

Minutes of the North Carolina Coalition on Aging

Friday, April 20, 2018 (10:00 a.m.)

Room 104, Brown Building (801 Biggs Drive on Dix Campus)

In Attendance at Meeting:

Mary Bethel, President
Janice Tyler, Vice-President/Orange Co. Dept. on Aging/NCAOA
Marty Lamb, Secretary
Alan Winstead, Treasurer/Meals on Wheels NC
Bill Lamb, Past-President/FOR LTC
Mary Edwards, NC DAAS
Pam Palmer, Triangle J AAA and NCPAAA
Lisa Worth, NC DAAS
Nathan Robinson, Woodland Terrace
Kay Castillo, NASW NC
Kelly Peterson, NASW NC
Patti Sacchetti, FOR LTC
Emily Duberman, NC 211
Julie Wiggins, NC Assoc. of AAA
Jessica Abdul-Razzaag, New to State
Laura Jane Ward, NC Rural Health Leadership Alliance
Chad Walker, Transitions Lifecare
Nancy Ruffner, NAVIGATE NC
Sarah Hammond, CSS of Johnston Co./NC Senior Center Alliance
Roselyn Pettyford, NC STHL
Leslie Jones, NC DAAS
Lacey Cottingham, Cameron Commons
Less Geller, SAGE/Resources for Seniors
Joe Wheeler, SAGE
Leah Proctor, NC 211
Nancy Warren, NCPAAA
Craig Burrus, Wake Co. DHS
Katie Withers, NC Council of Churches
Lee Little, Durham Co. DSS
Suzanne Martin, NC Oral Health Collaborative
Tracy Colvard, Assoc. for Home and Hospice Care of NC
Ana Pardo, NC Justice Center
Roger Manus, Governor's Advisory Council on Aging/Campbell Senior Law Clinic
La'Tesha Caddell, SEIU/Care Workers in Action
Chanelle Croxton, National Domestic Worker's Alliance/Care Workers in Action
Kent Thompson, Wake County Ad. Care Home CAC
Noelle Owusu-Akyaw, Nurse Care of NC
Hank Bowers, NC DAAS
Micheale Becketts, NC DHHS

Joined By Phone

Carol Kelly, NC Guardianship Association
Teresa Johnson Troup, NC Adult Day Services Association
Jeff Horton, NC Senior Living Association
Eric Kivisto, NC Health Care Facilities Association
Tom Akins, LeadingAge NC
Linda Shaw, NC PACE Association
Ray Riordon, The Carolinas Center
Pat Martin, CSS of Johnston Co.
Leslie Roseboro, LeadingAge NC

Opening Remarks and Introductions – Mary Bethel, President

Approval of Minutes from March 23, 2018 Meeting completed by Marty Lamb, Secretary – Were approved with one minor change as to the balance of the account at the time of the March meeting.

Review of Treasurer’s Report – Alan Winstead, Treasurer – Balance is \$17,324.77

Report from Coalition’s Workgroup on Organizational Structure and Resource Development – Tom Akins, Workgroup Member

Tom Akins with Leading Age and a member of the Workgroup called in with a report from the Workgroup. The Workgroup recommends completing work to become a private non-profit organization, to complete articles of incorporation, to revise bi-laws, and to become a member of the Center for Non-Profits. He mentioned that the workgroup had reached out to a member who had had concerns about the Coalition seeking 501(c)3 status. A handout summarizing the work of the Workgroup and its recommendations was sent to members earlier in the week. Proposal was accepted.

Activities and Updates Since March Meeting – Mary Bethel

- Membership Renewals and New Members
 - No new members to report this month.
 - Renewals by agency/organization members – Lot of renewals. Notices sent out to all agency/organization members that had not renewed.
- Other Materials E-mailed Out Since March Meeting: March 23: Follow-Up from Coalition on Aging Meeting/Homeless Veterans Data/Star Rating System Survey; April 6: Information on Aging Policy Listening Sessions for the 2019-2023 State Aging Services Plan and April 14 Advance Care Planning Event; April 12: Medicaid Concept Papers/ Job Posting for DAAS Director, and reminder of April Meeting.
- Followed Up with Michael Becketts’ Office About His Participation in April Coalition Meeting (may be conflict)

- Attended Care4Carolina Meeting on March 26. We made a \$50 donation to this Coalition to help support its efforts to continue to push for health care access for all people in our state.
- Had Telephone Consultation with Nancy Ruffner on March 26 on Groups Such as Hers Being Able to Do Power of Attorney for “Elder Orphans”. Nancy explained this further.
- Attended Meeting of Coalition’s Workgroup on Organizational Structure and Resource Development on April 4
- Paid Dues for Coalition to Join NC Center for Nonprofits (\$100)
- Meeting of JOC on HSS on April 10 (did by phone)
- Meeting of JOC on Medicaid and NC Health Choice on April 10 (did by phone)
- Meeting of Legislative Committee on Access to Health Care in Rural NC on April 12 (did by phone)
- Alzheimer’s Coalition Meeting on April 18 (did by phone)
- Will attend the 10th birthday party for Dot Crawford on April 24
- Care4Carolina Meeting on April 23
- Vice-President Janice Tyler sent our notice on April 11 about making sure e-mails from Mary Bethel do not go to spam file.

Discussion/Provide Input on Star Rating System for Adult Care Homes and on Medicaid Managed Care Concept Papers – Bill Lamb reported on the current status of exploring the star rating system. Input is welcomed and encouraged at the website address for the licensure section of the NC Division of Health Services Regulation. Mary will submit comments on behalf of the Coalition on the star rating system and on the Medicaid Managed Care Concept Papers. She discussed the papers on NC’s Vision for Long-Term Services and Supports Under Managed Care and Using Standardized Social Determinants of Health Screening Questions to Identify and Assist Patients with Unmet Health-Related Resource Needs in NC. Input was provided on these.

Remarks from Michael Becketts – Assistant Secretary for Human Services, NC Department of Health and Human Services

Michael was with us last year at our April 28 meeting when Sec. Cohen addressed the group. He had only been on board a few days. Since that time he has really gotten his feet wet. We heard how he has had a major role in working with the Working Group on Social Services Regional Supervision and Collaboration and chairs the Council on Coordinating Homeless Programs. Michael came to this position from Durham County where he was Director of DSS. Prior to that he worked in the Social Services system in Baltimore. He reported on his work on HB 630 and the reorganization and assuring that Social Services will remain single point of entry for Medicaid funding and managed care efforts continue to become a reality. He talked about the importance of the Listening Sessions for the State Aging Plan and noted that he is going to try to attend each of the sessions. He noted that the DAAS Director’s position is currently posted.

Update on Federal and State Developments – Mary Bethel and Others Who Track Federal and State Issues

- State – Legislative Committees wrapping up before short session that starts on May 16. There will be a new state Senator in the seat held by Sen. Angela Bryant. Milton "Toby" Fitch Jr. was appointed to the state Senate on March 23 to replace state Sen. Angela Bryant, who resigned her position. Fitch is no stranger to politics. In February, he retired from serving as a Superior Court Judge, a position he held for more than 16 years starting in 2001. Before that he served in the NC House of the General Assembly, representing Edgecombe and Wilson counties, from 1984 to 2001.
- JOC on HHS did approve recommending the Aging Subcommittee continue.
- Aging Policy Listening Sessions coming up (will help inform the NC 2019-2023 Aging Services Plan – May 8 in Asheville, May 22 in Kenersville, and May 30 in Wilmington. All 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Information sent out on these April 6. Leslie Jones with DAAS shared that additional sessions have been added in Greenville on June 19 and in Charlotte on June 27 – both to be held from 10 a.m. to 12 noon. It was suggested that it would be good if members had talking/key points about Coalition priorities and other issues important to seniors. Mary suggested that a small group work on developing these with her. Those who volunteered to assist were Kay Castillo, Nancy Warren, Julie Wiggins, Bill Lamb, Linda Shaw, and Pat Martin. The information will be sent to members the first of May.
- Mary asked if anyone went to the CAP-DA Engagement Sessions in March and April.
- Congress passed the omnibus appropriations bill for FY 2018 and it was signed into law by the President on March 23. The bill rejected many Administration and Congressional proposals to cut or eliminate programs and even includes significant increases for some of them.
- White House says it will put forth a Rescissions Package that would ask Congress to cut previously enacted spending, including from the \$1.3 trillion spending bill that President Trump signed last month. Republican leaders are concerned about how moving forward with a package would affect future bipartisan negotiations over spending bills.
- What is next for Fiscal Year 2018 funding? Both House and Senate chambers on Capital Hill want to get bills to the floor ASAP. It is an election year and they want to get home to campaign. A fast paced spring schedule is planned. First floor votes should come in early June. They want to avoid an omnibus bill.
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Work Requirement changes are in the Draft Farm Bill
- A copy of a handout from the Center for Responsible Lending about protecting the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's national payday rule was discussed and those in attendance were asked to call their elected federal officials.

Discussion of Advocacy for Short Legislative Session – Mary updated the group.

- There will need to be changes from our procedure used last year due to not being able to congregate in quadrants at the legislative building any more. There is also a short legislative session. Ana Pardo asked if our Coalition should take a stance opposing the new rule about not gathering in the quadrants, but taking such a position as a group in this instance was not seen as being advisable.
- There was discussion with the Executive Committee and others(Kay Castillo, etc.) about how best to handle.

- There was a suggestion that we have a virtual call-in/e-mail day where we contact legislators about our priority issues. May 22 was a date suggested for this. Samples materials will be sent out along with contact information for legislators.
- Those that are available to do on-site visits with legislators can come to Raleigh on June 6 for one-on-one visits with legislators. Let Mary know ahead of time if you are coming, and we will arrange to meet to form teams.

Sharing by Coalition Members – There are several meetings and conferences coming up that were mentioned including the SAGE initiative at Five Points Senior Center, The Partnership to Address Adult Abuse annual meeting in May, and others. Suzanne Martin shared information about the Oral Health America, State of Decay report. Ana Pardo reported that the Urban Institute had looked at the implications of a potential paid leave proposal that Ivanka Trump was advocating for and it would delay retirement by six months. Bill Lamb shared that he and Marty went to the S. Gerontological Society meeting in Georgia and did presentations. North Carolina was well represented at the meeting. Other announcements were that Elder Abuse Awareness Month is from Mother’s Day to Father’s Day, World Elder Abuse Awareness Day is June 15, and Volunteer Appreciation month is April.

Other Business

- Reminder that May is Older Americans Month – theme *Engage at Every Age*.
- Reminder of the next meeting date – May 18 (list at the bottom of these minutes)

Adjourned as there was no other business at 12:24 p.m.

Remaining Meeting Dates for 2018

May 18

June 22

August 24

September 28 (annual meeting)

October 26

December 7