

Orange County Department on Aging Advisory Board on Aging

MINUTES

Tuesday, June 14, 2022; 1 – 3 PM
Passmore Center / Hybrid

In Attendance: Colin Austin, Rachel Bearman, Jeff Charles, Jerry Gregory, James Harris, Vibeke Talley, Sandy Walker; (Staff): Myra Austin, Clayton Foster (intern), Kendall Kopchick, Kim Lamon-Loperfido, Walter Moczygemba (intern), Beverly Shuford, and Janice Tyler

Absent Excused: Heather Altman, Dick White

Unexcused: Lucinda Poole

1. Introductions and Announcements
 - a. In Heather Altman's absence, Colin Austin served as chair. Welcomed board members, staff and Walter Moczygemba, MSW intern; and Clayton Foster, BSW intern. Kendall Kopchick will be attending board meetings for Kim Lamon-Loperfido during her pregnancy and maternity leave
2. Approval of Minutes – May 10, 2022
 - a. Approved

Director's Report

3. Staff Updates – Dawn Smith, new Passmore Center Programs and Operations Manager
 - a. Dawn has been with OCDOA for 16 years and was selected to move into the position that Terry Colville held.
 - b. Posting of Passmore Center Facility Manager and Program Assistant position
 - i. HR posted the position internally today. We hope to fill the position quickly
4. COVID Update and Department operations
 - a. We have had a number of COVID cases within our department recently. Most staff are vaccinated and boosted. Participants may choose to wear masks or not.
 - b. Walter Moczygemba conducted a survey of lunch participants. A significant number of curbside lunch participants are hesitant to return to indoor dining due to COVID. We will continue to offer curbside lunch and hybrid programs
 - c. If employees are out with COVID they now need to take sick leave. They can work remotely if they feel well enough to work, but are quarantining at home.
 - d. You are not considered fully vaccinated unless you get your 1st booster
5. Journal of Elder Policy Article – [Mobilizing a Community to Develop a Comprehensive Master Aging Plan](#)
 - a. Sallie Allgood, PhD, RN, Ryan Lavalley, PhD, OTR/L, Cassandra Dictus, MPH, BSN, RN, Janice Tyler, BA, and Cherie Rosemond, PhD. Author, Sally Allgood, was our PHD student before Cass became our MAP intern. Everyone worked hard on the article, which is based on the 2017-22 MAP, and to get it in the journal. Janice stated that she was happy to share the article and for our academic partners." Colin commended everyone and offered congratulations, stating that, "this is a good documentation of what the Master Aging Plan is."

New Business

6. FY 21-22 Budget

- a. Unspent NCDHHS Home and Community Care Block Grant (HCCBG) funds from another agency were reallocated to OCDOA. The funds will be used to up fit the Seymour Center Theater for livestream programming
 - i. June 21, 2022 the BOCC will approve the final budget
 - ii. The HCCBG funds a lot of programs within our department, DSS and Adult Day Health.
 - iii. Adult Day Health found they had \$39k in funds they couldn't spend. These funds were reallocated to OCDOA
 - iv. Money received from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) was used to up fit our great halls for livestreaming.
 - v. The NCDHHS Division of Aging wants at least three bids for the up fitting of the Seymour Theater before making a decision to approve.
 - vi. Finally, this will require an Orange County budget amendment

7. FY 22-23 Budget

- a. Requested additional hours for Food Service Coordinator funded by HCCBG – Not included in the managers' budget
 - i. We have funding through the block grant, but it was not included in the budget. Isabel will stay at her current number of hours (35 per week), but she has increased paperwork due to an increase in lunch program participants
- b. Lunch program
 - i. The bid process for catering services for next two years is complete
 - 1. We will be changing caterers. The new caterer, Rymakees Café & Caterer, came in with a lower bid. Rymakees is a minority, female owned business. Janice reported they were very impressed with her food which will cost \$7 per meal. Caterer, Keshia Criss, mentioned that her current kitchen contract might be ending and she would need a kitchen. Janice asked her if she would be open to cooking food in our commercial kitchen at Seymour. In 2007 we weren't in the position to have kitchen staff, but this is a good opportunity for her to use our facility. If this works out, she will cook at Seymour and transport to the Passmore Center. The food will be fresher and we will have a closer working relationship with the caterer on-site. Indoor dining will go back to plating using our dinnerware.
- c. American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) through TJCOG-AAA. We are waiting on our contract from the AAA from the NC Division of Aging and Adult Services. There is a portion of the funding that is dedicated to home delivered meals. We will contract with MOWOCC for this service. We have to meet the criteria for the ARPA funds, which includes putting together a plan for innovation using the funds.
- d. We will use a portion of our ARPA funds to contract with OCPT for senior center transportation to get participants daily to the Senior Centers
 - i. There was a lot of discussion about transportation at Friends board meeting yesterday. Particularly concerned for the central and northern regions of Orange County. Transportation to the centers is \$3 if you live within the Hillsborough city limits. If not, it is \$12.75 one way, our seniors cannot afford this. The BOCC and OC Manager's office is looking for funding for this. We will use part of our ARPA funds until the funding is figured out. We cannot use all of our funds for this; it isn't in the ARPA purview. We are working with Finance to use any unspent money in our budget this year to fund this service until the end of the fiscal.
 - ii. Orange County Transportation Services does not have the manpower or updated vehicles to transport the folks more than twice a week.

- iii. The suggestion was made to go through our employment services program to see if there are persons who would be willing to apply/train/drive. Living wage going up to \$15.85 from \$15.40, yet it is still difficult to find employees
 - iv. Janice will send talking points to James Harris to share with the Friends board
 - v. 13-15 people requesting rides right now. Approximately \$60,000 is needed annually to transport that number of participants 5 days a week.
 - vi. This is an important issue that needs resolved. Good transportation benefits the social participation and wellbeing of our seniors
8. Aging Board appointments
- a. One vacancy – Need representation from central and northern Orange County
 - b. Upcoming vacancy with Jenny Womack’s resignation and move to western NC. This position requires the person to live in Carrboro Town Limits
 - c. Grateful for our new board members
9. Age My Way NC survey - <https://survey.cmix.com/69C2ABE3/G10DF6LT/en-US>
- a. Janice encouraged everyone to take the Age My Way NC survey. It is important as NC is signing on to become designated an Age Friendly State. It’s important, interesting and has a lot of caregiver questions. AARP advocates well, very detailed. Share it others, the more the better

2017-22 Master Aging Plan

10. Completion of the Year-5 matrix of accomplishments along with fourth quarter workgroup meetings
- a. We are finishing up our Year-5, Quarter 4 actions and accomplishments so that the final matrix can be completed
11. Updating the MAP Evaluation from last summer with the Year-5 data – Board to receive a report in Aug/Sept.
- a. Cass Dictus, our MAP intern, will be putting in the data and evaluating to see how successful we were.
 - b. Ripple Effect MAP on the wall in the Conference Room
 - c. Dialogue of how to get the BOCC to see that our MAP is a way to bring county government together. Our Aging Board minutes, MAP, attachments go to every Commissioner
 - d. Cass will finalize the last year into the final report and talk about how effective we were over the past 5 years

2022-27 Master Aging Plan

12. MAP presentation to the BOCC was moved to Sept. 13, 2022
- a. A memo along with a copy of the plan was included on the June 7 BOCC agenda
 - b. During our presentation in September we will include part of the past 5 year evaluation. We hold ourselves accountable to do what we said we would do and our evaluation will show this
 - c. Commissioners retreat coming up and they asked each department to send anything that we had done to reach their goals. OCDOA was able to share a lot of things that we had done to help reach the County goals
 - d. Hoping that our presentation and evaluation highlights that we need to prepare for the number of older adults that we will have in the next few years and beyond, and what we are doing to support them. Everyone needs to be involved
13. MAP workgroups to prioritize work for Year 1 of 2022-27 MAP
- a. What can we accomplish in year 1? Workgroups have started prioritizing Year 1 strategy indicators and prioritization will continue as groups meet quarterly. Board and workgroups should be thinking about what AARP funds we might need to put toward any of our priorities

Committee Progress Reports if needed:

14. Dementia Friendly Business Campaign – No report
15. Senior Tar Heel Legislature – Dick White – No report until next meeting
16. Adult Care Home Community Advisory Committee –Visitation is still not allowed. We prepared a letter for Commissioner Green to share with the AAA of our county’s concern of not allowing CAC members in for visits.
17. Nursing Home Community Advisory Committee – Vibeke Talley reported that Long term care ombudsmen are visiting the facilities, but the advisory committees are still not allowed to do site visits.
18. Friends of the Passmore Center – James Harris – Transportation was the big issue at the Friends meeting. James and other Transportation parties spoke to Sally Green at the MAP Steering Group about Transportation and she was very interested as was Commissioner Hamilton.
19. Friends of the Seymour Center – Janice reported that the Friends held their Books and Games Sale, and that it was successful. Senior Games was successful; both boards support the Sr. Games

Adjournment

No meeting in July.

Next meeting: August 9, 2022 from 1:00-3:00 p.m. – Passmore Center and Virtual