

MEETING DATE: April 28, 2017

SUMMARY OF: NC Coalition on Aging Executive Committee Meeting

RECORDED BY: Marty Lamb, Secretary

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In attendance:

Mary Bethel, President
Bill Lamb, Past President
Janice Tyler, Vice-President
Marty Lamb, Secretary
Alex Johnson, AARP NC
Amanda Borer, Charles House Association
Ari Medoff, Nurse Care of NC
Betey Riber (? not sure of spelling), Triangle Neuropsychology Services
Bill Rowe, NC Justice Center
Carol Meyer, Carolinas Center for Hospice and End of Life Care
Chad Walker, Transitions LifeCare
Charmaine Fuller Cooper, AARP NC
Craig Burris, Wake County Dept. of Human Services
David Litman (plus two interpreters), NC Div. of Services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing
Dee Hatch, Long-Time Aging Advocate/Individual Member
Dick Hatch, Long-Time Aging Advocate/Individual Member
Frances Messer, NC Assisted Living Association
Gina Upchurch, Senior PHARMAssist
Heather Burkhardt, NC Division of Aging and Adult Services
Janeen Gordon, Durham County Dept. of Social Services
Jo Paul, NC DOI/SHIIP
Julie Wiggins, NC Association of Area Agencies on Aging
Karen Appert, Gerontology Student/S. Gerontological Society Representative
Kay Castillo, NASW NC
Kristen Brannock, Wake Resources for Seniors
Les Geller, SAGE Raleigh
Leslie Roseboro, LeadingAge NC
Mary Edwards, NC Division of Aging and Adult Services
Melinda Munden, NC DOI/SHIIP
Nancy Smith, NC Adult Foster Care Association
Nancy Warren, NC Partnership to Address Adult Abuse
Pam Palmer, NC Partnership to Address Adult Abuse
Richard Scott, Governor's Advisory Council on Aging
Richard Trottier, Legal Aid
Suzanne Martin, Social Worker
Suzanne Merrill, NC Division of Aging and Adult Services
Teresa Johnson Troup, NC Adult Day Services Association
Tom Akins, LeadingAge NC
Tracy Colvard, Association for Home and Hospice Care of NC
Zach Nissen, Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC

	<p><u>Guests:</u> Dr. Mandy Cohen, Secretary of HHS Susan Perry-Manning, Deputy Secretary of Human Services Michael Becketts, Assistant Secretary of Human Services Erika Ferguson, Special Assistant DHHS</p> <p><u>Joined by Phone:</u> Calvin Vaughan, NC Senior Center Alliance Cara Townsend, AARP NC Dot Crawford, Long Time Aging Advocate/Individual Members Eric Kivisto, NC Health Care Facilities Association Linda Shaw, NC PACE Association Pat Martin, Johnston County Community Senior Services Tara Edwards, Signature Health Care of Chapel Hill/Individual Member</p>
<p>OBJECTIVE OF THE MEETING : To update each other and plan</p>	
<p>****PROGRESS AND DECISIONS**** <i>What key decisions were made during the meeting?</i></p>	
SUBJECT	SHARING
Review of minutes	Minutes Approved: Dick Hatch moved, seconded by Kay Costillo
Treasurer report	Treasurer Report. There is a balance of \$14,077.98. Mary Bethel noted the Coalition has four new members - Durham DSS, Transitions Life Care, Arosa/Nurse Care of NC, and one individual-Allie Johnson. She thanked them for their membership. The report was approved upon motion of Dick Hatch and second from Kay Castillo.
Mary Bethel's update	Mary thanked those who have paid membership dues since the last meeting. She has been active with other members of the Coalition making legislative visits representing the Coalition priorities. She has also made presentations on behalf of the Coalition to several groups. Recent activities were summarized in the last <i>Update</i> that went out. She thanked those who came to the Day at the Legislature for helping to make this a successful event.
Report from DAAS	Suzanne Merrill reported that HB 248 passed the House. This bill recommends a subcommittee on aging; wording has been weakened to make it suggestive only. The bill was amended to implement changes to Community Advisory Committees needed to conform to federal regulatory

requirements and to study the feasibility for organ donations among HIV positive donors and recipients. The Division's bill tracker was handed out at the meeting. The Senate is expected to have the budget presented the week of May 7th. The Division completed their study on the State County Special Assistance (SA) Reimbursement Plan and submitted recommendations. It included 4 recommendations: 1. Continue current temporary increased SA payments; 2. Recommend SA payment increases; 3. Increase Personal Needs Allowance; and 4. Increase Medicaid Personal Care Rates. Michael A. Becketts has been appointed as Assistant Secretary for Human Services at the [North Carolina's Department of Health and Human Services](#). In his new capacity, Becketts will have direct oversight of the Division of Social Services and the Division of Aging and Adult Services. Heather Burkhardt will be leaving the Division in June. She has accepted a position with Resources for Seniors in Wake County. There are several positions in the Division that are being filled and she will be announcing them soon.

Debrief on Day
at the
Legislature

Teresa Johnson Troup reported on the Coalition's Day at the Legislature. About 50 representatives participated. Feedback has been very positive. Highlights included the prep work, the location, the follow up, diversity in teams and the thank you notes. The only suggested change is to post bill numbers on the Coalition's priorities and leave behind documents.

DHHS Secretary
presentation

Secretary Mandy Cohen joined the meeting. She is the new Secretary of Health and Human Services. Secretary Cohen is an internal medicine physician with experience leading complex health organizations. She was most recently the Chief Operating Officer and Chief of Staff at the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). She brought Susan Perry-Manning, Deputy Secretary, and Erica Ferguson, Executive Assistant.

Secretary Cohen spoke to four issues she will be focusing on right now:

1. The opioid crisis: what we are doing and should be doing to address this problem.
2. Medicaid and managed care: The Department is asking for input and will be holding public hearings. Dual eligibles will be added later. She noted she learned from her CMS experience.

	<p>3. Early childhood education.</p> <p>4. Social determinants of health.</p>
Legislative Report	<p>The floor was then opened to questions and comments from the floor. After Secretary Cohen left, Michael Beckett, who joined the meeting late, made a short presentation to the Coalition.</p> <p>Mary reviewed the status of aging related bills being tracked. She explained the “crossover” deadline when asked about it. Some of the bills that did not make crossover were HB 441, SB 539, SB 463, and SB 647. Some bills will not be eligible for discussion for the next two years. Some bills that are left pending could come back later. About 250 bills met crossover out of over 1500 bills that were introduced. We as a coalition have tried to lay the ground work for HB 248 to be considered. She noted that if the “right people” are behind a bill that did not make crossover, it may “return” again. Gina Upchurch asked how important was it to have bills be bipartisan. Someone commented it’s very important to have Republicans sponsorship.</p>
DSS reorganization proposal	<p>Kay Castillo shared information about SB 594, the Family/Child Protection and Accountability Act which pertains to DSS reorganization. The idea is to regionalize DSS’s from 100 to no more than 30. Most states have state administered social services. Right now the discussion is only focused on children but Kay wondered if the Coalition would want to remind the bill sponsor that adult services are also a major part of Social Services responsibility. More stakeholders are needed on the ad hoc committees noted in the legislation. Mary suggested that the Coalition might want to send a letter to the bill sponsor with a copy to DHHS recommending that older and disabled adults be considered in bill deliberations. Jo Paul made a motion to this effect and Teresa Johnson Troup seconded that Mary write such a letter. The motions carried.</p>
N.C. Coalition future work group	<p>Kay reported that her work group on the future direction of the Coalition will look at the results of the survey recently administered to get feedback from members at its next meeting.</p>
Mary’s final comments	<p>Mary indicated that it looked as though there may not be a federal government shutdown at the end of the week. There will probably be a one week extension to continue budget deliberations. The showdown will be when the budget for next year comes up for a vote and when the President</p>

introduces his health plan.

Our next meeting is scheduled for May 19th at 10 a.m. in the Brown Building on the Dix campus.

HANDOUTS

Agenda and treasurer reports, minutes, list of Mary Bethel activities

Who	Assignments	WHEN
Mary	Send out updates and coordinate in looking towards our next Coalition meeting.	Soon
Allen	Keep books.	ongoing
Marty	Will route draft minutes to Mary	Soon
Kay Castillo	Meet with workgroup on the future direction for N.C. Coalition on Aging	Soon

****NEXT MEETING****

Day / Date / Time	WHAT	Where
Friday, May 19, 2017 10:00 a.m.	Next Coalition Meeting	Brown Building Dix campus