

## **Minutes of the Commission On Aging Meeting**

**Garvey Center – Leonardtown, Maryland**

**Monday, March 31, 2008**

### **CALL TO ORDER**

Start Time: 12:00 p.m.

Location: Garvey Senior Center – Room 1, Leonardtown, MD

Chaired By: Kathie Reich, Chairperson

### **PRESENT**

**COA Members:** Sheral St. Clair, Kathie Reich, Florence Lanham, Elfreda Mathis, David Mattingly, Patricia Woodburn

**Department of Aging Staff:** Lori Jennings-Harris, Director; Jennie Page, Deputy Director; Dana DiGregorio, Senior Administrative Coordinator

**Guests:** Jayne Hunsinger – RSVP Project Manager – Department of Aging.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Motion to approve the agenda was made by Sheral St. Clair, and was seconded by David Mattingly; the Commission agreed.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion to approve January 2008 meeting minutes with corrections was made by Florence Lanham, and was seconded by Sheral St. Clair; the Commission agreed.

**Corrections:** Change wording in second sentence under ‘OLD BUSINESS – Ripple Center Project’ to include commission members names; correction of two misspelled words

### **GUEST SPEAKER**

#### **Jayne Hunsinger:**

- Jayne Hunsinger, RSVP Project Manager, attended this Commission On Aging meeting to provide information on the RSVP Program and services offered through that Division of the Department of Aging.
- Jayne Hunsinger answered questions from the Commission members and provided written information to the Commission members.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

## **Senior Property Tax Credit Review Update:**

- Due to the absence of Sandra Wheler, Commission On Aging Member and Senior Property Tax Credit Review Committee member, this update was tabled until the next Commission On Aging meeting.

## **Interagency Team Planning for Human Services Update**

- Lori Jennings-Harris and Sheral St. Clair have been attending the Interagency Team Planning meeting. Per the presentation given on March 11, 2008 by John Savich, County Administrator, to the Board of County Commissioners, the recommendation was to move forward with development of Human Services in St. Mary's County. This Human Services Department will include Community Services Division, Mental Health Division, Core Services Agency, Local Management Board, Substance Abuse and Marcy House, for recording purposes only. It has been discussed that the Department of Aging should be included in the Human Services Department, but at this time no decision has been made about including the Department of Aging under the Human Services umbrella.

## **Caregivers Conference**

- The 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Caregivers Conference will be held on Friday, April 18th, 2008, at the Loffler Senior Activity Center from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

## **Tri-County Commission On Aging Meeting**

- No new information on the Tri-County Commission On Aging Meeting. Dana DiGregorio will follow up to obtain additional information on date and time.

## **Wii Demonstration – April 2, 2008**

- The Wii Demonstration that had been canceled due to incimate weather has been rescheduled for April 2, 2008 at 2:30 p.m. at the Garvey Senior Activity Center.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Vivian Ripple Medical Adult Day Services Center**

- Lori Jennings-Harris discussed the ways the Department of Aging is working on advertising and educating citizens about the Ripple Adult Day Services Center. It has been planned to do a bulk mailing having an information postcard inserted in the tax return envelopes, which will reach approximately 40,000 people. The Department of Aging is also working on an advertisement page on SOMD.com, which will consist of a full page add with a banner that will link the user directly to the Department of Aging Adult Day Services Center information page. In addition, a video is going to be created by the St. Mary's County Public Information Office to help with education.
- Sheral St. Clair suggested having a Commission meeting at the Ripple Center giving the Commission members a chance to view the site and get a tour of the entire facility.

### **Department of Aging – Image and Education**

- In an effort to assist in educating the community about The Department of Aging Senior Centers and the Adult Day Services Center and the services each center offers, the Department has changed the name of the centers. The Garvey Senior Center, Northern Senior Center

and the Loffler Senior Center will now be known as Garvey Senior Activity Center, Northern Senior Activity Center and Loffler Senior Activity Center.

- In addition the Department of Aging is planning an 'Aging Roadshow'. This will enable the Department of Aging to educate as many St. Mary's County residents about the Department of Aging and to present information on the mission and the goals of the Department of Aging and the services and programs offered at the Senior Activity Centers, Adult Day Services Center, and nutrition sites.

#### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

##### **State Plan on Aging Public Hearings:**

- Are scheduled for several locations on several dates in April. Lori Jennings-Harris invited the Commission members to attend any of the meetings to get an idea of what the State of Maryland has in mind for Aging Services.

##### **Maryland Route 237 Project - Chancellors Run Road Widening and Reconstruction:**

- Lori Jennings-Harris provided the commission members with a flyer regarding an Open House at the Greenview Knolls Elementary School on April 15, 2008. The Open House will be to provide information on the Maryland Rt. 237 project, progress dates, what to expect for motorists, potential impacts.

##### **Public Hearing for the County Budget:**

- The Public Hearing for the County Budget is scheduled for April 22, 2008 at Leonardtown High School at 6:30 p.m. in the Auditorium.

#### **PERSONNEL CHANGES**

- The Department has had an acceptance to the Nurse Manager Position at the Vivian Ripple Center. The incumbent will be starting around the third week of April.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on April 24, 2008, at 12 Noon, at the Garvey Senior Center.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Sheral St. Clair made the motion to adjourn the meeting, and Patricia Woodburn seconded the motion. The Commission agreed. The meeting adjourned at 1:22 p.m.

Prepared by:

Dana DiGregorio

Sr. Administrative Coordinator