

Minutes of the Commission on Aging Meeting
Garvey Senior Activity Center, Leonardtown, Maryland
Monday, October 22, 2012

CALL TO ORDER

Start Time: 1:00 p.m.
Location: Garvey Senior Activity Center, Leonardtown, Maryland
Chaired By: Bettie Broadhurst

PRESENT

COA Members: Norma Pipkin, Elfreda Mathis, Crystal Menear, Sam Brown, Peggy Reardon, David Ryan, Cindy Williams, Gail Murdock, Bettie Broadhurst

Department of Aging and Human Services Staff: Lori Jennings-Harris, Director; Jennifer Hunt, Community Programs and Outreach Manager

ABSENT: Agnes Butler

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Peggy Reardon and seconded by Sam Brown; all were in favor and the motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the amended September 2012 minutes was made by Peggy Reardon and seconded by Gail Murdock; all were in favor and the motion carried. The meeting date of October 24 was corrected to reflect the actual date of October 22.

OLD BUSINESS

Friends of Ripple Projects:

The 5K run/walk fund-raising event went well; however, there were other 5K races that may have impacted attendance. Charles and Calvert Counties had 5K events for Breast Cancer Awareness on the same day. Next year's event date may be changed so it does not fall during the same time when other major races are held. The commercial kitchen is coming along well.

Senior Forum:

It was noted Bettie Broadhurst was a good spokesperson for the event. Approximately sixty-five individuals were in attendance. Thirty-eight questionnaires were collected, of which 36 would like to have another forum but, not in an election year. Eight individuals provided e-mail addresses. It was decided Ms. Broadhurst would contact those who provided an e-mail address to inquire about the type of information or services they wish to have. There was discussion about how to reach out to the other 28 who did not provide e-mail addresses. Jennifer Hunt explained how information is distributed through press releases, advertisements, and our bi-monthly newsletter, New Beginning. Commission members met after the forum to discuss successes and improvements. Overall, the event was a success. Improvements for another forum include having a timer for the respondents, remaining on topic, and getting a larger attendance. See attached – Legislative Forum Attendance Summary and Commission on Aging, Senior Forum De-Brief outline.

Capital Improvement Project – Garvey Rebuild:

The draft letter is in its final stages. After everyone has a chance to review, it will be sent to Lori Jennings-Harris, who will present it to the Board of County Commissioners.

Vibrio vulnificus:

Lori Jennings-Harris contacted Tony Jones, Public Information Officer for the County. Mr. Jones stated that Vibrio would be a matter of the Health Department and any media releases would be done by them. Ms. Jennings-Harris contacted the Health Department's Deputy Health Officer who commented, they are aware of the virus and a press release would be done in the spring of next year.

Membership:

There are several members who have completed their terms as COA members. Ms. Jennings-Harris asked members who are coming up for re-appointment to sign an e-mail expressing desire to serve another term. David Ryan and Gail Murdock volunteered for the nomination committee for new officers. There was discussion that the members of the nomination committee were also eligible for nomination. Also discussed, that it would be appropriate for the nomination committee to use telephone numbers to contact the COA members regarding officer nominations. According to the By-laws, elections are held in January. The By-laws also state each officer shall hold office until replaced by its successor. Bettie Broadhurst commented she is willing to serve as vice-chair.

NEW BUSINESS**United Seniors of Maryland Forum:**

Information about the 2013 United Seniors of Maryland Forum in Annapolis was not available on their website. Lori Jennings-Harris will forward information as soon as it is available.

Marketing for the Community Health Fair:

A full page ad was printed in the County Times, which was distributed four times. The first time included general information to introduce the Health Fair. The second time announced new attractions, such as the shredder truck donated by PNC Bank, Rita B's Caterer, etc. The third time expressed appreciation and thank you to sponsors. The fourth ad was a reminder and provided general information. Three ads appeared in the Enterprise, similar to County Times. It is also advertised in free community newspapers and online sites. Frank Dawson, WKIK, is advertising it on the radio and he will have 15 live on-air slots at the Health Fair. Southern Maryland Online is advertising it online and on their Facebook site. Approximately \$300 in giveaways are being provided to promote awareness. This morning the Facebook site had 149 likes and 78 people commented. Flyers were distributed and it is mentioned throughout the year during the Aging Roadshow presentations.

ACTION ITEMS

Special thank you went to Peggy Reardon and Sam Brown for their service on the Commission on Aging. December will be their last meeting; however, there will be no meeting in December.

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Annual Health Fair is scheduled for Friday, October 26, 2012 at the Hollywood Fire Hall. There will be 75 vendors including a variety of health screenings. Several volunteers are needed from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Ms. Hunt asked for volunteers to help at the health fair. Continental breakfast and lunch are provided. The greatest need is coverage at the shredder truck, which will be there from 8:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. A sign-up sheet was distributed for volunteers. Event attendance is expected to be high because of the amount of advertisement that was done. Ms. Hunt will e-mail Ms. Broadhurst who will e-mail the other members as a reminder of time.

Additionally, Ms. Hunt is available to do Roadshow presentations, which lasts 45 minutes and informs individuals about the services provided by the Department on Aging and Human Services. Ms. Hunt will present to any size group.

A presentation about the Garvey renovation will be held in November. Ms. Jennings-Harris stated much information has already been gathered through focus groups and surveys. Staff will present a power-point presentation. Further discussion was about the capital budget process and the amount of funds. Ms. Jennings-Harris indicated the project is included in the Capital Improvement Project Calendar for 2018, with a start of approximately \$239,000. The total process has not been finally approved. The library and the new school in Leonardtown are competing issues.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- The Department Christmas party will be December 14, 2012 at the Loffler Center.
- The Annual Caregivers' Breakfast and presenter will be held at the Technology Center on November 16, 2012.

- Two COA vacancies to be filled following the terms ending for Peggy Reardon and Sam Brown. Three applications and resumes distributed for review. More application may come. Ms. Pipkin suggested a ranking system be done to determine the commission's choices for new members.
- The Dementia Care Conference will be held November 7, 2012 at the Waldorf Jaycees.
- The Senior Administrative Coordinator position has not yet been filled.
- The annual report and strategic plan are due in January.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 14, 2012. 8:30 a.m. Members will meet at the Garvey Senior Activity Center and visit the county's senior activity centers, nutrition sites, and the Ripple Center. The group will not go into the Newtowne Village. COA members may have lunch once returned to the Garvey Center. The COA meeting will begin at 1:00. There will be no meeting in December.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was at 2:15, made by Peggy Reardon and was seconded by Sam Brown; all were in favor and the motion carried.

Prepared by:
Stephanie Figeroux
Office Manager