

# **COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING MINUTES**

**SEPTEMBER 8, 2021**

~Via ZOOM video conferencing~

---

## **OPENING AND WELCOME**

---

- Call to order, 9:04 AM

---

## **INTRODUCTIONS, COA VICE-CHAIR – PAULA HURT**

---

---

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES, COA VICE-CHAIR – PAULA HURT**

---

- **Cynthia Schendel moved to approve the August 2021 minutes as written. Dale Warman seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**

---

## **BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONER LIAISON – SHIRLEY ALLENBRAND**

---

- Comm'r, Allenbrand provided an update that the budget will be voted on and approved soon. Paula Hurt asked about the ongoing COVID concern. Comm'r Allenbrand recommended COVID booster shot, likely 6-9 months after initial vaccination for numbers are climbing. Lakeview and Ridgeview Village are providing vaccines and we are working with churches throughout the community so additional vaccine sites can be set up.
- Joe Connor informed the board that the Federal government's roll out date for the booster shot is September 20<sup>th</sup>, pending approval. JOCO (Johnson County), will not have federal/state support as it did in past; however, pharmacies, hospitals and primary care clinics will continue to provide these boosters. The county will have two locations for this service; the first at the NE office building in Mission and a temporary site at the Sunset office building in Olathe, Appointments and current vaccination card required and call center will be available. JOCO is at a 60% vaccination rate, but a larger facility and good technology could boost percentages. Long term care facilities are in talks with pharmacies to be the provider for boosters as well. Mobile units will continue visiting neighborhoods and events to accomplish the task of targeting neighborhoods. In a question asked by the Vice-Chair regarding potential mask/vaccination hostility in the community, Mr. Connor stated that small in-person and virtual meetings are being held in law enforcement to control issues that may arise in the community. More updates to come on the ongoing effort to vaccinate.

---

## **DIRECTOR OF AGING & HUMAN SERVICES (AHS) – DEBBIE COLLINS**

---

- Vice-Chair Hurt showed appreciation to Debbie Collins for she will be retiring this month. Her assistance and service to our senior citizens has been valuable.
- Director Collins updated the board on how active AHS is working at providing ongoing services to our community during the pandemic. In person meetings are being pushed back but remote service will continue. Debbie thanked the board for being such an active and effective advocacy group.

---

## **DIRECTOR OF AREA AGENCY ON AGING (AAA) – DAN GOODMAN**

---

- Dan Goodman provided updates on AAA, with two recent successes, the first being the approvals of the State Senior Care Act in which \$861,000 will service the 60+ population. The 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the Aging Care Service dollars was also approved, effective January of 2022 in the amount of \$250,000 (totaling \$500,000 for Aging Care Services). This program is designed to serve additional clients in the future. COA was instrumental in advocating for the funding of that project.
- All Aging services including ADRC, Information and Assistance, SCA, and Administrative Case Management services has seen an increase in volume and projected to serve over 14,000 people this year. Recommendation was made on adding more Information and Assistance Specialists to keep up with growth. We currently have two positions that provide this service.

- Commended employees and staff for their support, including Angela Pelger, Aging Program Service Manager who assisted in working with the State so services could continue during the pandemic. Stephanie Ikpe, Nutritional Program Manager, who assisted in opening two new CHAMP sites as well as the Olathe Towers Program which will open with approximately 74 participants. Carol Colnar, Operations Manager has kept track of numerous budget/funding projects including the Area Plan and grocery drops. Hy-vee will be the next grocery drop scheduled this month. Jay Leak, Deputy Director has been instrumental with the narrative and program description of the Area Plan required by the State.
- ADRC Assessment and Option Specialists group has a 99% satisfaction rate.
- ACM (Administrative Case Management) has a 100% satisfaction rate. Program assists those in completing applications who have a functional assessment and are eligible for home and community-based Medicaid programs but seek financial approval.
- Question came from Vice-Chair Hurt if we had any applications from new service on website. Angela Pelger responded that there were approximately 10-15 completed intake forms that are been processed.
- New employee introduction, Jill Zink-Administrative Assistant.

### COMMITTEE REPORTS

- John P. Smith, briefed board that the **2022 Legislative Platform** has two more talking points, (Item #6-Financial-Work and Save) and (Item #7-Access to Broadband). Workplace retirement savings program *will* be a partnership between the employers and the state. The savings plan and IRA are similar in comparison.
- Rob Givens voiced concerns about amplifying information on sales tax plan on food. Mr. Smith stated that was considered but plan was decided to be left as is.
- A proposed letter of the new platform will be sent to COA board before new legislative session begins. Once approved it will then be mailed to the Legislative Delegation of Johnson County.
- **John P. Smith moved to adopt 2022 Legislative Platform. Rob Givens seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.**
- Kansas Senior Care Task Force was signed into law. There are 22 members of this force that addresses provisions of care for seniors including age related mental health conditions and prevention of adult care abuse. KDAD (Kansas Dept. for Aging and Disability Services) appointed Annette Graham (Central Plains-Wichita) who will represent AAA and older Kansans across the state. Dan Goodman was elected Association Chair in August 2021 for the Kansas Association for Area Agencies on Aging.
- COA Guest, Cindy Green provided employment background which includes League of Kansas Municipalities, Assistant to County Manager and Contract Lobbyist with John Federico (Leadership Kansas).
- Paula Hurt confirmed the **Legislative Breakfast** and the **Peg Deaton Leadership in Aging Award** will be delayed until Spring.

### REPORT FROM THE VICE-CHAIR – PAULA HURT

- The Vice-Chair encouraged anyone interested in committees to contact Chair, Pam Shernuk. Andrea Leavitt confirmed her appointment to the Executive Committee. Comm'r Allenbrand notified Chairman Eilert and Comm'r Ashcraft of their vacancies on the Commission.

### NEW BUSINESS

- None at this time

### OLD BUSINESS

- None at this time

### OPEN FORUM/PUBLIC COMMENTS

- None at this time

### ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting adjourned 10:15 AM

**Next COA Meeting~Via ZOOM~**  
**Wednesday, October 13, 2021 @ 9:00 AM**