



Think Progress. Think Tomorrow. Think GRADD.

GREEN RIVER AREA COUNCIL ON AGING

April 3, 2018

M-I-N-U-T-E-S

The Green River Area Council on Aging met on Tuesday, April 3, 2018, at 10:00 a.m., at the Green River Area Development District (GRADD) office. The following persons were in attendance:

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT

Daviess	Susan Howard, Jon Higdon, Sim Davenport, Henrietta Harris, Nora Bilbro-Richie
Hancock	Franklin Powers, Diann Crask
Henderson	Charlye Jo Griggs, Connie O'Leary, Suzanne Cravens
McLean	Jim Toler, Nancy Wetzell, Leona Austin
Ohio	Mary Young, Wilda Hardesty
Union	Cathy Strehle, Larry Strehle
Webster	Patty Tapp, Tracy Henry, James Townsend

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT

Daviess	*Melinda Cornell, *Betty Medley
Hancock	*Jean Mattingly
Henderson	All Present
McLean	All Present
Ohio	*Susan Chinn
Union	All Present
Webster	All Present

GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT

Dana Peveler, Munday Activity Center (MAC)
Heather McGarvey, MAC
Wanda Blackwell, Webster County Senior Services
Melissa Polites, Union County Senior Services
Lona Kratzer, Hancock County Senior Services

***Excused Absence**

Jack McCaslin, *Chairman* ■ Steve Austin, *Vice Chairman* ■ Kelly Thurman, *Secretary* ■ David Johnston, *Treasurer* ■ Jiten Shah, *Executive Director*

GUESTS AND STAFF PRESENT (cont.)

David Farley, Kentucky Legal Aid
Bill Cooper, Daviess County
Jennifer Williams, Associate Director for Social Services, GRADD
Jeanette Woodward, SAMS Database Administrator, GRADD
Sheila Howard, District Ombudsman, GRADD
Lisa Flahardy, Aging Contract Specialist, GRADD
Tina Hayes, Aging & Disability Resource Center Coordinator, GRADD
Liberty Watson, Support Services Technician, GRADD
Steve Joines, AmeriCorps, Ombudsman Program, GRADD

I. CALL TO ORDER AND OPENING REMARKS

Chairperson Susan Howard called the meeting to order. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance, then Chairperson Howard led the council in prayer. Chairperson Howard welcomed the newest members of the council: Sim Davenport, representing Daviess County Judge/Executive; Patty Tapp, representing the Webster County Committee on Aging; and James Townsend, representing the mayor of Dixon. Susan Chinn, representing the mayor of Hartford, is also new to the council but was unable to attend today's meeting.

II. GUEST SPEAKER: SEPSIS AWARENESS

David Spears, RN, BSN, presented information concerning Sepsis, a serious condition which can develop from any infection in the body. Mr. Spears shared his personal experience with Sepsis at the age of 17 after cutting his knee on a weekend outing. Many people are unaware of the condition of Sepsis which is the leading cause of death in U.S. hospitals, as well as the most expensive in-patient condition. Eighty-seven percent of Sepsis cases originate in the community, and the elderly, young children, and persons with compromised immune systems are the most vulnerable to the disease. Symptoms of Sepsis include:

S – Shivering, Fever, or Very Cold
E – Extreme Pain or General Discomfort (“Worst Ever”)
P – Pale or Discolored Skin
S – Sleepy, Difficult to Rouse, Confused
I – “I Feel Like I Might Die”
S – Short of Breath

Mr. Spears emphasized that early detection is vital to successful treatment of Sepsis. The presence of symptoms or a suspicion that someone may have Sepsis should be treated as a medical emergency with the same urgency as a heart attack or stroke. Since there is no single test to check for Sepsis, knowledge of symptoms, and the ability to identify a change in a loved one's condition is very important. Treatment for the condition will include the administration of intravenous fluids and antibiotics, as well as checking the patient's white blood cell count. OHRH is striving to increase public awareness of Sepsis, as well as improve the identification of the condition in the hospital setting.

III. OLD BUSINESS

A. Minutes of the February 13, 2018, Meeting

Secretary Franklin Powers presented the minutes of the February 13, 2018, meeting of the Green River Area Council on Aging for approval.

A motion was made by Franklin Powers and seconded by Leona Austin to approve the February 13, 2018, minutes of the Green River Area Council on Aging meeting. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

B. Program Reports

1. Webster County

Wanda Blackwell reported that the Webster County seniors have enjoyed two trips to Amish country. The annual health fair will be May 11, and they will be hosting seniors from the other counties on May 15 for a day themed “Generations Dance,” which will feature hit songs from several decades, and seniors will be encouraged to dress to the fashions of their favorite decade.

2. Union County

Melissa Polites reported Bingocize classes are beginning. Movie day is a new monthly activity seniors are enjoying. Plans are underway for Older Americans Month.

3. Daviess County/Munday Activity Center

Dana Peveler stated seniors from the MAC, Hancock, Ohio, and Webster Counties traveled to Frankfort for Senior Advocacy Day. A group also recently visited the quilt museum in Paducah. Walk with Ease will begin April 9. The Renaissance Fair will be May 8. The Annual Tea Fundraiser will be May 19, with a ticket cost of \$10.

4. Henderson County/The Gathering Place

Becka Skaggs informed the council that as a certified Red Cross shelter, The Gathering Place was utilized during the recent flooding, housing 15 individuals who were displaced from their homes. The free income tax services provided at the center are wrapping up. Three new computers have been purchased for seniors to use at the center. Pasta for a Purpose will be held April 19, at 6:30 as a fundraiser for The Gathering Place and its programs. Collections for Feed Seniors Now is going very well. The health fair is scheduled for May 9.

C. Emergency Meals Update

Jennifer Williams provided a final summary of emergency meals ordered for Fiscal Year 2018. Two rounds of shelf-stable meals were ordered for home-delivered meal

clients for use during times meals could not be delivered due to inclement weather. Daviess, Henderson, Ohio, and Webster Counties also ordered one round of meals for congregate clients who may not be able to get to nutrition sites due to uncertain road conditions. Additionally, Daviess, Ohio, and Union Counties ordered one round of meals for home-delivered meal clients to have as weekend meals. In total, 6,435 shelf-stable meals were delivered throughout the region this year.

D. Feed Seniors Now

Janet Clancy stated the food drive had a successful kick-off on March 16, and collections continue at area grocery stores, Independence Bank locations, and county senior centers. Eligibility screening for recipients will end soon. Delivery will be April 25.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon

The GRADD Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon is April 26, from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., at Old Hickory Bar-B-Que. All Aging Council members should have received an invitation and can let Libby Watson know if they plan to attend.

B. Opioid Disposal Program

Jennifer Williams reported that the Kentucky Attorney General's (AG) Office visited Munday Activity Center on March 5, promoting a new initiative in the opioid crisis. Information was shared concerning the overwhelming number of prescription opioid medications in communities. Ms. Williams had fact sheets available for anyone interested. The AG's office is distributing opioid disposal pouches to agencies across the state who can pass them along to individuals. The pouches are a safe and easy way to dispose of unused medication.

C. ADRC Report

Jennifer Williams introduced Tina Hayes, ADRC Coordinator, and briefly explained the function of the ADRC, which handles calls daily from persons seeking assistance or information about the availability of resources. For persons seeking services such as homecare or home-delivered meals, ADRC staff must complete a Level One Screening. This screening takes 20-30 minutes to complete for each client. During the months of January, February, and March, ADRC staff completed 228 Level One Screenings.

D. Ombudsman Advisory Council Report

The minutes of the March 6, 2018, Ombudsman Advisory Council meeting were presented for approval.

A motion was made by Sheila Howard and
seconded by Diann Crask to approve the minutes of

the March 6, 2018, Ombudsman Advisory Council meeting. A vote was taken and the motion carried.

Jennifer Williams introduced Steve Joines who is an AmeriCorps member working with the Ombudsman Program at GRADD.

E. Older Americans Month – May

Jennifer Williams announced the theme of this year's Older Americans Month, Engage at Every Age. Handouts were provided to members about the benefits of volunteering. While communities benefit from the service of volunteers, those volunteering also experience benefits including improved physical and mental health.

F. Mental Health Awareness Month

Jeanette Woodward stated that May is also Mental Health Awareness Month and invited members and anyone interested to attend the May 24, Mental Health and Aging Coalition meeting. Jodi Holsclaw, Regional Long Term Care Ombudsman will give a presentation on dementia. The Mental Health and Aging Coalition meets bi-monthly, on the fourth Thursday, at 10:00 a.m., at the GRADD office and hosts speakers who address a variety of mental health related topics.

G. Senior Games

Jennifer Williams informed the council that Senior Games, which is usually held in May, will be held in October this year. The event will be similar to last year, with a picnic type atmosphere at a local park.

V. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Next Aging Council meeting – June 5, 2018, 10:00 a.m.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to come before the council, the meeting adjourned.

/lw