

MEETING DATE: August 25, 2017

SUMMARY OF: N.C. Coalition on Aging Meeting

RECORDED BY: Marty Lamb

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| TO: | D I S T R I B U T I O N | PARTICIPANTS IN ATTENDANCE: Mary Bethel, Coalition President Janice Tyler, Vice-President and NCAOA Alan Winstead, Treasurer and Meals on Wheels NC Kay Castillo, NASW – NC Kelly Peterson, NASW-NC (intern) Samantha Capps, FOR in LTC Teresa Troup, Oak Hill Living Center Intern for Teresa Troup Pam Palmer, Triangle J AAA and Partnership to Address Adult Abuse Samantha Allred, NCBAM Joan Pellettier, NCPAAA Nancy Francis, NCPACE George Smith, STHL and CAC Jimmy Parker, STHL Les Geller, SAGE Raleigh John Thoma, Transitions Life Care Mary Edwards, DAAS Roger Manus, Campbell Senior Law Clinic and Governor's Advisory Council on Aging Leah Proctor, NC 211 Huntley Cuthrell, Retire Triangle NC/HTR Realty Lee Little, Durham County DSS Ana Pardo, NC Justice Center Linda Shaw, NC PACE Association Suzanne Merrill, DAAS Carla Obiol, AHA/Care4Carolina Jeff Horton, NCALTCF Jo Paul, NCDOI SHIIP Lindsay Schinasi, Center for Volunteer Caregiving Charmaine Fuller Cooper, AARP NC Tracy Colvard, AHHC of NC Karen Appert, Southern Gerontological Association Leslie Roseboro, Leading Age NC Dick Hatch, Advocate Dee Hatch, Advocate Pat Martin, Johnston County Community Sr. Services David Litman, Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Ben Armstrong, K4 Connect 2 interpreters One who did not sign in On phone: Bill Lamb, FOR-LTC Marty Lamb, Coalition Secretary Marsha Van Hecke, The Carolinas Center Heather Altman, Carol Woods Zach Nissen, Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC Nancy Ruffner, Navigate NC Dot Crawford, Advocate Margaret Kirkman, NC Adult Foster Care Assoc. Julie Wiggins, NC Assoc. of AAA |
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| <p>OBJECTIVE OF THE MEETING: to hear updates including from Mary Bethel and Suzanne Merrill of State DAAS, committee reporters, recommendations from workgroup on Future of Aging Coalition, and others. Presentations from David Litman and new K4 Connect staff.</p> | | |
| <p>***PROGRESS AND DECISIONS*** <i>What key decisions were made during the meeting?</i></p> | | |
| <p>SUBJECT</p> | | |
| <p>Introductions</p> | <p>Persons identified themselves and the organizations they represented.</p> | |
| <p>Minutes, Treasurer's Report</p> | <p>The minutes from the last meeting on June 23, 2017 were approved. \$17,115.95 is reported to be in the treasury.</p> | |
| <p>David Litman presentation</p> | <p>David Litman with the NC Division of Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing made a presentation and demonstrated CART (Computer Assisted Real Time Translation) for the hearing impaired. It is similar to what court recorders use. It is phonetic. Approximately one third of older adults have a hearing loss. Only 10% know or use American Sign language (ASL). Most late deafened people do not know ASL. Cart is an option. There are others - ask the individual which would be best. There are 2 CART options - one using a remote transcriber or the second is to have a live transcriber. The remote option is less expensive. CART can also caption videos. Questions about cost and availability were asked. A transcript can be provided if</p> | |

**Ben Armstrong
presentation**

requested. David said regional coordinators can assist with this and he is also eager and available to help. There was much applause for his presentation and demonstration.

Ben Armstrong was introduced. He is from K4 Connect. He gave a presentation on technology services to help people stay independent. He loves that the business is personal. He spoke of his grandmother. He sees lots of potential in the use of technology. He shared how motion detectors can be used to detect when a person is not moving in a room. For example, if someone fell in the bathroom, they might be stuck there 3 hours instead of 3 days. Programs to help should be simple to use and should make people happier and healthier. He discussed the use of tablets to help seniors. He noted that some people have said that seniors will not use a tablet designed purposefully for them, but they have not found that to be true. It can be used as well to foster natural relationships. One can track water retention, blood pressure, etc. They are hooked up to WiFi. The device plugs into the wall. People do not have to carry it all the time. It could be downloaded for an Ipad or phone. Their hope is that their equipment can be used as an employee benefit for employees who are caregivers. An alert could be routed to a caregiver. A comment was made that it could be very helpful for family caregivers. They are trying to be helpful with their technological developments. It is also

worth exploring how this might interface with telemedicine. K4 Connect wants to be more proactive with the use of equipment. Pushing a button for transportation is part of the proposed package. Marty Lamb asked if the equipment would turn off stoves after a certain amount of time or email a family member if the refrigerator had not been opened within a certain period of time. He reported that they just now have the software for this; they're close and hopefully next year will have the ability to perform these tasks. One person mentioned persons may have impairment so equipment must be developed that takes that into consideration. He said that they want to serve technologically and economically underserved. Thermostat control, lights activation, activity trackers, automated scales, tracking of vital signs are all possibilities. He closed by saying it is exciting to see how technology can help us to stay at home.

Update from
Mary Bethel

Mary mentioned it looks as though Rep. White will be a good aging advocate. Charmaine Fuller Cooper with AARP, Ana Pardo with the NC Justice Center, Bill Lamb, Past-President, and Mary all participated in a panel for a NC Policy Watch Crucial Conversation Luncheon on aging recently. She also mentioned that thank you notes had been sent to Rep. Josh Dobson and Rep. Donna White for their advocacy around aging issues during the last legislative session. A summary of legislation that passed was compiled and distributed and several advocacy alerts on

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federal issues went out. David Litman added that hearing aid legislation has passed. This is aimed at making hearing aids more available at a cheaper price and to have them available for purchase on- line. There was a question about our legislative priorities. Mary responded.

DAAS report

Bill Lamb provided an update on plans for the annual meeting that will take place on September 22. Pioneer Award nominations are still being sought. Everyone was reminded to register. He said it should be a great program with James H. Johnson, Jr. from the UNC Kenan-Flagler Business School as the guest speaker.

Report from Suzanne Merrill, Director of DAAS. She shared that Rep. Donna White's father passed away this week. The funeral is tomorrow at McLaurin Funeral Home in Clayton at 11:00 a.m. The Division is looking forward to the upcoming short session and beginning to reach out to individual legislators. Meetings have been held with Doug Dickerson, State Director for AARP NC, about working together on common interests. Medicaid transformation and the opioid epidemic, priorities of DHHS, are both related to the work of the Division. Older adults' use of opioids for pain management is an issue. A third priority for DHHS is childhood education. Other issues include addressing needs of dually eligible persons and Medicaid beneficiaries, and the ombudsman programs. A Medicaid Summit was held this week. She encouraged Coalition members to comment on

**Recommendations
from Future of
Aging Coalition
Workgroup**

the draft Medicaid Transformation Plan. Social determinants of health are important considerations noted in the plan and the aging network can "hang our hat on" that. She encouraged us to continue to watch the legislation about DSS regionalization. Michael Becker, DHHS Assistant Secretary, is the lead in DHHS to work on the bill. There is concern being voiced about what this means for adult services. There is a lot in the bill that effects DAAS. There is a new state health director, Dr. Betsy Tilson and Jay Ludlam began working with the Department yesterday as the Assistant Secretary for Medicaid Transformation. Mary Edwards is collecting nominations for the annual DAAS awards. Hank Bowers will be assuming the Deputy Director position soon at DAAS previously held by Heather Burkhardt. He has background in program evaluation. Chris Urso (worked with state county/special assistance) has retired from DAAS. A group from Taiwan is visiting here next week to learn about our assisted living level of care.

Kay Castillo, the Chair of the Workgroup on the Direction of the Coalition on Aging shared the recommendations from the Workgroup. She noted that the Coalition is doing more now and has grown in membership which necessitates needed changes. They have three recommendations. (1) The bylaws need to be updated. They recommend expanding the Executive Committee into a Board of Directors structure while still maintaining an Executive Committee. They recommend that a position of Executive

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Director be created under the by-laws. (2) The workgroup identified that duties performed by Coalition President Mary Bethel have been far more than what is identified in the current by-laws. They recommend paying her \$1,000 a month for 12 months starting in September 2017 while the Coalition is reshaped to do those duties above and beyond what is noted in the by-laws. (3) They recommend that the Coalition seek 501(c)3 status. The workgroup feels these things can be accomplished over a 12 month period. Kay added that the workgroup also felt many members of the Coalition might be able to donate additional funding to support the Coalition's work and there might be opportunities for grants if we obtained 501(c)3 status. Charmaine Fuller-Cooper made a motion for approval of the recommendations, and Ana Pardo seconded the motion for acceptance of the recommendations. The motion carried. A copy of the report/recommendations from the workgroup is attached at the end of the minutes.

Alan Winstead, Chair of the Nominating Committee, reported. He noted that Mary Bethel, President, and Marty Lamb, Secretary, are both eligible to serve another two year term.

Organizational sharing: Lindsay Schinasi, the new volunteer coordinator from the Center for Volunteer Caregiving, introduced herself and gave an update from the organization. Dick Hatch commented on federal budget negotiations. He said he

heard a bill had been drafted on Social Security and Medicare. Jeff Horton, the new director of the NC Association of Long Term Care Facilities, said they will have their annual meeting in Greensboro next week. The Association is considering a name change. Linda Shaw shared that PACE month is in September. The Governor has signed a proclamation on this. Jenny Chin Hanson will be at the UNC School of Medicine the end of the month. She will speak at a PACE site. The Division of Medical Assistance is doing a study on PACE as directed by the General Assembly. One of the things that will be looked at are the rules and regulations and duplication as well as the efficiency of PACE programs. Tracy Colvard with the Association for Home and Hospice Care reported that the Personal Care Services increase approved by the General Assembly will not occur until August. Alan Winstead shared, in Bill Lamb's absence, that the FOR in LTC Speakeasy fundraiser will be held on October 21. Charmaine Fuller Cooper with AARP announced that they are bringing in Frank Abagnale for a program at the Friday Center on September 19. Ana Pardo with the NC Justice Center thanked Coalition members who participated on the panel at the Crucial Conversation luncheon. She spoke about the Caregiver Relief Act legislation that was introduced and the importance of paid leave. Karen Appert announced that next year's Southern Gerontological Society meeting will be held in Lake Lanier, Ga. on April 10-14. Kay Castillo with NASW NC shared that their conference will be on

Adjourn

September 15-20 in Asheville. Pam Palmer with the Triangle J AAA and the Partnership to Address Adult Abuse discussed the new ombudsman legislation and noted that applications for community advisory committee members now come first to the ombudsmen. They train advisory committee members and the county appoints them. Mary Edwards announced that the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging will meet September 19, and the Senior Tar Heel Legislature will meet October 3-4. Samantha Allred with NC-BAM reported they have events coming up including one on living next door to dementia in September. Joan Pellettier with the Partnership to Address Adult Abuse announced that Christine Sullivan with Disability Rights will be speaking at their next meeting. Huntley Cuthrell with Retire Triangle NC shared that he is working to bring Dr. Bill Thomas to the area for a program in the fall. Janice Tyler reported that NCAOA's annual meeting will be March 14-15, 2018 at the Great Wolf Lodge. Mary Bethel shared that Duke and RTI will do a forum on aging on August 30.

There was no other business and Mary adjourned the meeting and announced that our next meeting will be the annual meeting and luncheon on September 22 at the NC State University Club.

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| ****NEXT MEETING**** | | |
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| Day / Date / Time | WHAT | Where |
| Friday Sept. 22, 2017 11:30 am until 2:00 | Next Coalition meeting | NCSU University Club |

ATTACHMENT: Recommendations of Workgroup on Direction of the Coalition on Aging

Coalition on Aging Working Group
Future and Sustainability of Coalition

Workgroup members: Kay Castillo (Chair), Tom Akins, Les Geller, Bill Lamb, Carol Meyer, Mary Bethel, Julie Wiggins, Dennis Streets

Recommendations:

- 1) With the fast growth and recognition of the Coalition on Aging, the role of President has turned into a hefty job. To continue at the current pace, we recommend compensating the President for the work she does above the duties of the President.
 - We recommend paying the President during the reshaping of the Coalition on Aging.
 - We recommend pay to be \$1,000 a month for 12 months; starting September 1, 2017.
 - We recommend the Executive Committee appropriate \$12,000 for this funding in their proposed budget. The Coalition on Aging budget to be approved by the Membership at the Annual Meeting in September.
- 2) Change in Administrative Structure:
 - Update bylaws to expand the Executive Committee into a Board of Directors structure. Still maintain the Executive Committee as they will need to vote on measures outside of the Board of Directors. Consider Advocacy, Membership, and Communication positions added to the Board of Directors.
 - Under the bylaws change, create position for an Executive Director.
 - Establish a working group to review and update the bylaws to fulfill this direction.
 - Consider obtaining the help of an attorney to tighten language in bylaws.
 - Estimated timeframe: 12 Months. Provide Interim Report in February 2018 and Final Report no later than the Annual Meeting in September.
- 3) Obtain a 501C3 status.
 - The Executive Committee should guide this work with the help of an attorney (pro bono attorneys are available to help small nonprofits).
 - Estimated timeframe: 12 months.

Financial Opportunities:

- Reach out to members to fund projects. In the past, groups have paid for printing materials for events,

space, etc. Outside funding could help us dedicate our resources to having a paid staff member.

Develop a list of needs and ask members to contribute to specific needs.

- A potential 501C3 status would allow for charitable contributions, potential grant opportunities, and fundraising opportunities.