
Commission On Aging

MEETING MINUTES

February 13, 2019

→ Room 1070/1075 ←

Sunset Drive Office Building
11811 South Sunset Drive, Olathe, KS

INTRODUCTIONS

- Joe Conner, Assistant County Manager
 - Susan Maier, Senior Management Analyst, CMO Liaison to the COA
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MEETING MINUTES

- Karen Weber, Chair called for a motion to approve the January 9th minutes. Chuck Nigro asked for a correction to Old Business.
"... the issue of sending Letters of Support *for grant requests* when requested.
John P. Smith made the motion to approve minutes as written. Rob Givens seconded the motion. Motion passed.
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BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS LIAISON - COMMISSIONER HANZLICK

- New District 4 Commissioner shared her background in social work, 20 years with Safe Home, retired as Director, focusing on elder abuse issues.
 - Reported that the Commission (Board of County Commissioners) is working with Senators Denning and Baumgarden on revising the Homestead Property Tax exemption to give relief to seniors. Instead of using a flat amount of income as cutoff, but it is tied to the poverty level. It's not a big change, but it is something that will allow more seniors to access these programs. It may possibly open it up for further changes.
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DIRECTOR OF HUMAN SERVICES – DEBBIE COLLINS

- Dan Goodman reported on behalf of Debbie Collins that the Human Services Department (HSD) has completed the 2020 strategic plan to be rolled out next month.
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AREA AGENCY ON AGING – DAN GOODMAN, DIRECTOR

- The RFP (Request for Proposals) for Administrative Case Management (ACM) has closed. The Northwest AAA, in Hays, did bid on the contract on behalf of k4ad. This is to place us in a strategic position to come back to the table, mainly to be able to look at the RFP with the new KDADS Secretary to share the information on we advocated for and talk about what the legislature trusted us to do with the funding. It has not been awarded yet. There are two other bidders.
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AREA AGENCY ON AGING

- The ADRC (Aging and Disability Resource Center) bid is not complete. We will bid on this. We are looking to clarify that the "Conflict Free" cause is the same with the new administration as with the old.
- Janis DeBoer, Executive Director, K4ad (Kansas Association of Area Agencies on Aging & Disabilities) has resigned and is now the Deputy Secretary of KDADS. We are in the process of seeking a replacement.
- Connie Hubble, previous Secretary of KDOA is now the Legislative Liaison for KDADS.
- There will not be a Silver Haired Legislature (SHL) election this year, JoCo has six at-large delegates and we had five candidates - all incumbents. AAA Directors can appoint a delegate to fill the vacancy. Chuck Nigro has accepted the appointment.

In regards to filling the vacant seats mainly in Western and Central Kansas, Katy Hoffman, SHL Chair, has been doing some historical research of the SHL and she found that the AAA Directors can redistribute the number of delegates in each PSA/district. The K4ad Directors may be open to consider redistribution according to population to get the seats filled.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Guardian Assistance Program (GAP) Committee: Chuck Nigro, Chair, will be meeting with Rebekah Gaston, DCF Liaison, she will set up another meeting with new DCF staff to talk about the GAP program. About a year or so ago, there was a DCF budget officer who stated that after analyst he thought DCF could say \$250k a year with GAP. He is still with DCF and will be at the meeting, so we will confirm the amount of savings with him.
 - Paula Hurt asked, if this is done administratively, could it not be undone by the next administration? Yes, but so can any legislation. It is easier to get something started, then it can eventually become one of their programs.
- Outreach Committee: Rusty Ryan suggested that COA members consider requesting Outreach talks for any boards or committees that they are members of. Outreach could probably fill any date/time slot which could be helpful to fill a cancellation. The talk is mainly about the COA, but occasionally a AAA Information & Referral Specialist is also available.
 - Rob Givens suggested that Outreach might include mentioning "Scams" to their program.
 - It was suggested that possibly information be sent with meals. Nancy Tanquary, AAA Nutrition Program Services, said it could be done.
- Legislative Committee: Pam Shernuk, Chair, announced there will be a committee meeting after COA meeting in from 1015.
- Leadership in Aging Award: Katy Hoffman, Chair, reminded everyone that May 8th through August 1st is the nomination period for the award. Information and nomination forms will be posted online in Human Services website and "The Best Times".

REPORT FROM THE CHAIR

- Karen Weber thanked Chuck Nigro for covering the meeting last month. She thanked Pam Shernuk for her article in "The Best Times". We are in the process of having the COA brochure translated into Spanish.

OLD BUSINESS

- Paula Hurt asked Commissioner Hanzlick if she knew if there is work being done in the county on creating Spanish versions of county material. The Commissioner will check into it.

NEW BUSINESS

- None at this time

OPEN FORUM

- There is still no date set for the March Area Agencies on Aging Day of Advocacy to be held in Topeka.
 - Chuck asked if the red shirts were still to be used. Dan said there were red shirts worn yesterday at the Flint Hills Day of Advocacy.
- Pam related a situation that brought home the need for senior advocates for persons with no family members or friends capable of assisting them with personal issues as downsizing or selling their home. At present there is a two year wait.
- Rob Givens gave kudos to Stacie Tripodi, AAA Information & Referral Assistance Specialist, for the program on the AAA that he attended.

ADJOURNMENT

- COA Meeting adjourned at 10:30.

Next Meeting

**COA Business Meeting
Wednesday, March 13, 2019
Conference room 1070/1075**

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Human Services 913-715-8800 ♦ Area Agency on Aging ♦ 913-715-8860