

ORANGE COUNTY  
ADVISORY BOARD ON AGING

Minutes

September 13, 2012

PRESENT: Leo Allison, Heather Altman, Alex Castro, Ed Flowers, Donna Prather, Jeane Suddarth, Jan Wells, Richard White

EXCUSED: Keith Cook, Daniel Hatley, Thelma Perkins

STAFF: Mary Fraser, Kathie Kearns, Kathy Porter, Janice Tyler

GUESTS: Melissa Black, Deanna Lamotte, Andy Weinhold

The meeting was called to order by Chair Heather Altman at the Central Orange Senior Center. Mary Fraser suggested that future meeting agendas include reports from the representatives to other service agencies, such as Meals on Wheels, in addition to the standing committee reports. The minutes of the August 14 meeting were approved following the motion made by Alex Castro and the second provided by Jan Wells.

Mary Fraser introduced those students in attendance from the UNC-MPH Capstone Team. This academic year's team goals are to develop a strategy for informing older adults about existing community resources and to identify barriers to exercise. Specific tasks will include literature review, focus groups and information dissemination. Ms. Fraser asked the Advisory Board for feedback on the MAP Implementation Plan for Year One that was distributed with the agenda. Alex Castro announced that the Orange County Voice may be holding town hall meetings in two rural communities during October where residents and elected officials will come together to discuss local issues. Deanna Lamotte asked for suggestions of individuals who may not already be involved to participate in the Capstone focus groups. Ed Flowers stated that 78% of persons participating in a recent survey identified television as their primary source of information. Janice Tyler suggested utilizing the upcoming election's polling places to reach out at the community level. Discussion followed on high school groups who could assist in this effort, such as civics classes, 4-H clubs, service learning students and scout troops. Board members also offered to send literature review recommendations to the Capstone Team via email. Ms. Fraser noted that one recent change made to the Implementation Plan for Year One concerns the marketing plan development. Marketing and other strategies initiated in Year One will require resources to implement. This will be the topic of discussion when the MAP Steering Committee meets on September 20. Ms. Fraser identified some of the Year One indicators that have already been accomplished. The Advisory Board approved the MAP Implementation Plan for Year One (2012-2013) as mailed and 2013-2014 Implementation Plan as distributed. Alex Castro asked about the feasibility of obtaining funding prior to the beginning of FY 2014. The Chair stated that the Year Two document will be helpful in making application to organizations that have charitable giving campaigns. A committee of Advisory Board and Steering Committee members could be formed to develop applications for outside funding. Janice Tyler stated that she will inform the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) of the Year One Implementation Plan through the County Manager's Memo process.

In her Director's Report Ms. Tyler stated that Alex Castro and Peggy Cohn will represent the Advisory Board at the NC-American Planning Association's award luncheon when last year's Capstone Team will be presented the NC Chapter Student Planning Award for the development of the Master Aging Plan

Update. She announced that Department on Aging employee Latonya Brown has been selected as the new Wellness Coordinator. That promotion created a vacancy in the Aging Transitions Division. Two public hearings have been held to review the long-range plan for the Southern Human Services Campus presented at the August Advisory Board meeting. The UNC School of Pharmacy will sponsor its Aging in Stride 5k on October 14 with proceeds going to the Aging In Place fund managed by the Aging Transitions division. The Department has been assigned a new Johnson Intern and a UNC Masters of Social Work intern.

Janice Tyler reported that a meeting will be held with Area Agency on Aging Director Joan Pellettier to discuss future funding for the Chatham/Orange Community Resource Connections (CRC) and its Coordinator. Many Seymour Center staff traded offices last Friday and a new phone system, with new numbers, is to be installed within the week. Ms. Tyler announced that the changes to the Homestead Exemption Act, recommended in the Master Aging Plan, have been included in the BOCC's Legislative Agenda package. Three Advisory Board members volunteered to participate in the Orange County Library's strategic plan process: Donna Prather, Jan Wells, Richard White. In conclusion Ms. Tyler announced that the Durham County Council on Aging Director has resigned. Mary Fraser added that Shaung Wang, a UNC-MSW graduate who interned with the Department during the summer, has been employed on a temporary basis to continue her work with the Chinese-speaking participants at the Seymour Center. Andy Weinhold suggested contacting the Asian undergraduate student organization at UNC for bilingual volunteers.

During Committee Progress Reports Leo Allison promoted the Friends of COSC's Harvest Moon Ball on October 6. That organization is also sponsoring a fundraiser cruise at the end of October. Janice Tyler reported that the first car donation has been made to the Friends of Seymour. She added that new community art pieces will be on display at Seymour soon. Heather Altman stated that the CRC continues to have 24 participating organizations. Jeane Suddarth announced that the next meeting of the Senior Tar Heel Legislature will be October 2 and 3 where Resolutions for submission to the next session of the General Assembly will be considered. Alex Castro stated that Chapel Hill-Carrboro Meals On Wheels is sponsoring a Food Truck Rodeo fundraiser on October 5 at the Carrboro Farmers Market. He raised the issue of volunteer drivers who encounter questionable home situations while running their meal routes. Richard White added that the northern Orange Meals On Wheels program operated by Orange Congregations in Mission has reduced its delivery to 28 meals per day due to lack of demand. Discussion followed on how each program operates. Mr. Castro stated that Blue Cross/Blue Shield is sponsoring workshops for advisory boards and will share the details when they become available. He concluded by stating that he had attended his first meeting of the Orange Unified Transportation Board.

Jan Wells reported on the developments with the Villages Project, including their new website: [www.carolinavillages.org](http://www.carolinavillages.org). Chairman Altman asked that future Committee reports include updates on Senior Care Inc. who is holding an open house on September 16.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice Tyler, Secretary