases of abuse, not just convicted cases of abuse.

7. Issue G (Legislative): Grocery Tax Exemption and Age-Friendly Tax Credits

Currently there is an exemption for grocery taxes and home modification taxes; this exemption ends December 2016. This issue would cover caregivers who for example, have to do some home modifications on their home due to an elderly parent living with them. This issue opposes sales taxes on the sale of food and food ingredients for individuals for off-premise consumption.

8. Issue H (Legislative): Mandatory Safe Driver Training for those Over Age 65

If this passed, elders would have to take a driver's test every year to keep driver's license. This issue would require that once a person turns 65, they would have to automatically take a driver's license test.

9. Issue I (Legislative): Modification of Home Accessibility Tax Credit

It is important to reintroduce this tax credit to allow multi-family housing and the elderly to take advantage of this tax credit. The example of a caregiver modifying a home to help an elderly parent that lives in that home, applies to this issue also.

10. Issue J (Legislative): Multi-state Guardianship Law

This issue deals with a situation such as a family member that has an elderly relative visiting them in one state and the legal guardian is in another state. The State needs to recognize that one family member has legal guardianship but the family is giving ok for the other family member in another State to speak on that elderly person's behalf.

11. Issue K (Legislative): Oral Health Care for Seniors

This would allow dental hygienists to do some of the work outside of the presence of a dentist (example a dental hygienist going to nursing home to do routine oral cleaning or evaluation without dentist, in a sterile setting). Otherwise, this oral health care becomes too expensive.

12. Issue L (Legislative): Work and Save Retirement Plan

This issue deals with having employers create a vehicle for employees to have payroll deductions to put into a retirement plan; this does not mandate that employers fund the retirement plan. Studies have shown that most people will not save for retirement if it is not a payroll deducted plan.

Ms. Lovett asked Advisory Council members to take the yellow sheet that was distributed to them and choose one budget issue and three legislative issues. We will then cast our vote as an agency and submit with the rest of the state. She will then send correspondence via mail to let members know which issues were selected by the state; we can then go forward and advocate for issues.

New Business:

Ms. Lovett does not have the date yet for Senior Week at the Capital; however, January 28, 2016 will be the date of “The Be There for Seniors Rally.”

The AAA completes a four-year planning cycle to submit the Area Plan. Every year, Ms. Lovett comes before the Council to present goals. The formal presentation of the needs assessments findings will be held at the Coastal Regional Commission (CRC) council meetings and notifications will be sent to AAA Advisory Council members in advance. This is the year the AAA issues Requests for Proposals to subcontractors for all the services provided (some examples are adult day care, meals on wheels, and in-home services). The AAA will be seeking assistance to review these proposals (proposals go out in October/November).

“Bluzin’ at Mary Ross Waterfront Park” is a Jazz concert to be held on Saturday, September 5, 2015 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. sponsored by the Coastal AAA. This is a free fun-filled community event that will include music, exhibits, food, activities for children, and more. The AAA wants to reach a broader audience in an effort to educate all generations about topics and issues our seniors are facing today.

Rev. Dees would like the Advisory Council members to work on getting a senior joke book together. Pamela Rogers, Contracts Administrator for the CRC, mentioned that she could find a student that would help us put together the book. He encouraged members to bring jokes to the next meeting.

Rev. Dees briefly discussed the handout that Dionne prepared with the number of people on our waiting lists (for services). He has noticed this waiting list for years now and mentioned that it is a long list. He proposed that we designate this upcoming year (October 2015 – October 2016) as the year to hold some fund raisers to help people on these waiting lists and set a goal of \$50,000. He asked to be placed on our September CRC Council meeting calendar (as well as inviting some of the Advisory Council members) to present this proposal to raise funds. The total waiting for home delivered meals is currently 388 and homemaker services 862. He asked for suggestions on how to raise these funds. Lillian Simmons wants to go to county commissioners and ask for more money.

Dionne announced that the AAA is working with the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council in Atlanta to fight elderly abuse in Savannah/Chatham Co. The AAA is hosting a kick-off event on September 28, 2015 and inviting all of Chatham Co. AAA staff will be informing the public on the issue of elder abuse and training law enforcement and the District Attorney’s office how to recognize and possibly prosecute those guilty of elder abuse.

Allen Burns, CRC's Executive Director, spoke to the group regarding a few issues. The CRC hosted a golf tournament last year to raise money for Meals on Wheels; approximately \$6,000 was raised last year. The CRC plans to hold another tournament this year (November 2015) to raise money again and try to increase the amount this year. The CRC is in a new budget year. Dues were increased for counties. The CRC is absorbing losses and budget cuts. Tom Ratcliffe is the new CRC Chairman, former Mayor of Hinesville. The Federal budget is coming up in October. He emphasized that all should visit the Tools for Life Lab at the CRC office. The Coastal AAA is the only Area Agency on Aging that has this program for helping people understand the available tools for people that are disabled in any way.

The Coastal AAA now has a partnership with FODAD (Friends of Disabled Adults and Children). This company receives used medical equipment. The Coastal AAA has been designated as a drop-off/pick-up site. FODAD will pick up equipment, refurbish it, and give it away to anyone that needs it. Likewise, if you or someone you know needs a piece of medical equipment that they cannot afford to purchase, an order form will be submitted to FODAD and they will drop off needed equipment to the Coastal AAA. If you have equipment to be dropped off, the CRC now has a warehouse facility to store equipment.

Farran Fullilove, Vice-Chairperson, teaches at Coastal Pines Technical College (CPTC). CPTC offers free GED (General Educational Development) classes. He believes that if the younger generation does not obtain high school diplomas or GEDs, there may not be any social security for the future generation. He stressed the importance of informing anyone we knew that has not obtained their high school diploma or GED to get to CPTC and take advantage of these free classes to prepare for the GED exam. It costs \$24.00 to take the pre-GED exam; it cost \$160.00 for the GED exam; however, currently, the State will pay for the pre-GED and the GED. CPTC offers classes in the morning, afternoon, and evening. He gave a CPTC Adult Education Program flyer to Teresa Townsend, Administrative Assistant, who will mail one to each member of the Aging Advisory Committee and get a Constant Contact email correspondence to all CRC contacts in the database about this flyer and the services that Coastal Pines Technical College offer.

The meeting was adjourned after a prayer/blessing of the food.

Aging Advisory Council Meeting
October 27, 2015
Minutes

Rev. Dees opened the meeting by telling everyone there are packets at the table for all to review. Two jokes were told; Rev. Dees explained that we are going to put together a joke book to raise some money to be used for helping those on the waiting list.

Teresa Townsend, CRC's Administrative Assistant told the council members that there an Advisory Council Member Roster at each place at the table and asked members to make corrections to any items that are not correct or need updating.

Senator Jack Hill spoke for a few minutes. Being a senior citizen himself, he has a particular interest in our issues. He said he would readily admit that on both the State and Federal levels, we have gone through some tough times over the last 10 years or so. He also admitted that our programs were under-funded and he hopes that with every year, we can add new funding back to the most important program that is under-funding. The advisory committee and CRC staff can help them know where the funding is needed most. We can help keep seniors at home as they get older by having programs such as Meals on Wheels. He wants us to know that he is certainly on our side and as time goes by and there is new funding available, they are going to be trying to put the money in the right places. He wants us to help him help us by prioritizing programs.

Senator Hill then allowed council members to ask questions. He distributed pens that had his name and email address on them. He does answer his own emails. One council member asked if the junction as a whole was supportive of multi-year funding. The Senator explained that he is Chairman of the Budget writing committee in the Senate. The Governor presents the budget and the Legislature go by his revenue estimate and have to work with it. There are limited finite resources each year. For the Legislature to add to one program, they have to take away from another. He said 58% of everything they spend is on education, so that puts pressure on the rest of the resources. He feels the Legislature is supportive. The appropriations process goes through a committee process on both sides and the more advocacies you have from the membership up, the better chances there are for funds to be added. There is competition for every dollar and there are limited resources. When Federal funding is cut back on programs, they try to put new State funding to the program(s) to make up for the cut(s).

Mrs. Collier said she had been reading his articles in the newspaper about revenues coming back from the 2007-2008 drop. She asked what percentage he thinks we are back from that time period. The Senator said they just passed revenue last year from pre-recession level. We just came back last year to the point we were before the recession, but we gained 400,000 in population, 100,000 school kids and 350,000 Medicaid recipients. They are actually doing a lot more with the same amount of money as before the recession. We have recovered from the recession and are a little better than we were before the recession began.

Dionne Lovett, Director of Aging Services, AAA, thanked Senator Hill and told him she felt like he had been a friend to the aging population. She explained that she works closely with the Co-Age committee. Dionne and Allen met with Senator Hill last year. She knows that a lot of the Co-Age membership flowed through the Capitol. As tax revenues are up, we are hoping advocates come to the Capitol and advocate for more resources for senior services. Senator Hill said that the number of seniors over the age of 65 doubled in the last ten years. As the population grows, the need grows.

The minutes from last minute were approved. Dionne recognized Dr. Becky Dawson as a new member of our Aging Advisory Council. Dionne discussed the fund raising activities, specifically the golf tournament to be held on November 4, 2015 at the King and Prince Golf Course on St. Simons Island. This will be the second year we have held this event. The proceeds from the golf tournament will go towards the home delivered meals programs. Dionne encouraged those who wanted to play golf to sign up and to mention to friends and family. We are also asking for sponsors; the sponsorship will carry on after the golf tournament. Dionne reminded council members and guests that Rev. Dees has charged us with raising funds of \$50,000 within a year's time to help those on the waiting lists.

Rev. Dees composed a letter regarding the fundraising drive and it was mailed to the Council members prior to this meeting. He asked the members to vote on approval of this letter; members approved the letter. He said he is depending on us to make copies of this letter and mail to friends and "foes."

Dionne addressed the next item on the Agenda which was the food drive. We are concentrating on 4 counties this year: Camden, Glynn, McIntosh and Long. In Camden County, we are partnering with Heartland Hospice. The food drive is to help those individuals who are on our home delivered meals waiting list. We are still working with Glynn County to obtain a partnering agency. In McIntosh County, we are partnering with Pastor Jerome Elzie. In Long County we are partnering with A New Beginning Church. Our role at the AAA is to coordinate the overall coordination; we purchase a frozen turkey for everyone that receives a food basket.

Tori Foisy is heading up the food drive and she spoke for a few minutes. She said that in Camden County we are serving 100 seniors; in Glynn County – 100; McIntosh 25 and Long 34. A New Beginning Church in Long County is not only going to deliver food to those seniors in November but also every month after.

The AAA is serving about 2000 people but we have about 1700 people waiting for services.

The next item on the Agenda was Co-Age meeting. At these meetings advocates come together and discuss the Co-Age issues. The next meeting is 2 days after the Advisory Council meeting. In July we voted on the issues we wanted the Co-Age to advocate for at the state level. We voted on the following issues: the budget issue – wanting more dollars for HCBS services (there are over 16,000 people still on the waiting list in Georgia) and Transition services (money to help keep individuals at home – moving them from nursing homes back to the community). Dionne mentioned that Gavin was at our meeting today. He is a contracted Options Counselor who works with individuals in the nursing home and tells them about the ADRC/AAA and initiates the process to move those individuals out of the nursing home.

The other issue is the Elder Abuse State Registry. The way the issue was written up in the past, a person could get on this registry but the abuse accusation not be substantiated. As the bill is processed, the wording may be changed. We want to protect our seniors, but also protect those who may be falsely accused. The oral health bill would allow dental hygienists to serve elders (without the presence of a Dentist) with routine dental care, which will save money. Many seniors now are not getting the dental care they need, particularly in nursing home settings. A carry-over issue from last year is the Family Care Act. For those companies that provide their employees sick leave, this issue is asking that sick leave be expanded to including parents.

Public Hearings – in the distributed handouts, there is a flyer that lists the 4 public hearings that have been scheduled across the region. This is the beginning of our 4 year planning cycle. Every year, the AAA holds public hearings/information forums. These public hearings have been advertised in all local newspapers and have been sent to our contacts via Constant Contact. The AAA completes a region-wide needs assessment each year. Dionne invited council members to attend these hearings and invite others. The hearings only last a couple of hours and the feedback is what we want. We would like to know whether the community feels that we are doing enough or not enough, or if we should do something differently. We need to check when we get back to the office that our Senior Centers received information about our public hearings. The public hearings are open to the public – individuals, caregivers and providers. Public hearings have been announced via newspapers, Constant Contact and word of mouth.

Seniors Day in Atlanta – some of the Advisory Council would like to take a bus like they did 5 or 6 years ago. The coordination of the project is the biggest problem – not having the resources to coordinate it due to shortness of staff. This would be a 6-month process for the senior centers to coordinate the trip for their seniors. We no longer have a staff position to coordinate this trip. Reduced budgets and staff make this kind of trip hard to coordinate unless we had a volunteer. Dionne asked for a show of hands for those that would like to go to Seniors Day, make a point, and meet with your representative(s). She said she will do everything she can to reimburse participants and make sure they get there, but she is making no promises. There were 6 people that raised their hands who agreed they would not only go to Seniors Day, but actually make a point and meet with representatives. The **Be There for Seniors Rally** is on January 28th, 2016.

Request for Proposals (RFP) – these were released on October 26, 2015 via Constant Contact and newspapers. Handouts for Aging Advisory Council members were distributed prior to the meeting. Every 4 years we put out RFPs for bids. When the RFPs come in, the AAA Review Team reviews them. Dionne explained that if anyone was interested in helping to review these, there is a scoring system that is explained in the distributed paperwork. Reviewers are not required to meet as a team and can review individually. As a reviewer, each one will receive a copy of the RFPs that come in. There are RFPs for the following services: Meals, Adult Day Care, In-home Services, GA Cares, Community Care Services Program, Elderly Legal Assistance, and Money Follows the Person. We are seeking qualified service providers for each of those 7 services. A Bidders' Conference is scheduled for November 12th, 2015 and will be held at the CRC office in Darien. A Schedule of Events is included in the RFPs so every bidder knows when RFPs were released, when the Bidders' Conference is, and other important dates and

deadlines. Proposals are due December 4th, 2015. Those interested in reviewing proposals will hear from Dionne 1-2 weeks after the deadline and she will deliver the proposals to them to review.

Rev. Dees stressed to Advisory Council members that each of them were chosen by County Commissioners or Mayors and they should call their office and get scheduled to be on an Agenda for a Commission meeting(s) or City Council meeting. When you go to a meeting, let them know who you are and what you are about, take a copy/copies of the letter from him regarding the \$50,000 fund raising and impress upon them that you are there representing the City/County and you need their support to provide these important services in our area. At the previous Council meeting, Rev. Dees gave everyone a copy of the Elders Abuse Act. He asked that council members take a copy of this to the City/County meetings also and impress upon them that a law is no better than the enforcement of a law. Laws on paper need to be enforced. There are too many senior citizens getting beaten up, having money stolen from them, and people taking advantage of them (often members of their family).

Rev. Dees asked Allen Burns, CRC's Executive Director, when he expected the Annual Reports to be ready. Allen explained that we were waiting to receive one component/section of the report and then it should be finished by the end of November or before. Printing of the reports usually takes less than 30 days (approximately 10-15 business days). Allen takes some of these annual reports and meets with each of the Commissioners in December. Rev. Dees requested that each council member not only receive a personal copy of the Annual Report (as they usually do), but also obtain about 5 extra copies per council member to be distributed to friends/acquaintances. The CRC ordered 650 last year and had about 100 extras that were not distributed. Dionne suggested that we not sell the report/calendars but ask for a donation to go toward the cost (\$5.00 - \$10.00 each).

Rev. Dees mentioned that if anyone had jokes they wanted to include in the joke book, mail them to Dionne Lovett at the AAA and she will give to Pam Rogers, AAA's Contracts Administrator. Pam will be using volunteers/students to put a joke book together in an effort to raise money to help those on the waiting lists.

Allen mentioned that the next scheduled CRC Council meeting is on November 10th, 2015. One of the primary topics will be finance. This is a good time of the year to individually talk to members of your delegation at the State level. He also stressed that if anyone plans to go to Atlanta for Senior Day to wear comfortable shoes because there is a lot of required walking between building and many steps/stairs.

The meeting was adjourned and a blessing of the food was offered.

MINUTES OF THE CRC AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING

Richmond Hill, GA
January 26, 2016 10:00 a.m.

PRESENT:

<p>COUNCIL MEMBERS Farran Fullilove, Vice- Chair Ceola Foreman, Secretary Margie Pevey-Shuman Kenneth Shuman Walter Gibson Howard Dawson Dr. Becky Dawson Linda Wright Linda Mercer Eleanor Legg David Anderson Lillian Simmons Lorraine Koenn Lloyd Flanders Daniel Brantley</p>	<p>STAFF MEMBERS: Dionne Lovett, Aging Services Director Allen Burns, CRC Executive Director Gale Barr, Aging Fiscal Analyst Tori Foisy, Case Manager Supervisor Loreatha Jenkins, Wellness Manager Teresa Townsend, Administrative Assistant</p> <p>REGRETS (OR EXCUSED): Rev. Lloyd Dees Dessie Baker</p> <p>ABSENT: Elizabeth Jones Deborah Scariano Rev. Henry Frasier Pat Rentz Janet Watford</p> <p>GUESTS: Maudie Anderson Margaret Kramer Ellison Richard Ellison Claudia Collier Tony Chiariello Elizabeth Kennebrew Ruth Bowen Lucy Powell Patsy Grainer</p>
<p>The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Vice-Chair Farran Fullilove. Chairman Lloyd Dees was absent due to illness. A card was passed around for members to sign and send get-well wishes.</p>	
<p>1. Roll Call by secretary Ceola Foreman.</p>	
<p>2. Approval of Minutes</p> <p>The Minutes of the meeting of October 27, 2015 were presented. Due to no corrections or additions, minutes were approved. Moved by: Dr. Daniel Brantley Seconded by: Mr. Howard Dawson</p>	

3. Old Business

Request for Providers Update: AAA's Aging Services Director, Dionne Lovett, reviewed the list of chosen providers (see attachment). Two new service providers were chosen this year: Heavenly Divine Blessing and Res Care Home Care. June 17, 2016, new contracts will be issued to providers. Special thanks were given to Dr. Daniel Brantley and Mr. Fullilove for serving on the review committee.

Vice-Chair Fullilove asked Rev. David Anderson to grace the members with a joke, in honor of Rev. Dees initiative to publish a book of jokes as a fundraiser. This was a pleasant interlude between the Old Business and New Business.

4. New Business

*Area Plan Presentation: Dionne Lovett, Aging Services Director, presented the area plan and goals for the upcoming cycle, which will cover 2017-2020. A plan cycle is usually four years. The current cycle, which has been extended to coordinate with that of the State, ends July 1, 2016. After Mrs. Lovett's presentation today, she hopes to get the approval of this AAA council. Followed approval by this agency, she will take the plan to the Regional Commission, and finally to the State Department of Human Services on March 1, 2016.

The overall mission of CRC Area Plan is to develop, coordinate, help deliver, and monitor a comprehensive system of services for promoting the well-being of senior citizens and disabled individuals. There are many resources across the State. The CRC Area Agency on Aging aids the client in finding needed services and providing validity for the services offered. It further aids in preventing duplication of services to curtail waste of resources. And in case a client moves to another location, it facilitates the transfer of services.

In short, the CRC Area Agency for the Aging finds resources to address the needs of its clients. For example, the agency helps provide senior centers with resources, such as transportation and health programs. The agency doesn't necessarily pay for the resources, but finds and secures them for the clients. Various State and local agencies provide most of the funding.

OAA Core Programs Area Goals and Objectives (See the Handout, pages 1-2.)

Goal 1. Focus on Sustainability to Ensure Programs and Services Remain Available for Those in Need. The main objective of this goal is to develop an Aging Network that is sustainable in all economic climates. For example, our agency works with the hospital in Glynn County, making certain that when a senior is released from the hospital, he/she has the services needed so that he/ she does not have to return due to insufficient care. Also, this agency helps with senior housing in Bryan County.

Goal 2. Create a Statewide Focus on Reaching Underserved Persons. There are two objectives for this goal: (1) To develop an Aging Network that reaches underserved persons across the State; (2) To promote greater access to waiver services in underserved rural parts of the State. The AAA has an outreach program.

Goal 3. Expand Opportunities for Transportation in Underserved Areas of Georgia. The objective is to increase community based transportation opportunities. AAA does not provide transportation; that is the responsibility of another division; what we do is coordinate housing for seniors and disabled individuals.

Goal 8. Expand Efforts to Support Individuals to Remain in Their Desired Residence as Long as Possible. The main objective for this goal is to expand and increase Statewide access to home modification or home repair services. As stated previously, AAA does not do this directly, but works with community services to help facilitate this service.

Goal 10. Increase the number of Individuals Served by Georgia Cares from Targeted Populations, the main objective being to increase the number of client contracts. For example, AAA helps clients get set

up with their Medicare services that ultimately cover a portion of their needs.

Goal 11. Increase the Number of Consumers Reached that Could benefit from Assistance Offered Through the Medicare Beneficiaries, including Disease Prevention and Wellness promotion. This service is also part of Georgia Cares. This organization helps make individuals aware of what benefits they actually have.

Participant Directed Person-Centered Planning (PDPC P) Focus Area Goals (Handout Continued.)

Goal 2. Develop and Implement a Person-Centered Approach to Service Mix. The main goal is to develop and implement a New and Non-Programmatic Regional Wait list for HCBS Services Base. Mrs. Lovett says that when someone calls and says what he/she needs, her personnel listen and assess these needs.

Goal 3. Maximize the Variety of Approaches to Support Consumer Control and Choice. This objective aims at using assistive technology as an option in place of direct services. For example, a client comes to the office requesting homemaker services. After using the office lab, he discovers that he only needs a special tub for easy access to getting in and out. Therefore, he is moved off of the waiting list.

Goal 4. Increase Professional Capacity of Georgia’s Aging Network to Better Meet the Needs of Family Caregivers and At-Risk Adults. This will be done by forming collaborative teams and partnerships, conducting workshops, and utilizing technology. This goal is mainly aimed at staff preparedness.

Goal 5. Support Grandparents and Other Relative Caregivers to Maximize Family Independence. This objective is aimed at preventing disruption of family care systems by connecting family caregivers to formal resources. For example, AAA works with McIntosh’s grandparent program.

Our agency helped them get theirs started.

Goal 6. Ensure Maximum Access and Efficient Delivery of Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) to Older Adults, Persons with Disabilities, and Caregivers. This objective is to ensure that the right services are delivered to the right person at the right time and for the right duration.

Goal 7. Increase Participation in the Sustainability of Evidence-Based Health and Wellness Programs Across the State. The assistant living program in Bryan County is one program with which this agency works.

Goal 8. Empower Residents of Facilities to Fully Participate in Directing Their care. The objective is increase awareness of community options, such as money follows the person (MFP). If a person is in a nursing home and wishes to transfer back home, AAA helps the individual and his family get situated.

At the completion of Mrs. Lovett’s presentation, Mr. Fullilove asked for questions, comments, and a motion to accept the plan.

Dr. Brantley made a motion to approve the Area Plan; Dr. Dawson seconded it. The motion was carried; the Area Plan was approved.

5. Chairman Observations /Announcements/ Comments:

- Budget/Service Updates: \$1700 has been received from the fund- raising campaign to assist with home delivered meals. Dr. Brantley inquired about the status of the joke book and Calendar/ planning book fundraisers. Mrs. Lovett said that the calendars were ready for distribution today, at \$5 each. Members were encouraged to take several and ask friends and family to donate \$5 for them. As for the joke books, Mrs. Lovett said that she was unsure about how well it was going.

Mr. Fullilove questioned whether enough jokes had been submitted for the joke book. One member brought some in today, and Mrs. Lovett added that a few had been emailed. CRC's Contracts Administrator is working on the joke book for the Aging Advisory Council. Therefore, it will materialize sometime in the future.

- Members were urged to send in news of senior activities in their individual communities. This will provide more opportunities for seniors to get out.
- Mrs. Claudia Collier, representing Retirees United for the Future, discussed the Senior Day and Alzheimer's Day at the Capitol in Atlanta. Since AAA, Retirees United, and Alzheimer's advocates all have issues/ goals related to senior citizens in common, they have banded together in the past for advocacy in Atlanta in February during general legislative sessions. Alzheimer's Day at the Capitol is February 2-3, and this group in the past has joined with Theresa Bayman, regional director of the Alzheimer's Association, on the bus trip to Atlanta for the event. Mrs. Collier made a request for donations to aid 4 or 5 members in her group to finance the trip and bring feedback to AAA.

Mr. Fullilove and Mrs. Lovett expressed some concern that no representatives from the AAA were among the advocates for the event. However, none signed up for this year's trip. Due to shortages and uncertainties in her budget, Mrs. Lovett withheld her decision to donate funds towards the trip.

- Dr. Beckie Gaston- Dawson announced that Chatham Co. will host a bazaar on Feb. 19.
- The Historical Society of Bulloch Co. may clean up the Evergreen Cemetery.
- Effingham Co. is hosting a Senior Day on Tuesday, March 8.
- Mr. Kenneth Shuman announced his resignation from the AAA council. (Vacancies need to be filled.
- A comment was made that technical colleges are doing a better job with preparing students for careers and that 145 is now the passing score for the G.E.D.
- Next Meeting Date: April 26, 2016

6. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:45 a.m.

NOTES APPROVED BY:

[Name], Chair

Teesa Foreman, Secretary

MINUTES OF THE CRC AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
Richmond Hill, GA
April 26, 2016 10:00 a.m.

PRESENT:

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Farran Fullilove, Chair
Ceola Foreman, Secretary
Margie Pevey-Shuman
David Anderson
Linda Mercer
Linda Wright
Elizabeth Jones
Lillian Simmons
Oliver L. Miller
Rev. Henry Frasier, Sr.
Dr. Becky Dawson
Howard Dawson
Walter Gibson
Eleanor Legg
Daniel Brantley
Lucy Powell

STAFF MEMBERS:

Dionne Lovett, Aging Services Director
Allen Burns, CRC Executive Director
Gale Barr, Aging Fiscal Analyst
Tori Foisy, Case Manager Supervisor
Pamela Rogers, Contracts Administrator
Peggy Luukkonen, ADRC Program Manager
Loreatha Jenkins, Wellness Manager
Teresa Townsend, Administrative Assistant

REGRETS (OR EXCUSED):

ABSENT:

Pat Rentz
Janet Watford
Lorraine Koenn
Mrs. Lloyd Y. Flanders
Dessie Baker

GUESTS:

Kenneth Schuman
Tanya Scott-Pilcher, United Healthcare
Mrs. David Anderson
Delores Dees, Effingham
Maudie L. Anderson, Effingham
Alice R. Brown, Camden

Claudia Collier, Effingham
Margaret Kramer Ellison, Chatham
Tony Chiarello, Effingham
Jack Garvin, Effingham

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Vice-Chair Farran Fullilove. David Anderson offered a prayer of blessing upon the group and the meeting.

1. Roll Call by Secretary Ceola Foreman
2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the January 26, 2016, which were mailed to Council members for review prior to the meeting, were presented. Due to no corrections or additions, they were approved.

Moved by: Dr. Daniel Brantley
Seconded by: Rev. Henry Frasier
CARRIED

3. **Old Business**

Before the start of Old Business, visitors were welcomed and given the opportunity to introduce themselves, followed by members of the staff of CRC.

Next, Dionne Lovett, Aging Director, called for a moment of silence in memory of deceased Chair of CRC Aging Council Lloyd Dees.

Dionne presented the Legislative recap. For 2017, two million dollars were added to the existing two million in the Governor's budget for Regional Commission services. This is used for non-Medicaid home and community-based services that the AAA performs. Examples of these include services, such as transitioning from nursing facilities to home, caregiver services, homemaker services, personal care, and so on. The funds are distributed throughout the State, and of these, the CRC Area Agency for the Aging is expected to receive \$134,000.

There is also an expected State increase for the home delivered meals program. Statewide, the increase is \$500,000. Of this, Coastal Regional is expected to get \$33,000. There is also an increase in funding for the transitioning of seniors from the nursing home into the community setting. This was previously a federal program wherein the money follows the individual, such as the moving of the senior out of a nursing home setting after a period of ninety days and putting him back into the home with home care if eligible for Medicaid. The State has now given an additional million dollars to help those individuals who don't meet the federal guidelines.

There was also a \$3 million increase in funds for the GBI to investigate elder abuse cases. On the Social Services' side, for senior protection services for 2017, \$760 thousand has been added to the existing \$266 thousand. For kinship navigators, such as grandparents caring for grandchildren, the budget has added \$580,000. CRC partners with several local organizations, such as the ones in Glynn and McIntosh Counties, to carry out this program. Ms. Lovett concluded her report for the legislative update and gave way to Ms. Collier to give a brief report of her visit to the Capitol in early February 2016.

Ms. Collier participated with the Alzheimer's organization during the Alzheimer's Day at the Capitol in Atlanta. She was accompanied by Tony Chiarella and Rick. Due to inclement weather, many activities were cancelled and many groups cancelled their visits. Her delegation visited with Sen. Jack Hill of Appropriations and other legislators. She distributed a letter to them requesting a continuance of support of senior issues. She, along with Ms. Lovett, urged all of us to personally contact our congressmen and do the same.

There was a brief discussion about Senior Week/ Alzheimer's Week at the Capitol for next year. She urged us to start preparing for this activity now, even in our local communities. Ms. Collier added that is a possibility that the Alzheimer's group, with whom AAA partners for the Senior Week activity, may discontinue trips to the Capitol due to lack of participation. Very few seniors made the trip this February.

4. New Business

New business began. Voting results confirmed Farran Fullilove of Camden County as Chairman of AAA, due the demise of Chairman/ Rev. Lloyd Dees. Dr. Daniel Brantley was voted Vice-Chair.

New business continued. A total of \$2300 has been raised for Rev. Dees's projects to benefit home-delivered meals and Christmas food drives. Funds were raised through the sale of CRC calendars and a charity golf tournament. Also, the Dees family has requested that anyone desiring to make donations to the Dees family be made to AAA instead.

Tori Foisy, CRC staff case manager, announced that the CARE respite program has come to an end and that REACH helps caregivers deal with their aged or disabled love-ones. Brochures explaining the services offered by REACH were distributed. Persons needing these services should contact CRC.

Loreatha Jenkins, CRC Wellness Manager, presented information about the farmer's market for senior citizens centers. A total of 675 vouchers will be distributed among the nine counties in this region. Each senior citizens center is responsible for handing out the vouchers. What fresh items are available depends on what the farmers have available. Ossie Mack, Oak Tree Farm, Jacksonville, FL, and Mr. McClendon of Blackshear, GA, are the two farmers signed on to program. The fruit and vegetables supplied are State certified but not necessarily organic. Vouchers are valued at \$20 each.

5. Chairman Observations

Mr. Fullilove, who is running for Camden County board member, presented comments on behalf of his campaign. He also made announcements about the upcoming Crawfish Festival in Woodbine, GA, during the weekend of April 29-30. Comments were made about SR287, which deals with an amendment authorizing State intervention in cases of failing schools. Members were urged to vote "no" to the amendment and to contact legislators about the same.

6. Announcements:

Several other announcements and comments were made about upcoming activities or concerns in various communities:

- Mrs. Levy-Shuman shared that former AAA member Dr. Branch published an informative article dealing with needs/ concerns of senior citizens.
- Dr. Becky Dawson expressed concerns about revitalizing a specific cemetery in Chatham County. Mrs. Shuman shared that young people needing community service hours could help with this.
- Loreatha Jenkins announced a six-week class on Living Well and about the upcoming jazz concert in Camden.
- Ceola Foreman announced the Belk Charity Sale and urged members to purchase \$10 coupons to support the Camden Retired Educators in their effort to award graduating high school seniors a scholarship.
- Farran Fullilove announced a smartphone workshop offered to the community by Camden County FBLA on April 27.

- Allen Burns, CRC Executive Director, announced that Congressman Buddy Carter will visit Darien Center's "Tools for Life". CRC is the only AAA with the tool kit and other projects that allow them to "step out of the box." Georgia Tech help set up the technology lab. It was also announced that Lloyd Flanders was stepping down as McIntosh's member of the council.

7. **Adjournment**

The next AAA meeting will be held at 10:00 A.M., on July 26, at the Richmond Hill Center. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:45 A.M.

MINUTES APPROVED BY:

Farran Fullilove, Chair

Ceola Foreman, Secretary