

Aging Advisory Council Meeting
Lincoln Conference Room C
June 22, 2016

Members present: Ray Humphrey, Margaret Scott, Joseph Sohmer, David Heiney, Linda Hess, Sharon Cashwell, Carolyn Bullock, Leslie Houser, Lois Stryker and Nancy Watson

Staff present: Fred Shrimp

Guest present: Rochelle Keefer

Ray call meeting to order at 1:35.

Carolyn Bullock made a motion to approve the minutes. David Heiney offered a second to the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Humphrey presented the nomination of Rochelle Keefer to the aging advisory council.

Lois Stryker made a motion to approve. The motion was seconded by Nancy Watson and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Shrimp presented the current draft of the Four Year Plan for the Office of Aging. Members discussed and made suggestions regarding the plan based on the four goals designated by the Pennsylvania Department of Aging (PDA): promoting existing services, improve access to services, enhance quality of services and empower the workforce. This current draft of the plan will be submitted to PDA for review by July 1. PDA may require additions or changes and the final draft will be due by August 1. Mr. Shrimp discussed the requirement to hold public hearings regarding the plan before the final draft is submitted. The Lycoming County Commissioners had offered to hold the public hearing as part of commissioners meeting. The unanimous consensus of the council was to hold the meetings at our centers to ensure that there is input from older adults. It was agreed that Mr. Shrimp will hold public hearings during July at the Clinton County Community Center and The RiverWalk Center.

David Heiney made a motion to approve the four year plan. Carolyn Bullock seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Shrimp presented information on the process to comment on PDA's Four Year Plan.

Linda Hess asked about information that she received that the funding for Apprise was being eliminated from the Federal budget. Mr. Shrimp stated that the Senate appropriations committee had eliminated the funding in the Senate version going out of

committee but the House version still has current funding levels in their budget. It is unknown what will happen, but this is a low cost program that gets great results and in the end Mr. Shrimp thinks it would be hard to eliminate. PDA is advocating for continued funding along with a lot of other advocacy groups.

Mr. Shrimp reviewed the budget amendment for fiscal year 2015-2016. PDA provided \$9,517 for Medicaid level of care assessments and \$2,000 for the senior employment program. Carolyn Bullock motioned to approve the budget amendment. Linda Hess made a second to the motion and it passed unanimously.

Mr. Shrimp gave an update on Community Health Choices. The Department of Human Services (DHS) expects to receive bids from up to 14 managed care organizations.

Mr. Shrimp gave an update on Aging Well contracting with DHS to enable AAAs to continue the level of care assessment function. No real progress in the negotiations.

Mr. Shrimp informed the council of the events of World Elder Abuse Day held at the state level. He provided testimony on older adult protective services at a special hearing of the House Aging and Youth Committee and participated in ceremonies in the Capitol rotunda led by the Secretary of Aging, Theresa Osborne. Jennifer Yoder, STEP protective services caseworker, received recognition for her service in protective services in a ceremony at the Governor's Residence.

STEP put the meals contract for the Renovo Center out for bid since the Bucktail Medical Center was again interested in bidding. Frey's Commissary chose not to bid. The initial bid by Bucktail did not meet the criteria in the Request for Proposal. We negotiated with Bucktail and is working on meeting all the criteria. We expect to be able to contract with Bucktail. Bucktail was the only bidder.

Do to the concern raised by some in Renovo that STEP needs an increased presence there to meet the needs of citizens, we are considering increasing the hours of the center coordinator to be available as a contact point for aging and other STEP services.

David Hainey motioned to adjourn, with a second by Lois Stryker.

Submitted by,

Reviewed by,

Frederick Shrimp
Aging Director

Margaret Scott
Secretary