

MEETING AGENDA
ST. MARY'S COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING
July 22, 2013
Hospice House – Callaway, MD

Call to Order - Time of Day – 1:05 p.m. (This is a recorded meeting)

Roll Call – Norma Pipkin, Bettie Broadhurst, Janet Kellam, Gail Murdock, Cindy Williams

Guest – Elfreda Mathis

Department of Aging & Human Services Staff – Lori Jennings-Harris, Director;
Stephanie Tench, Sr. Administrative Coordinator

Elfreda Mathis, Past COA Chairperson and member, was presented with a card, flowers and a plaque/ frame to thank her for her leadership and tireless commitment to continually improving the lives of seniors in St. Mary's County.

Presentation of Minutes from Previous Meeting

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Gail Murdock and seconded by Janet Kellam and the motion carried.

Committee Reports

State Liaison Committee - Mr. Murdock had no report.

Outreach Committee – Ms. Broadhurst recommended the Department of Aging and Human Services contact St. Mary's Hospital's Health Connections to arrange a presentation during one of the Senior Gold meetings, held the first Thursday of every month.

Senior Forum Committee - Mr. Murdock reported on the progress of the upcoming Senior Forum scheduled for September 27, 2013.

Discussion of Old Business - The Senior Agenda was discussed by the members to determine how its information would be presented to the county commissioners. Mr. Murdock recommended the COA provide a draft of the Senior Agenda to the commissioners in advance of the Senior Forum. The commissioners may address the contents of the Senior Agenda during the forum and may anticipate questions about the Senior Agenda.

Ms. Jennings-Harris presented two draft versions of a preface to be included with the Senior Agenda. One draft includes wording offered by Elfreda Mathis during the June 24, 2013 COA meeting. The alternate draft expands the language in the first version. COA members made suggestions for change to the wording of the preface. Gail Murdock made a motion to amend the document as described and seconded by Cindy Williams. The preface, with changes, and the entire Senior Agenda document will be forwarded to COA members prior to the August meeting.

David Ryan submitted the Committee Report: Garvey Senior Activity Center Renovation. Lori Jennings-Harris will call upon the COA members for their assistance on the Garvey Senior Activity Center rebuild, when needed. The contents of the report includes an outline and summary of the proposed project to build a new Garvey Senior Activity Center; information gathered by the Department of Aging and Human Services staff related to its usage, space needs and cost; and draft sketches of the proposed center. It also includes information from a meeting held among Patricia Myers, Northern Senior Center Council President, David Ryan and Lori Jennings-Harris to discuss the process for building the Northern Senior Activity Center.

Ms. Jennings-Harris assured the commission members the project is on the Capital Improvement Project calendar and if COA help is needed to move it along members will be notified.

Discussion of New Business - Norma Pipkin ask the members if there was information shared regarding the topic of advocacy during the Tri-County Commission on Aging meeting held in Calvert County. There was nothing to report by the other members on the topic of advocacy.

Election of Officers - With the resignation of David Ryan, Past President, Norma Pipkin was nominated as the Commission Chair, Janet Kellam as Vice Chair and Cindy Williams as Secretary. A motion to accept the nominations was made by Gail Murdock and seconded by Bettie Broadhurst and the motion carried. The role and responsibilities of the vice-chair and secretary were briefly discussed. The vice-chair will conduct meetings in the absence of the chair and the secretary will act as the corresponding secretary.

Director's Report - Lori Jennings-Harris presented two draft versions of wording intended for the preface of the Senior Agenda for St. Mary's County. The September-October edition of the New Beginning Newsletter will include information about the upcoming Senior Forum. Ms. Jennings-Harris confirmed with the COA members that the department's resource guide currently contains the name, contact information and service provided by the COA. Commission members discussed revising the service description. Also, an update on the newly developed Healthy St. Mary's Partnership was explained. Finally, commission members were informed of the date and location change (from the Hollywood Fire Hall to the Higher Education Center) for the October 25th Community Health Fair.

Upcoming Events - Senior Forum – September 27, 2013
Long-Term Care Awareness Conference – October 11, 2013
Tri-County Commission on Aging Meeting – 2014 (St. Mary's)

RSVP Time Sheets – Please make sure they are signed before you leave.

Next Meeting – Monday, August 26, 2013 at Garvey Senior Activity Center

Adjournment – The meeting adjourned at 2:22 p.m.