

Aging Advisory Council Meeting
George C. Meck Center for Healthy Aging, East Lycoming YMCA
April 10, 2019

Members present: David Heiney, Ray Humphrey, Paulette Seitzer, Leslie Houser, Joe Sohmer, Ed Weinoffer, Commissioner Jack McKernan, Rochelle Keefer, Lucille Evans, Nancy Watson and Linda Hess

Members absent: Commissioner Jeff Snyder, Sharon Cashwell

Staff: Frederick Shrimp, Amy Heverly, Jean Sullivan

Meeting started at 1:00pm. Ray Humphrey reviewed the minutes. David Heiney made a motion to approve that was seconded by Nancy Watson and approved unanimously.

Amy Heverly reviewed the guidelines for the Caregiver Support Program (CSP). The program mainly provides reimbursement for expenses such as respite care, consumable supplies, incurred by the caregiver in providing care to a person age 60 or over that is unable to perform at least one activity of daily living for themselves such as bathing or dressing. The program has a grandparenting component. A relative of a child under the age of 18 that has custody of the child and is age 55 or older can also receive reimbursement for qualifying expenses such as seasonal clothing, education expenses, etc. The maximum reimbursement to a caregiver is \$500 per month, but the program cannot exceed an overall average of \$300 per person.

Mr. Shrimp reviewed the FY 2018-2019 budget amendment. Due to understaffing in care management we were unable to get enough older adults into in-home services to spend our full allocation. As a result, for only this fiscal year, the Pennsylvania Department of Aging will reallocate \$70,000 of options services funding and \$30,000 of CSP funds to other AAAs. Spending was adjusted accordingly. The protective services spending increase of \$30,000 is due to adding a third dedicated caseworker in March and overtime due to after hours investigations and increased number of investigations. Rochelle Keefer made a motion to approve the budget revisions. The motion was seconded by Paulette Seitzer and approved unanimously.

Mr. Shrimp announced that the Loyalsock center project is out for bid. The bids will be opened at 2:01 PM on May 10.

Jean Sullivan informed the council of the changes in the long-term care assessment process. April 1 assessors began using a new assessment tool know as the Functional Eligibility Determination (FED). The FED does not include medical information and focuses on functional abilities or what self-care you require assistance with. The FED has a "translator" or formula that determines eligibility as nursing facility clinically eligible (NFCE) or nursing facility ineligible (NFI). The FED was developed by the University of Pittsburgh. The FED takes less time to complete than the former assessment tool. To date, assessors have performed 27 assessments. 20 were NFCE and 7 were NFI.

Community Health Choices (CHC) is beginning to talk about education and outreach to our area as we will enter CHC January 1, 2020. C3 the organization P4A formed to contract with the managed care organizations (MCO) was informed by UPMC of termination of the contract for service coordination. UPMC apparently wants to renegotiate the contract. In the southeast part of the state, Philadelphia Corporation on Aging has formed a separate service coordination agency and has contracts with 2 out of the 3 MCOs.

Mr. Shrimp stated the first of three banquets to celebrate and thank the aging volunteers took place on April 5 at The RiverWalk Center. On April 12 there will be another banquet at The RiverWalk Center for two more centers and other volunteers. On April 29, the final volunteer banquet will be held at the Clinton County Community Center. The award for the most hours will be awarded to a Clinton County volunteer. The award is named for George C. Meck.

The Department of Human Services (DHS) is going to put out a request for bids for the enrollment function for CHC. It appears that DHS may be planning on rolling the assessment function into the enrollment process. P4A is exploring the possibility of AAAs taking on this enrollment function. DHS did tell P4A that the AAAs would have to partner with providers to the under 60 disabled providers to be considered.

Mr. Shrimp distributed to everyone a booklet containing an interview with George C. Meck, news articles and other biographical information. Mr. Shrimp talked about his personal knowledge of George's volunteer experience. In 1987 George was awarded a national volunteer of the year award. The center at the East Lycoming YMCA is named for George in addition to the volunteer of the year award being named for George.

Mr. Shrimp also distributed a brief bio on Eugene Mohr. Eugene (Jean) Mohr was born in Muncy and retired to Muncy after a career in New York involving his artistic skills. In his retirement he frequented the Muncy Inn, 1 South Main Street in Muncy. He painted murals on the walls to pay for food and beverage. STEP owned the building and utilized it as a senior center from the mid-1990s through 2010. STEP preserved some of the murals and they hang at the main STEP office. Some of Jean Mohr's paintings were donated to STEP by the family and now hang in the Meck Center.

Mr. Shrimp announced that the Aging protective services program just had a successful monitoring visit from the Pennsylvania Department of Aging. He also discussed the release of the summary of the report of the Office of State Inspector General on PDA's monitoring of protective services provided by the AAAs. Mr. Humphrey requested a copy of the report be given to the advisory council. Mr. Shrimp agreed to send it.

David Heiney moved to adjourn; Linda Hess seconded the motion.

Submitted by:

Reviewed by:

Frederick Shrimp
Aging Director

David Heiney
Secretary