

MEETING DATE: February 23, 2018
SUMMARY OF: N.C. Coalition on Aging Meeting
RECORDED BY: Marty Lamb, Secretary

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**North Carolina Coalition on Aging
Minutes
Friday, February 23, 2018 – 10:00 a.m.
NC Division of Aging and Adult Services
693 Palmer Drive (Taylor Hall), Dix Campus
#**

PARTICIPANTS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mary Bethel, Coalition President
Janice Tyler, Vice-President and Orange Co. Dept. on Aging
Alan Winstead, Treasurer and Wake Meals on Wheels
Lee Little, Durham Co. DSS
Pat Martin, Johnston Co. CSS
Nancy Smith, Wake Co. Human Services and NC Adult Foster Care Association
Les Geller, SAGE Raleigh
Molly Schild, AETNA
Preston Craddock, Greene Co. DSS
Nancy Frances, Center for Volunteer Caregiving
Leah Proctor, NC 2-1-1
Noelle Owusu-Akyaw, Nurse Care of NC
Nancy Ruffner, Navigage NC
Kristen Brannock, Resources for Seniors
Leslie Jones, NC DAAS
Mary Edwards, NC DSS
Sandy Gregory, NC Assoc. on Aging and NC BAM
Kelly Peterson, NASW-NC
Heather McLaughlin, NCARA
Chad Walker, Transitions LifeCare
Tom Akins, Leading Age NC
Leslie Roseboro, LeadingAge NC
Meike Wiest, LifeLinks
Darlene Knight, LifeLinks
Joseph Wheeler, SAGE Raleigh
Ana Pardo, NC Justice Center
Ruben Nuno, Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC
Allan Freyer, NC Justice Center
Suzanne Merrill, NC DAAS
Hank Bowers, NC DAAS
Jason Baisden, Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust (Speaker)

ON PHONE:

Marty Lamb, Secretary
Bill Lamb, Past President and Friends of Residents in LTC
Joan Pellettier, NC Partnership to Address Adult Abuse
Fred Benson, NC Guardianship Association
David Litman, NC Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Carla Obiol, Care4Carolina
Eric Kivisto, NC Health Care Facilities Association
Jeff Horton, NC Senior Living Association
Scott Herrick, Alzheimer's Association

Kay Castillo, NASW-NC
 Michael Boles, Resources for Seniors
 Julie Wiggins, NC Assoc. of Area Agencies on Aging and High Country AAA
 Charmaine Fuller Cooper, AARP NC
 Polly Williams, Aging Advocate

OBJECTIVE OF THE MEETING: to hear updates including from Mary Bethel, Hank Bowers of State DAAS, Jason Baisden from Kate B. Reynolds Trust, Alan Freyer from N.C. Justice Center, and each other.

******PROGRESS AND DECISIONS******
What key decisions were made during the meeting?

SUBJECT	
Introductions	<p>Opening Remarks and Introductions – Mary Bethel, President. Persons identified themselves and the organizations they represented. Mary recognized Suzanne Merrill who is retiring as the Director of the NC Div. of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS). Suzanne offered remarks.</p>
Minutes, Treasurer’s Report	<p>Approval of Minutes from January 26, 2018 Meeting – Marty Lamb, Secretary – E-mailed to everyone yesterday. They were approved.</p> <p>Review of Treasurer’s Report – Alan Winstead, Treasurer – He reported a balance of \$18,238.54 as of Feb. 12, 2018</p>
Activities and Updates since June meeting	<p>Activities and Updates Since January Meeting – Mary Bethel</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New members since last meeting: Kathy Boyd (individual member), Senior Law Clinic at Campbell University, NC Guardianship Association, and Cape Fear AAA in Wilmington • Thanks to those of you who have renewed your membership to date. • Update was sent out on February 19th. • We signed on to a letter related to Congressional action on payday lending we discussed at the last meeting • The Ex. Committee agreed to send a letter of support for a tool being developed for Aging in Place by staff from the UNC Center for Urban and Regional Studies (tool will compare availability of community services and resources) • Mary presented to the Advocacy Committee of the Assoc. of County Directors of Social Services on the Coalition’s priorities – they also support funding for APS and guardianship. They are doing a white paper on adult services. • Mark your calendar – if you will be at the NC AOA conference at the Great Wolf Lodge in Concord on March 14-15, Mary will be part of a panel at lunch on advocacy and priority issues for seniors. • Lots of meeting are going on including Legislative Committee meetings: The Aging Sub-committee of the JOC on HHS met on Feb. 15 and numerous Coalition members including Assoc. for Home and Hospice Care of NC, NC Health Care Facilities Assoc., NC Senior Living Assoc. (formerly NC Assoc. of LTC Facilities), and NC Ad. Day Services Assoc. spoke. The Sub-committee approved its report to the JOC which included a recommendation that the co-chairs of the JOC of HHS allow the Sub-committee on Aging to continue its

<p>DAAS Report</p>	<p>study of the State’s delivery of services to older adults during the interim period following the 2018 regular session of the 2017 NC General Assembly.</p> <p>An update from NC Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) was provided by Hank Bowers, Deputy Director of DAAS. Suzanne Merrill, Director, also made comments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suzanne Merrill has announced that she will retire effective April 1. Her last day in the office is March 2. • Work continues by the workgroup which is being assisted by the UNC School of Government that is looking at Social Services Regionalization/Supervision per HB 630. The name of the third party to be involved in this process is being announced soon. A report is due to the General Assembly by April 15. DHHS is continuing work on the county contracts that are to be in place by July 1. A technical assistance workgroup within the Department has been meeting. Communication to counties is being examined. • The Interagency Council on Coordination of Homeless Programs will meet April 15. This is being staffed by DAAS and Michael Becketts is chairing. • The annual Homelessness Conference is at McKimmon Center on April 30 – May 1 • The State Aging Plan is due in March of 2019, DAAS is setting up listening sessions in Asheville, Kernersville, and Wilmington to obtain input on the Plan. Information on these sessions will be shared with the Coalition. • The JOC on HHS met on February 28. • The Senior Center Leadership Symposium will be held on March 13 at the Great Wolf Lodge in Concord. • DHHS will be working on competitive grants program in April. <p>David Litman made a general comment about the need to make sure all facilities for meetings, etc. are accommodating to those who need assistance.</p>
<p>KBR Charitable Trust Program Officer Report</p>	<p>Presentation on the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust and its areas of focus was made by Jason Baisden, Program Officer with The Trust.</p> <p>KBR Trust has been in existence since 1947 to promote the health of citizenry. As the world has changed, so has the Trust. Priorities include working with communities and engaging unlikely partners to achieve quality health care, economic opportunities, and educational attainment, with an equity lens held to all. They work with economically disadvantaged urban communities and under resourced rural communities. They use a place based approach to create systemic change. Where you are born should not give you five more years of life. Rural and impoverished areas have poorer health outcomes.</p> <p>Launched by the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust in 2012, Healthy Places North Carolina (NC) is investing up to \$100 million to improve the health of residents in 10 of the state’s most rural and under-resourced counties. Twenty percent of our residents live in rural communities. One in five North Carolinians live in 60 rural counties and of</p>

these, seven counties have been invited to participate in the Healthy Places initiative.

The Trust's approach is to:

1. Acknowledge the social determinants of health, which are those conditions in a community such as the poverty rate and access to quality jobs that can impact a person's overall health.
2. Build on community assets.
3. Encourage cross-sector partnerships and bridge divides.
4. Invest in building the leadership capacity of the people who live there.
5. Grow local and regional capacity to carry on the work.

For example, Healthy Places NC worked with the McDowell County EMS to pilot a community paramedicine program. The Trust supports PACE across North Carolina. The Trust partners with communities to tackle tough problems and find solutions such as eliminating food deserts, improving the built environments, providing quality physical and mental health care, enhancing transportation to health visits, and creating more places for children to be active. The Trust believes that working long-term with communities, building the capacity of new leaders, deepening relationships, and improving the policies that impact all North Carolinians will result in a healthier state. With the large and growing aging population in our state, Mr. Baisden reports he is very interested in hearing from us. He provided his contact information:

[Jason Baisden](#)

[336-397-5510 - office](tel:336-397-5510)

[336-287-4317 - cell](tel:336-287-4317)

jason@kbr.org

Presentation on
Parental
Leave/Social
Security
Withdrawal
Proposal –

Allan Freyer, Director of Workers' Rights Project with the NC Justice Center reported that at the federal level there has been interest on the part of the first lady and some groups in offering new mothers the option of taking 12 weeks of what would have been their future Social Security benefits to be used for maternity leave purposes after the birth of a child. Mr. Freyer presented numerous views on why this is not a good idea such as increased administrative costs to Social Security without any additional funding, that this legislation would not benefit low income women in need, and other reasons as well. A bill has not been developed yet but he felt it was important that we know such legislation might be developed and the need to oppose it. Mary Bethel noted that our group should have concern about this idea on principle and be vigilant.

Update on Federal
and State
Developments –

Due to time constraints Mary Bethel summarized some key developments related to federal and state issues including:

- General Assembly wrapped up its latest special session last week. Not expected back until May 16 when the short legislative session is slated to start.
- The Legislative Committees that have been meeting since the long session adjourned will be wrapping up committee meetings in time to have reports ready for the short session.

Report from
Workgroup on
Revising By-laws,
Future, Etc.

- Congress has until March 23 to craft an omnibus package to enact all twelve FY 18 appropriation bills. National aging advocacy groups are continuing to work to make sure that the omnibus removes threats posed to some key aging service programs including SHIP, SCSEP, Chronic Disease Self-Management Education, and the Elder Justice initiative.
- The Trump administration has released its 2019 budget proposal which Congress seems likely to reject. It includes cuts to SCSEP, SHIP, Medicaid, SNAP, falls prevention, and chronic disease self-management education.

Mary Bethel briefly reported that the Workgroup met for the first time on Feb. 19 and got organized. The next meeting is March 5 and David Heinen with the NC Center for Non-profits will come and talk about things we need to be aware of as we move forward.

Sharing by
Coalition Members
an Other Business

The legislative agenda from the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging was shared.

George Smith shared the current priorities of the Senior Tar Heel Legislature (STHL) and stated they are looking at priority issues for next year. Anyone with suggestions for consideration should send these to Mary Edwards with DAAS who staffs the STHL.

Leslie Roseboro shared that LeadingAge will have a Workforce Summit focused on long term care on August 22. More information will be forthcoming.

Mary Bethel shared, on behalf of Karen Appert who was absent, information about the upcoming SGS meeting.

Joseph Wheeler noted the LGBTQ Expo on June 23 in Raleigh and he asked Coalition members to consider being exhibitors.

Sandy Gregory reminded everyone of the NC AOA Conference at the Great Wolf Lodge in Concord on March 14-15.

Nancy Frances shared information about a Hiking for Older Adults program on March 13 and about the Center for Volunteer Caregiving's Caregiver Academy that is starting April 12.

Mary Edwards talked about the NC Partnership to Address Adult Abuse' annual conference on May 16 at Wake Tech Community College.

David Litman noted that he will send information to Mary Bethel to forward to Coalition members about a webinar on diabetes related hearing and balance issues.

Bill Lamb reported that Friends of Residents in Long Term Care is holding listening sessions on long term care in Wilmington, Winston-Salem, Asheville, and Charlotte.

Mary Bethel announced that in the next few weeks we will be forming a workgroup to look at plans for our Legislative Advocacy Day since we will have to revamp this since the General Assembly no longer allowing groups to congregate in the indoor courtyards in the Legislative Building. If interested in being involved with this, let her know.

Adjourn

Mary Bethel noted that the next meeting is March 23 at 10:00 a.m. and we are back in the Brown Building. **Remaining Meeting Dates for 2018 are:**

- March 23
- April 20
- May 18
- June 22
- August 24
- September 28 (annual meeting)
- October 26
- December 7

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned.

Mary Lamb,
Secretary

******NEXT MEETING******

Day / Date / Time	WHAT	Where
Friday March 23, 2018 10:00am until 12:00 noon	Next Coalition meeting	<i>Brown Building on Dix campus</i>