

Aging Advisory Council Meeting
Loyalsock Montoursville Center
October 12, 2016

Members present: Ray Humphrey, David Heiney, Barbara Barger, Carolyn Bullock, Jeff Snyder, Nancy Watson, Leslie Houser, Sharon Cashwell, Linda Hess, Joe Sohmer, Lois Stryker

Staff: Fred Shrimp, Jennifer Smith, Jane Thompson

Ray Humphrey called the meeting to order at 1:35

Ray Humphrey reviewed the minutes. Carolyn Bullock made a motion to approve that was seconded by Nancy Watson and approved unanimously.

Ray Humphrey was nominated to remain Chairperson. Linda Hess was nominated as vice-chairperson. David Heiney was nominated as Secretary. Sharon Cashwell motioned to accept the nominations and elect them as nominated. Jeff Snyder seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Fred Shrimp reported that after a few adjustments, the Four Year Plan was approved. Revised copies of the plan were given to the advisory council members. Mr. Shrimp conducted public hearings on the plan at the Clinton County Community Center and The RiverWalk Center and reported good interaction with the older adults that were present at the center.

Mr. Shrimp reviewed the resources and spending sheets prepared to summarize the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 budget. There was very little change from the previous fiscal year. The Pennsylvania Department of Aging (PDA) has not released the allocation amount for Title XIX funding. We anticipate it being similar to the previous fiscal year. On the spending side, the only significant difference is with the I & R and care management cost centers due to new caseworkers training time being charged to I & R. In response to a question regarding continued funding for the APPRISE program, Mr. Shrimp stated there has not been any further word on cutting that funding. Ray reported that PDA thinks they have guaranteed funding for the next three years. Carolyn Bullock made a motion to approve the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 budget. The motion was seconded by Linda Hess and passed unanimously.

Mr. Shrimp reported that although the senior center grant to provide outdoor exercise equipment in the park adjacent to The RiverWalk Center and bicycles to use on the RiverWalk, we are still awaiting the contract and cannot purchase anything until the contract is signed and approved.

STEP Transportation has decided to extend service for trips of our two counties into adjoining counties. The council discussed providing sponsorship for medical trips to adjoining counties that would include destinations such as State College, Lewisburg and Danville. A motion was made by Carolyn Bullock to sponsor medical trips for people age 65 and above to these out of county destinations. Lois Stryker seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Shrimp reviewed the current bus pass program for use of the River Valley buses by those ages 60-64. Riders age 65 and older ride for free due to lottery funding. The bus company requested we change to issuing a 20 bus trip swipe card in order for the trips to be recorded electronically. This would be a change from the current limit of 25 passes per month. A motion was made by Barbara Barger to make the change but allow for more than 20 bus trips per month if it was needed for

medical reasons or senior center participation. The motion was seconded by Carolyn Bullock and passed unanimously.

Mr. Shrimp reported that the Community Health Choice program of DHS awarded contracts to three managed care organizations (MCO): UPMC, Centene, and Health Care Ameritas. Three other MCOs that were not awarded contracts are protesting. DHS says everything is on-track to begin the managed care takeover of long term care services in July 1, 2017. That date could be delayed due to the protest.

Mr. Shrimp reported STEP Office of Aging is participating in the formation of a new non-profit corporation being started by PAAAA in order to negotiate contracts with the MCOs to provide the services we now call the "aging waiver services" after the MCOs take over in our area of the state in 2019.

Mr. Shrimp reported that the level of care assessment discussions continue between PAAAA's Aging Well and DHS on AAAs continuing that assessment function. No progress has been made. DHS is still working on a new assessment tool.

Mr. Shrimp gave an update on the Ombudsman program. We currently have 20 volunteers that help visit nursing facilities and personal care homes. We train residents in those facilities on resident rights and how to advocate on their own behalf. Michelle Koons retired from the ombudsman position at the end of August. Traci Foster who was I&R at Lincoln is now the ombudsman. Michelle is working part-time as Traci's supervisor. Mr. Shrimp could not be the ombudsman supervisor any longer due to new rules. Michelle will work 5 to 10 hours a week as needed.

Mr. Shrimp announced Lori Boos is the new APPRISE coordinator. We currently have about 10 volunteers. APPRISE will be busy with open enrollment for Part D of Medicare from October 15 through December 7.

Mr. Shrimp also announced a new caseworker at the CCCC is Kelsey Umstead.

Mr. Shrimp informed the council of conversations with Loyalsock Township officials about performing a feasibility study at the Loyalsock Community Center to determine if an addition could be added to the building that would house the Loyalsock Montoursville Center. Currently the exercise group uses the Loyalsock Community Center (gym) for the exercise classes every week day morning.

Jane Thompson reported on activities at the centers. She invited everyone to special activities on October 27 at the CCCC to celebrate 5 years since the opening of that center. Treadmills and Recumbent Bicycles are at each of the centers for healthy aging for older adults to use.

Lois Stryker made a motion to adjourn that was seconded by Carolyn Bullock.

Submitted by,

Frederick Shrimp
Aging Director