

LANCASTER COUNTY OFFICE OF AGING
Advisory Council Minutes
April 3, 2017

Members Present: Emily Booker, Joe Burchill, Carl Kanaskie, Mary Keech, Bill Kelley,
Thomas Kloss, Glenn Knight, Bob Sauders, Jon Walker and Stu Wesbury

Staff: Jacqueline Burch, Linda Flick, Lynn Smith and Lon Wible

Excused: (*Associate Member)

Chair Bob Sauders called the meeting to order at noon followed by the pledge to the flag. Minutes from the February 2017 meeting were approved.

Chair's Report

- Two members have resigned their membership. They are Vicki Muzyk and Erica Shimp.

Executive Director's Report

- **Staff Presentation:** Long-Term Living Unit Supervisor, Lynn Smith, gave a presentation on the Assessment 101/Level of Care Determination Tool. Lynn distributed packets to the members describing the pre-admission assessment process, a Flow Chart showing what happens when a referral is received, and an explanation of the Aging WAIVER Program. Lynn described the WAIVER program and the referral process. Maximus does the WAIVER referrals that we used to do. The number of referrals has increased since January 2016. There were 278 referrals in January 2016, 422 referrals in January 2017, and 445 referrals in March 2017. We do approximately 400 referrals per month and we will get paid \$50.00 for each assessment we do. Home and Community Based, Nursing Facility, Personal Care/Dom Care initials, LIFE, and Caregiver Support Program referrals are due 15 calendar days from the day the referral is received in Lancaster County Office of Aging until completion and release of Level of Care Determination. Level II referrals are due to the respective Program Office at the State within eight business days from day referral is received by Lancaster County Office of Aging.
- Services available through the Aging WAIVER program include home health and personal care services, home support, respite care in-home or in facility, Adult Day services, non-medical transportation, home modifications, specialized medical equipment and supplies, extended state plan physician services, home delivered/frozen meals, and personal emergency response system. Service coordination is provided by the Lancaster County Office of Aging or other approved Service Coordination agencies.
- **Update & Advocacy:** Proposed Consolidation of Health and Human Services. There has been an organizational structure proposed where there would be one Secretary of Aging with ten offices underneath which would be labeled as Department of Human Services. Jacqueline Burch distributed handouts to the members on the facts about the current Department of Aging, information about the proposed consolidation and what some of the concerns are regarding the consolidation, and how to contact the Federal and State Officials.

- There has been concern at the local and state levels about how the consolidation will affect federally mandated programs such as APPRISE & Ombudsman, and into which program office would they fall? What about Protective Services and CHC implementation? How will the consolidation affect the plans for other Lottery-funded programs such as the Property Tax/Rent Rebate Program through the Dept. of Revenue, and senior's shared-ride transportation through PennDOT.

Regional Council

- Given the Governor's proposed budget and plan of consolidation, the Pennsylvania Council on Aging will be impacted, but the effects of the impact are unknown.
- There are three more hearings scheduled for April 5, April 13, and April 17, 2017 in Reading and Pittsburgh.
- Also mentioned as an area of concern was President Trump's proposed cuts to Health and Human Services, such as the Meals On Wheels and the 55 plus job referral programs and what impact that will have.
- Advisory Council is to handwrite letters to Legislators and Representatives about concerns regarding the consolidation. Emily Booker made a Motion to draft a letter to the Representatives and Legislators expressing concerns regarding consolidation of Health and Human Services. Bob Sauders seconded the Motion.

Old Business

- The 29th Annual Senior Games are in the final stages of planning. The games will be held on May 1-5, 2017 at Spooky Nook Sports Complex and a few surrounding venues. There are 36 business sponsors and 47 different events this year. Registration deadline is April 14, 2017. So far, there are 450 registrations. To volunteer, contact Derek Bendetti at (717) 299-7979.

New Business

- Neighborhood Services Transition has been one of our subcontracted providers who will cease operation as of the end of May 2017, but still plans to continue operation after May 2017 and will have to petition the Court for a successor guardian to be named/appointed.

With no other business to conduct, the meeting adjourned at 1:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Recorder

Executive Director

For additional information contact Lancaster County Office of Aging at (717) 299-7979,
E-mail: aging@co.lancaster.pa.us, or go to www.lancoaging.org.