

**MEETING MINUTES**  
**ST. MARY'S COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING**  
**August 28, 2017**  
**Victory Woods Apartments**

**GUEST SPEAKER** – Debbie Barker, Senior Information & Assistance Division Manager

Ms. Barker provided an overview of what services are offered through the Senior Information & Assistance Division.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:24 p.m. (This is a recorded meeting).

**ROLL CALL:** Members present were Margaret Forrest, Linda Fry, Greg Havens, Deb Johnstone, Gail Murdock, Juanita Nether, Mary Novotny, Nicky Pires, and Dale Taylor. Department of Aging & Human Services staff member present was Beth Sandberg, Senior Administrative Coordinator.

**ABSENT:** Janet Kellam

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Motion to approve the July 24, 2017 minutes was made by Mr. Murdock and seconded by Ms. Novotny; the motion passed.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

- Outreach Committee – Juanita Nether and Linda Fry  
Ms. Nether explained what the Outreach Committee purpose is.  
There is nothing new to report at this time.
- Legislative Update – Gail Murdock  
There is nothing new to report at this time.
- Garvey Council – Dale Taylor  
Ms. Taylor explained the upcoming events the Council has planned as well as the Council's fundraising efforts. Ms. Taylor also discussed the new Garvey Senior Activity Center.

**DISCUSSION OF OLD BUSINESS:**

- Report from Volunteer Training on August 8, 2017 – Attendees  
Ms. Forrest and Ms. Novotny indicated the CSMC provided an overview of Boards and Commissions. The CSMC representative explained the rules and ethics Boards and Commissions need to follow and what is expected of the volunteers.
- Public promotion of COA/brochure – Margaret Forrest  
The COA would like to have more citizens involved in the Commission. Ms. Forrest asked the residents of Victory Woods to please consider volunteering for the Commission. An article describing the COA was printed in the Enterprise and County Times in June.

- Revisit to “Challenges”
  - Transportation – Nicky Pires  
Ms. Pires explained the various transportation options available in St. Mary’s County. Ms. Pires also discussed a pilot transportation grant program she is currently working on.
  - Behavioral Health – Mary Novotny  
A few Commission members attended a focus group meeting put together by the Maryland Rural Health Plan. A draft report of their findings is being completed now and will be published shortly.  
Ms. Novotny also informed everyone the Department of Health & Mental Hygiene had a name change. On July 1, 2017, the new name became the Maryland Department of Health.

**DISCUSSION OF NEW BUSINESS:**

- Senior accessibility to “65/10” property tax credit  
Ms. Nether explained the new property tax credit that was established on July 1, 2017.
- Information sharing/announcements – All  
Ms. Nether shared the Commission for Women’s Listening Tour information.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mr. Murdock made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:16 p.m. and Ms. Forrest seconded; the motion passed.

**Purpose:** To advise and assist in the content, administration, and financing of county programs designed to serve the elderly residents of the county; to work with the community to develop awareness and understanding of problems and concerns of the elderly.