

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON SERVICES FOR AGING AND ADULTS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

April 7, 2020
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Via Zoom

Council Member	Attendance		Staff	Attendance
Ken Bock	Present		Dava Newnam	Present
Judith Chaconas	Present		Melissa Smith	Present
Carolyn Fredricks	Present		Teresa Ritter	Present
Sheila Grant	Present		Susan Bailey	Present
Evelyn Hayes	Present		Lindy Scott	Present
Suzanne Howell	Present			
Katie Macklin	Present			
Robert Overmiller	Present			
LaVaida Owens-White	Excused		Guests	From
Mary Lee Phillips	Excused		Lisa Boyles	APS
Belinda Strickland	Present			
Jacqueline Sullivan	Present			
Abraham Velez	Excused			
Maggie Webb	Excused			
Jack Young	Present			

VACANT SEATS: No Vacancies

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Review of Minutes March 3, 2020
- III. APS/Financial Exploitation Update
- IV. COVID-19 Discussion
- V. Director's Update
- VI. Advocacy Committee
- VII. Old Business
- VIII. New Business
- IX. Roundtable
- X. Next Meeting: May 5, 2020
- XI. Adjourn

I. Call to Order

Before the meeting was called to order, Director Dava Newnam addressed the Council as she had to attend another meeting right away. She wanted to thank the members for their dedication and leadership. DSAAPD and DHSS has talked to counterparts across the nation and everyone is sending out same message to their communities. She thanked Ken Bock for joining the

Facebook Live session addressing seniors – the information shared was great and appreciated. She also shared that she sits on calls with leadership nationwide and told we are going the right direction especially regarding nutrition. The division wants to continue serving seniors in new and creative ways and will meet their needs and have funding covered. We have already received \$1.2m in stimulus for nutrition and continue to look for other sources. We are currently transferring GBHC residents to DHCI and using GBHC as an alternative COVID-19 care site. Village nutrition volunteers are shutting down curb-side and delivery service. Not sure if any of the grocery stores in Sussex County are having supply issues. We are looking to use staff and volunteers to do shopping/delivery for these clients – if anyone finds that need they are urged to contact the ADRC. CHEER is also providing deliveries with buses and working with Sysco to possibly use CHEER as a warehouse for household-size staple products. DSAAPD will work with funding. Modern Maturity Center has also started a similar program. At this point, Dava left the meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 am by Robert Overmiller.

II. Review of Minutes March 3, 2020

Meeting minutes were approved 11-0.

III. APS/Financial Exploitation Update

Lisa Boyles from Adult Protective Services (APS) presented information regarding financial exploitation of seniors.

IV. COVID-19 Update

Questions and discussion on how providers are to be handling the safety of volunteers and what would happen if they didn't provide the services to assist, especially if clients have no family available.

V. Director's Update

Deputy Director Smith provided the following updates:

- Looking at different ways to get food delivered to individuals. If you have additional ideas of ways to do so, please let her know.
- Home health aides and personal assistant services (PAS) keep people safe at home. Check with Delaware Medical Reserve Corp to assist in keeping current levels of service up. Suggested to check pension office for retired nurses which might be helpful.
- Currently calling all clients to do risk assessments on each to find high risk clients. Now trying to look to create new services to assist them – one aspect is social isolation. Looking at possibly using animatronic animals. Using meal deliveries to have volunteers spend a few moments to check up on client. Some are calling people while watching the same shows to discuss and share experience. Writing letters/cards to uplift them. Currently Rotaries are working on making/buying cards with uplifting notes and distributing. Also looking for additional assistance in calling clients just to talk to them. Asked Council are there needs out there we are missing? What have you seen other states doing that we should be doing? If you have any suggestions, send to Melissa. Suggested that the Governor get his message out through TV as many seniors doing use computers. AARP is planning to host telephone town halls on April 14 and 20 where they call out to people over 65. Currently have Senator Coons and Congresswoman Blunt Rochester scheduled for calls but are reaching out

to Secretary Walker and Dr. Rattay to also assist in answering questions. AARP California is sending out post cards. Governor Carney should have new conferences with all networks that cover Legislative Hall activities.

VI. Advocacy Committee

Subcommittee has not met.

VII. Old Business

No update provided.

VIII. New Business

Carolyn Fredericks thanked Melissa and Dava for providing funding for MMC to provide food to a homeless shelter. MMC also partnered with Brandywine SPCA to provide free dog food. Also calling all adult day clients to check on their welfare and MMC is running fully staffed.

Belinda Strickland advised the Council that DART is waiving all fees for fixed routes and paratransit.

IX. Roundtable

JC-knows some people who are making masks for anyone who needs them.

SG-will send a list of reliable sources to Susan for distribution to educate people as there are many incorrect sources out there.

EH-identify new needs and getting food for the Food Bank; working with local rotaries to take care of local people in need.

KM-continuing with virtual offerings to assist Alzheimer's caregivers. Also have COVID-19 information sources to help.

JS-discussed masks being made by volunteers

RO-FDA gave waiver to construction workers to use PPE filters. Might be able to find some for health care workers to use.

TR-have been sending all updated information to ADRC. Asked if Council has anything to please send to her or Susan.

X. Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 5, 2020.

XI. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 11:35 am.