

ORANGE COUNTY  
ADVISORY BOARD ON AGING

Minutes

May 8, 2012

PRESENT: Alex Castro, Peggy Cohn, Keith Cook, Ed Flowers, Haryo Marsosudiro, Thelma Perkins, Jeane Suddarth, Jan Wells

STAFF: Mary Fraser, Kathie Kearns, Janice Tyler

The meeting was called to order at the Seymour Center by Vice-Chair Alex Castro. Introductions included newly-appointed member Keith Cook. The minutes of the April 10 Advisory Board meeting were approved following the motion by Ed Flowers and the second by Jeane Suddarth.

In her Director's Report, Janice Tyler announced that she had received a phone call the previous day from the Oprah Winfrey Network wanting to interview a family who was moving an older relative into their home. The Community Resource Connection fair will be held at University Mall the following day. The recently-completed One Stop Voting service held at the Seymour Center was very successful with more than 600 persons voting on the previous Friday. Department on Aging staff had attended the NC Association on Aging training conference in Raleigh the previous week. During his keynote speech at the Conference, State Division of Aging Director Dennis Streets recognized Orange County for its progressive work in Aging planning and services. The fifth anniversary of the Seymour Center's opening will be celebrated on May 30, 4:00-8:00pm. Also, a Proclamation of May as Older Americans Month in Orange County was adopted by the Board of County Commissioners at its May 2 meeting.

Mary Fraser summarized the summer student intern assignments for the Department. Two UNC occupational therapy students began this week, working from the Central Orange Senior Center under the supervision of OT consultant Jenny Womack. The UNC School of Social Work has assigned a graduate student originally from China who will focus on bridging the communication gap with the large number of Asian seniors who frequent the Seymour Center. Ms. Tyler stated that the Asian population is the largest minority group in Chapel Hill.

Janice Tyler informed the Advisory Board that Donna Prather's name has been submitted to the Board of County Commissioners for possible appointment to the Board. One vacancy remains and one applicant has recently applied – Deborah Rider. Three current members are also up for reappointment. Haryo Marsosudiro asked not to be appointed to a second term.

Mary Fraser gave the Advisory Board a Master Aging Plan update. She thanked the Advisory Board members who were in attendance at the May 1 MAP presentation to the Board of County Commissioners made by the Capstone students, the Advisory Board Chair and the Department Director.

The response from the Commissioners was overall very favorable. A reception in recognition of the work accomplished by the MAP workgroup volunteers will be held at the Seymour Center on Monday, May 14 at 4:30pm. Peggy Cohn has commissioned caps to be awarded at the event to the Capstone students to commemorate their tremendous contribution to the MAP process. Ms. Fraser stated that the reception will also be an opportunity to recruit volunteers for the implementation stage of the process. The next Capstone Team has already met with staff and will meet again in August. Two of next year's Team have agreed to serve as summer practicum students with a stipend provided by Carol Woods. One of these students will accompany Ms. Tyler as she meets individually with members of the MAP Steering Committee to identify actions that can be implemented during this first year of implementation with no additional resources. The next task will be to determine how the information on outcomes can be collected. Alex Castro expressed concern about limiting implementation strategies to those that can be developed with existing providers and no new funding. The Steering Committee/MAP Evaluation Committee will meet twice a year to identify progress and barriers. Ed Flowers emphasized the importance of keeping the community involved in the process. Mary Fraser responded that a progress report will appear in each issue of the Senior Times. Mr. Castro added that the identified cross-cutting issues must be kept on the agenda of all planning groups. He volunteered to serve as liaison to the Orange County Transportation Planning Committee. He also suggested that the MAP Management Team continue as a part of the implementation process.

During Committee Reports Haryo Marsosudiro reported that the Friends of Central Orange Las Vegas Night fundraiser was a success. Their Annual Meeting will be held May 11. Also, an October 27 fundraising cruise from Charleston, SC to the eastern Caribbean is being organized by Jerry Passmore. Ed Flowers announced that the number of Orange County nursing homes has been reduced to four with the closing of Britthaven of Chapel Hill. Jeane Suddarth stated that the Senior Tar Heel Legislature will meet again in June while the State Legislature is in session.

Janice Tyler announced that the Orange County bid process had resulted in Nantucket Grill being recommended to continue as caterer for the Senior Lunch Program. The Board of County Commissioners will consider this recommendation at a June meeting. She also stated that she will conduct Board orientation for new members once the other vacancies are filled.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Tyler, Secretary