

**MEETING AGENDA**  
**ST. MARY'S COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING**  
**March 24, 2014**  
**Cedar Lane Senior Living Community**  
**Leonardtown, MD**

**CALL TO ORDER** – The Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. (This is a recorded meeting).

**ROLL CALL** – Members present were Norma Pipkin, Chair, Bettie Broadhurst, Juanita Nether, Linda Fry, Samantha Lane, Gail Murdock and Cindy Williams. Department of Aging & Human Services staff members present were Lori Jennings-Harris, Director and Beth Sandberg, Senior Administrative Coordinator.

**ABSENT** – Ms. Diane Harding, Ms. Deborah Johnstone, and Ms. Janet Kellam were excused.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** – Motion to approve the February 24, 2014 minutes was made by Mr. Murdock and seconded by Ms. Nether, the motion passed by a 6-0 vote.

*Ms. Williams arrived to the meeting after voting had commenced on the minutes.*

**GUEST SPEAKER/SITE TOUR** –

- Ms. Janice Pruett is the Move-In/Marketing Coordinator at Cedar Lane Apartments. Cedar Lane has been in community for over 37 years and offers senior living with or without supportive services. Cedar Lane is in the process of upgrading their emergency call system, which will replace the current pull-cord system. Cedar Lane offers a lot of amenities even allowing pets. On April 1<sup>st</sup> Cedar Lane will switch food service providers from FitzVogt to Culinary Services Group. There are currently several openings in assisted living program and they have a couple openings for studio apartments.

Ms. Williams asked how the Commission on Aging may help Cedar Lane. Ms. Pruett suggested help informing seniors about Cedar Lane would be helpful. Transportation options for Cedar Lane residents were also discussed.

Ms. Lane indicated it's becoming a more common situation to see a lot of homeless over the age of 50. People are bouncing between family members, as well trying to find housing. Ms. Pipkin asked what the County resources are to assist those families. Ms. Pruett said they are working with the Housing Authority to release more vouchers. Priority is given to emergency situations and seniors.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS** –

- Outreach Committee – Ms. Broadhurst

Ms. Broadhurst spoke to Richard Lacey and he will help distribute flyers for the forum. The forum is scheduled for the morning of June 26, 2014 and will be held at the American Legion Hall in the 7<sup>th</sup> District. Information about the forum will be placed in the Optimist Club's newsletter. The forum will be promoted at local churches for the Commission on Aging. Ms. Nether will contact Our Lady of the Wayside about the forum. Jennifer Stone, Community Programs & Outreach Manager, will develop a flier to help promote the forum. Mr. Murdock will have the fliers distributed.

- Legislative Update – Mr. Murdock

Legislative bills are in the crossover now, when House bills go to the Senate, Senate bills go to the House. There was discussion about several bills. There are seven (7) senators retiring and forty-five (45) delegates will not run for reelection.

- Tri-County Commission on Aging Planning Committee – The most recent agenda was emailed to all. After reviewing the information submitted by one of the presenters, time was allocated more efficiently between the speakers.

Ms. Harris will provide information on the Department of Aging activities to Ms. Pipkin.

Save the date postcards were mailed and invitations to the Commission on Aging Chair will be sent out in mid-April, one month prior to the meeting. Commission members will work closer with Calvert and Charles C to address issues in a regional effort. As a group, the Tri-County Commission on Aging would like to make an impact at the state level. Commission on Aging members will consolidate all thoughts and concerns from the upcoming meeting to focus on the main issues. The next Committee meeting will be on April 28<sup>th</sup> at noon at the Northern Senior Activity Center.

#### **DISCUSSION OF OLD BUSINESS –**

- Victory Woods – New bus stop request information was provided.

#### **DISCUSSION OF NEW BUSINESS –**

Ms. Fry will attend the Triad/SALT meetings. The next monthly meeting will be at the Loffler Senior Activity Center. A topic of discussion could be concerns seniors are facing regarding safety.

#### **OTHER NEW BUSINESS – None**

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT –**

- Department of Aging & Human Services division managers will come to the COA meetings to provide an overview of their divisions. Starting in May, Jennifer Stone will give an overview. All new members should be in attendance.
- Distributed information about Chronic Disease Self Management Program (Living Well). Sessions are starting at the Northern Senior Activity Center and are for six (6) weeks.
- Home & Community-Based Services Division - Older Adults Waiver now combined with the Living at Home Waiver. The two waivers are now called Community First Choice.
- Applied for FY15 Senior Rides grant funds. If awarded, this will be our 8<sup>th</sup> year receiving the grant.
- We have been approved for our second year of the 3 year RSVP grant.
- We have hired a new Senior Rides Coordinator, Christina Hilliard.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS –**

- March 27, 2014 - RSVP Volunteer Appreciation Banquet at the James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center at 3:30 p.m.
- April 1<sup>st</sup> – BOCC Open Forum at the Northern Senior Activity Center at 6:30 p.m.
- April 15, 2014 – Maurielle Stewart, Constituent Liaison to Congressman Steny Hoyer, will visit the Garvey Senior Activity Center at 10:00 a.m. to meet with area seniors and hear concerns specifically related to issues impacting seniors.
- May 15, 2014 Tri-County Commission on Aging Meeting – Northern Senior Activity Center.

**RSVP TIME SHEETS** – Please make sure they are signed before you leave.

**NEXT MEETING** – April 28, 2014 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. at the Northern Senior Activity Center

## **ADJOURNMENT –**

- Mr. Murdock made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:22 p.m. and Ms. Williams seconded. The motion passed by a 7-0 vote.