

MEETING DATE: June 23, 2017
SUMMARY OF: N.C. Coalition on Aging Meeting
RECORDED BY: Marty Lamb

TO:	D I S T R I B U T I O N	<p>PARTICIPANTS IN ATTENDANCE: May Bethel, Coalition President Bill Lamb, NCFOR-LTC (Past President of Coalition) Janice Tyler, Coalition Secretary and NC Association on Aging Marty Lamb, Coalition Secretary Alan Winstead, Coalition Treasurer and Meals on Wheel NC Stevie John, High Country Area Agency on Aging and NC4A Margaret Toman, Individual Member and Advocate Pat Martin, Johnston County Community Senior Services George Smith, Johnston County CAC/CSS/STHL and Advocate Kathryn Doddridge, The Retreat – Sandhills Adult Day Holly C. Hight, The Enrichment Center of Lee County Susan Meador, The Center for Volunteer Caregiving Randolph Cloud, Randolph Cloud and Associates Van Braxton, NC SHIP Chad Walker, Transitions LifeCare Porter Bell, Individual Member and Advocate Nancy Warren, Partnership to Address Adult Abuse Pam Palmer, Partnership to Address Adult Abuse Mary Edwards, NC DAAS Ellen Schneider, NC Mental Health, Substance Use, and Aging Coalition Dee Hatch, Individual Member and Advocate Dick Hatch, Individual Member and Advocate Amanda Borer, Charles House and NC Eldercare Workforce Coalition Tracy Colvard, Association for Home and Hospice Care of NC Zach Nissen, Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC Ana Pardo, NC Justice Center, Workers' Rights Craig Burris, Wake County DHS Leah Proctor, NC 211 Maggie McVeigh, NC PACE Association Heather McLaughlin, NC Alliance for Retired Americans Leslie Roseboro, LeadingAge NC Teresa Johnson Troup, N.C. Adult Day Services Association Roger Manus, Campbell Senior Law Clinic and Governor's Advisory Council on Aging</p> <p>Guest speaker: Donna White (R Johnston County)</p> <p style="text-align: center;">On Phone</p> <p>Stephen Kalawick, Nursing Care of NC Nancy Ruffner, Navigate NC Sandra Hinson, NC Foster Care Association Sarah Jacobson, American Heart Association Marsh Van Hecke, The Carolinas Center</p>
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OBJECTIVE OF THE MEETING: to hear updates including from Mary Bethel, Rep. Donna White, committee reporters, and others

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

SUBJECT	
<p>Introductions</p> <p>Speaker</p>	<p>Persons identified themselves and the organizations they represented.</p> <p>Rep. Donna White offered opening remark. She said that soon after she came to the Legislature, she heard from advocates from our organization. She worked at NC DAAS for many years doing home care consulting and developed fraud and scam initiatives. A year ago she was asked to run for Rep. Leo Daughtry's position in the legislature. What she sees herself bringing to the legislature is what they have not had before which is a nurse. She has joined Rep. Carla Cunningham and Rep. Gail Adcock, who are also nurses, on certain issues. She's been asked her opinion on a number of issues. She's has stepped off her local board of adjustment so there will not be any conflict of interest. In addition to aging, she has an interest also in advocating for veterans and firefighters. She has been very busy as she has worked on 58 bills this session. She sits on the House Aging, Appropriations, Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee, Education (K-12), Ethics, Health, and Judiciary 111 Committees.</p> <p>She next turned her attention to reporting on bills and actions by the General Assembly this session. She noted the provision in the budget bill authorizing the establishment of a subcommittee (may establish) to study aging issues. She also spoke about HB 248 which made needed changes to ensure federal compliance relative to the community advisory committees and the long term care ombudsman program. She noted that freshman Legislators are generally quiet, but she was asked to take this bill and speak for it. She discussed the journey of the bill to get Senate approval after the House passed the Bill unanimously. She also discussed Bills 657 (improve adult care home regulations) which she sponsored. This Bill was a collaborative effort between consumers and providers. This Bill will also direct DHHS to study the star rating system. She reviewed The STOP Act (HB243) which strengthens opioid misuse prevention. She shared that HB738 (Opioid Prescription and Treatment Opt Out Act) which she helped sponsor did not pass. .</p> <p>She shared how legislation can change from when it is introduced. A case in point is HB 403 which she helped to sponsor which pertained to modifying certain requirements pertaining to local management entities and managed care organizations. The bill was changed significantly in the Senate and has not been passed. She noted Ryan's Law (HB 630) which results from a child protective service case. This Bill addresses, among other things, social services regional supervision and collaboration. There will be a Ryan's law celebration next week. Mary commented that this legislation has implications for adult services and that the lion's share of support for adult services comes from county funds.</p> <p>Rep. White said that some bills that have cleared the House are now in the Senate. She mentioned several bills that have not passed this session. She noted that the CARE Act Legislation which was a priority of AARP. She mentioned several other bills including bills related to check off for cancer funding option, behavioral analysts, registered dieticians, and early diagnosis of diseases (Haley's Bill). She also spoke about challenges related to funding for group homes.</p> <p>Mary asked Rep. White what her biggest surprise was upon going to the General Assembly. Her response was that it is so political - on both sides. She said she keeps working to learn the system so that she can beat it. A question was asked of her about the star rating system status. She noted this is to be studied and a report submitted back to the General Assembly by October 1, 2018. It was suggested that feedback from the community advisory committees be sought in this study. Rep. White concluded her presentation by saying that she dedicated her efforts to her father who lives with her and is confined to a hospital bed in her guest bedroom.</p> <p>Draft minutes of the May 19, 2017 meeting were noted, and Mary asked those who did not see their names on them to share their corrections or additions.</p>

Minutes

Treasurer's Report

Allen thanked people for paying their dues. We added over \$200.00 this month and our balance is now \$16,015.87. Several new members were added: Rosalynn Pettiford, Porter Bell and Triangle J Council of Governments.

Update from Mary Bethel

Mary reviewed the action taken by the General Assembly on our priority issues including the appropriation of non-recurring funding for the Home and Community Care Block Grant, the special provision related to the appointment of a subcommittee on aging, and increased funding for Medicaid personal care services.

She noted there were a number of special appropriations in the budget this year that appeared at the last minute. She has done a number of interviews with reporters and articles will be forthcoming. She submitted comments to DHHS on behalf of the Coalition about Medicaid transformation.

Mary noted several personnel changes at the Division of Aging and Adult Services. Heather Burkhardt's (Deputy Director) last day is August 11.

Mary said that HB 399 passed yesterday. This pertains to stopping images taken for dissemination without consent.

She shared comments about the health care bill released by the U.S. Senate. It proposes deep cuts to Medicaid and people are no longer required to have insurance. If federal money is cut, this could have significant ramifications for states. Coalition members were encouraged to contact the Washington offices of our Senatos as the Senate wants to have this voted on before July 4th.

Budget cuts were discussed. Van Braxton said that SHIP took a 10% cut this year. Nancy Warren added that we should especially be aware of attempts to cut the Social Services Block Grant. The Title V employment program and other programs are also in jeopardy. Another comment was shared that the MOON form is what is being used to notify persons on Medicare when they are in observational status instead of regular admission to a hospital. Issues with this process were identified as a problem across the state.

Mary reminded everyone that the Coalition's annual meeting/luncheon will be September 22 and Dr. James Johnson from the UNC Business School will be the keynote speaker. The cost is \$20 for members and \$30 for new members. Last year the Coalition began to award a Pioneer Award. Nominations are being accepted now for that Award. Alan Winstead added that sponsorships for the meeting are welcomed.

Bill Lamb reported for the Workgroup on the Direction of the Coalition. The first recommendation at this time is that we move toward an executive director model. There will be specific recommendation about this in upcoming meetings. An issue for consideration is whether we want to move to more of a board of directors' model. Comments and suggestions regarding this are to be sent to workgroup members Kay Castillo, Tom Akins, Julie Wiggins, Les Geller, Dennis Streets, or him. He shared that the Coalition is not chartered for anything and we register under the radar. Does it make sense to get registered and become a 501(C)3? How will this affect dues structure? Setting a strategic path for us to go on in the coming few years is what we are looking towards. Mary said we want to preserve the ability of any group and individual becoming involved who wants to do so.

Mary said that in the next few months parking passes may be required on the Dix campus. Coalition members will be kept updated on this.

Announcements by Coalition members included the following. Amanda Borer announced that the Eldercare Workforce Coalition will meet next week at the NC Medical Society. AARP's Long Term Care Scorecard looks at rating of states, and NC is 38th on the list. Mary commented that caution needs to be used in reviewing the data as you need to look at what is measured and

