

SALLY BEAUMONT, CHAIRPERSON
RUTH BEIDEMAN
GENE CAMPBELL
JAMIE MAGEE
JAMES MOSELEY
PENNY ORNDORFF



SCOTT PHILLIPS
LARRY SAVAGE
FRANCINE SHOCKLEY
ANNA SHORT
FRAN SMITH

Advisory Committee on Aging & Adults with Physical Disabilities for Sussex County

Minutes of Meeting

May 18, 2015

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Advisory Committee on Aging & Adults with Physical Disabilities for Sussex County was held on Monday, May 18, 2015, at the Milton CHEER Center, 24855 Broadkill Road, Milton, Delaware. The following members were present:

Sally Beaumont
Ruth Beideman
Jamie Magee
Scott Phillips

Larry Savage
Francine Shockley
Anna Short

Call to Order

Sally Beaumont, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Ms. Beaumont welcomed everyone, explained the purpose of the Advisory Committee for those who may not be familiar, and asked Committee members to introduce themselves.

Approval of Agenda

A Motion was made by Anna Short, seconded by Ruth Beideman, to approve the Agenda as presented. Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.

Approval of Minutes

A Motion was made by Jamie Magee, seconded by Anna Short, to approve the minutes of the bimonthly meeting of January 26, 2015, as distributed. Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.

A Motion was made by Ruth Beideman, seconded by Larry Savage, to approve the minutes of the bimonthly meeting of March 16, 2015, as distributed. Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.

A Motion was made by Jamie Magee, seconded by Scott Phillips, to approve the minutes of the Conference Planning Subcommittee meeting of April 13, 2015, as distributed. Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.

Election of Officers

Ms. Beaumont requested that Larry Savage conduct the Election of Officers.

For the office of Secretary, Jamie Magee was nominated but declined the nomination due to an inability to fulfill the requirements of the position. Penny Orndorff was nominated and approved by a majority vote of the Committee.

For the office of Vice Chair, Jamie Magee was nominated and approved by a majority vote of the Committee.

For the office of Chair, Ruth Beideman was nominated and approved by a majority vote of the Committee.

Ms. Beaumont explained that prior to her tenure the Advisory Committee also had a Program Manager. To date, Anna Short has been completing the duties of both Secretary and Program Manager; however, with the increasing duties of the Secretary, it was suggested that a separate Program Manager be appointed. The Committee agreed and Scott Phillips accepted the role of Program Manager.

Correspondence/Announcements

- Easter Seals has respite funds available. Anyone interested should see Sally Beaumont for additional information.
- A Respite Summit will be held at the Duncan Center in Dover on May 27th from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. If anyone is interested, please see Sally Beaumont for additional information.
- An email has been received from Bob Corsa, Commissioner of Veterans Affairs in Delaware, and President of the Vietnam Veterans of America, Delaware Chapter, requesting that the Chair appoint a subcommittee of the Advisory Committee which would be dedicated to veterans' affairs. Concern was expressed that if the Committee supported this request, it would establish a precedent to form subcommittees for other special interest groups, diverting the primary focus of the Committee as a whole. Committee members agreed, noting that it would be beneficial, however, for a veteran to serve on the Committee. Scott Phillips is a veteran of the National Guard.

Guest Speakers

- ❖ Anna Short introduced Anthony DelFranco, Director of Marketing, CHEER/Sussex County Senior Services, Inc., who was invited to speak on "*CHEER Centers in Sussex County.*" Mr. DelFranco stated that CHEER actually began in 1971 as Sussex County Home Services, Inc., directed by The Reverend Milton Keene. The program was located at the Manor House in Seaford, and their vision was to provide in-home healthcare. Today, that vision has grown to include creating life enrichment opportunities for Sussex

County's senior population, which is projected to incrementally increase to more than 50 percent of the population by 2030.

Presenting a timeline as to how CHEER has evolved over the years, Mr. DelFranco advised that the CHEER nutrition program began in 1973 as Meals on Wheels. In 1974, CHEER centers were opened in Georgetown, Greenwood, Roxana, and the Slaughter Neck/Milton area. Huling Cove in Lewes and the Oak Orchard center were added in 1977. Arlene Littleton was chosen as Executive Director in 1986 and continues to serve in that capacity. The Nanticoke Indian Center was added in 1992, and the CHEER Community Center on Sand Hill Road in 1999. Harbor Lights replaced Huling Cove in 2003. Two new centers were opened in 2005—Pelican Cove in Long Neck and the Coastal Leisure Center replaced Ocean View. CHEER, Inc., was formed to combine both the nutrition and home health programs in 2007. A new center in Greenwood was opened in 2009, and the new Milton CHEER Center was opened in 2015.

CHEER offers a continuum of care. Home health services with nursing oversight are available 24/7, with a minimum of two hours required. The Adult Day Program was started in 2013 and is expanding from 20 slots to 45 due to a waiting list. The nutrition program meets the need of one-third of daily nutritional intake for seniors. Special diets are also offered, such as low cholesterol and diabetic menus. The nutrition program serves in excess of 2,000 meals per day. CHEER has a Caregiver Resource Center that provides information on caregiving as well.

CHEER membership is \$25.00 a year. Once a person becomes a member of CHEER, they are free to take part in activities at any of the centers. Menus and activities for all locations can be found at www.cheerde.com. Anyone interested in obtaining additional information may contact Mr. DelFranco at adelfranco@cheerde.com.

Jamie Magee announced that every fourth Monday of the month, from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon, there is a memory café at the Coastal Leisure Center in Ocean View. This is an activity program for persons with dementia and their caregivers.

- ❖ Anna Short also introduced the second guest speaker, Ann Gorrin, Delaware Office of Volunteerism, to speak on the “*Delaware Volunteer 50+*” program. This program was formerly known as RSVP. The name was changed as a result of a grant they decided not to participate in because it would have eliminated 70 percent of their volunteers.

Age of eligibility to take part as a volunteer has been lowered, and Ms. Gorrin emphasized that volunteers are so important to the Delaware Volunteer 50+ program. Their goal is to ensure that volunteers have a healthy experience. The program provides volunteers with limited liability insurance, a recognition ceremony, a discount on fingerprinting, and the assurance that the opportunity will be a good fit for the volunteer. Supplemental auto insurance is available for volunteer drivers as well.

The organization currently has approximately 1,200 volunteers. Potential volunteers must complete an application form and interview process.

Delaware Volunteer 50+ also has over 100 partners in the Sussex community. In order to become a community partner, the organization must be a nonprofit.

Linda Rogers stated that Delaware Volunteer 50+ offers a free, eight-week program called “A Matter of Balance,” which works on reduction of falls methodologies. The “Nimble Fingers” club provides knitted and crocheted items to nonprofit agencies for their clients, and they also participate in “Stockings for Soldiers” every year during the holidays. There are numerous opportunities for volunteers each month.

Ms. Beaumont thanked Anthony DelFranco and Ann Gorrin for their presentations and for the educational and useful information each provided.

Old Business

- Ms. Beaumont reviewed a conference planning draft for the **2015 LIVE Conference** scheduled for October 21, 2015. Discussion was held as to the fee to be charged to attend the conference. A budget draft was provided, and Ms. Beaumont advised that she has spoken with County Administrator Todd Lawson and the County has committed to underwrite the cost of the conference if the State is unable to contribute.

The next meeting of the Conference Planning Subcommittee will be held on June 24th at 1:00 p.m. at the Sussex County Administrative Offices West Complex in Georgetown.

- Ms. Beaumont reported that approximately 80 people attended the Fearless Caregiver event.

Public Comment

- Linda [last name unavailable] commented that she saw notice of the Advisory Committee meeting in the newspaper and decided to attend. She noted that 25 percent of seniors use an assistive device, yet no one on the Committee is using one. Ms. Beaumont responded that there is one member on the Committee that uses an electric wheelchair, but that member was not present.
- Dr. Michela Caffaro informed the Committee that the Town of Milton is focusing on sustainable conservation, and she is requesting information from anyone who may be able to contribute. She can be reached at 684-8577.
- Gail Weinberg of the Office of Long-Term Care Ombudsman introduced herself and reported that a new ombudsman will be stationed in Milford beginning June 2, 2015. She also announced that June 2nd is World Elder Abuse Day.
- Lenisha [last name unavailable] stated she is the new ombudsman for long-term care and she is looking for resources.
- Barbie McDaniel of Delaware Hospice thanked Sally Beaumont and the Committee for everything they have accomplished.

- Sally Beaumont advised that Michelle Griffith is the Advisory Committee representative from the Delaware Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities (DSAAPD). She has a voice on the Committee, but is not a voting member.
- Jamie Magee stated that attempts are being made to revive the Kent County Triad and SALT committees, and meetings are being held at 10:00 a.m. the second Wednesday of each month at Heritage at Milford. Ms. Magee also informed the group that June 21st is the longest day of the year, and the Alzheimer's Association is asking everyone to wear purple.
- Amber Woodland announced that there will be a free public workshop on elder law on Wednesday, June 10th, at 6:00 p.m. at the Milford Library.

Additional Business

None to address at this time.

Next Regular Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the Advisory Committee will be held on Monday, July 20, 2015, at 10:00 a.m., location to be determined.

Adjourn

A Motion was made by Ruth Beideman, seconded by Francine Shockley, to adjourn. Motion Adopted by Voice Vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Anna Short, Secretary
Advisory Committee on Aging & Adults
with Physical Disabilities for Sussex County