

Minutes of the Commission On Aging Meeting  
Cedar Lane Apartments, Leonardtown, Maryland  
Monday, October 25, 2010

**CALL TO ORDER**

Start Time: 1:06 p.m.  
Location: Garvey Senior Activity Center, Leonardtown, Maryland  
Chaired By: Elfreda Mathis - Chair

**PRESENT**

**COA Members:** Claudia Knowlton, Florence Lanham, Elfreda Mathis, Peggy Reardon, Sheral St. Clair, Andree Wells

**Department of Aging Staff:** Lori Jennings-Harris, Director; Kim Clark, RSVP Office Specialist; Alice Allen, Manager, Senior Center Operations.

**ABSENT**

Bettie Broadhurst, Sam Brown, Vicki Brown, Norma Pipkin

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion to approve the agenda as written was made by Sheral St. Clair and seconded by Peggy Reardon; all were in favor and the motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to approve the August 2010 with corrections was made by Sheral St. Clair and seconded by Peggy Reardon; all were in favor and the motion carried.

**GUEST SPEAKER – Alice Allen, Manager Senior Center Operations**

Alice Allen, Manager Senior Center Operations for the St. Mary's County Department of Aging, attended the October Commission On Aging meeting to present an overview of a project that the Department of Aging Senior Activity Center Operations Division has been working on. The project is working towards preparing for the future of the Garvey Senior Activity Center, determining the current need as well as what the need will be. Over 1000 surveys have gone out to the community looking for input and information regarding these needs. A core vision team has been put together to work on this project. Alice Allen answered questions presented by the Commission On Aging members.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Friends of Ripple Projects:**

- 5K Run/Walk was held on October 16, 2010. There were about the same number or slightly more participants in attendance and 14 sponsors for the event.

**Site Information Visits /Presentations:**

- Cedar Lane tour was a success. The members that attended the tour gave a brief update to those members who were unable to attend.
- The Commission On Aging will visit Hospice House of St. Mary's.
- Elfreda Mathis attended the Victory Woods ground breaking and was impressed with the managers being available. The Goal for the finished product is currently summer of 2011.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Department of Aging Health Fair:**

- The Department of Aging Health Fair was held on Friday October 22, 2010. It was a wonderful event. Over 60 vendors and approximately 600 participants attended. Along with many other health screening processes provided, flu and pneumonia shots were available courtesy of the St. Mary's County Health Department. Claudia Knowlton attended.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Upcoming Events:**

#### **Alzheimer's Association – Dementia Care Conference:**

- The Alzheimer's Association Dementia Care Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, November 3, 2010, at the Waldorf Jaycees Community Center.

#### **Caregivers' Conference:**

- St. Mary's County Department of Aging will sponsor the 2011 Annual Caregivers' Conference. It is scheduled for Friday, April 15, 2011. At this time the Department of Aging is looking at location alternatives for this event.

### **Other Events:**

#### **Long Term Care Awareness Forum:**

- The Department of Aging sponsored a Long Term Care Awareness Forum was held on Friday, October 8, 2010 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Dr. James A. Forrest Career and Technology Center in Leonardtown, Maryland. It was a huge success and well attended.

#### **People with Disabilities Awards Ceremony:**

- On Tuesday October 26, 2010 at 9:00 a.m. at the Board of County Commissioners meeting the Commission for Persons with Disabilities will honor persons with disabilities that volunteer their time to help others.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **NARFE Chapter Agreement:**

- The local chapter of National Active and Retired Federal Employees (NARFE) has an agreement with the Department of Aging for respite for caregivers of people with Alzheimer's disease or other forms of dementia. NARFE may raise approximately \$20,000 to donate to this program. These funds will assist caregivers with respite and families who need assistance to purchase medication. The Department of Aging will work on guidelines for setting up this program. The Department of Aging received the first check for approximately \$3,000.00 to begin helping caregivers.

## **PERSONNEL CHANGES**

- The Department is continuing the process to fill the RSVP Program Manager position.
- The Department is continuing the process to fill the Community Programs and Outreach Manager position.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held at 1:00 p.m. on Monday, November 15, 2010 at Hospice of St. Mary's.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn was made by Sheral St. Clair and was seconded by Claudia Knowlton; all were in favor and the motion carried. The meeting adjourned 2:16 p.m.

Prepared by:

Dana DiGregorio

Sr. Administrative Coordinator