



## Shawnee County Advocacy Council on Aging

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### August 5, 2009 Meeting Minutes

The Shawnee County Advocacy Council on Aging met August 5, 2009 at the Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging.

#### **Roll Call**

**Members Present :** John Tarlton, Chairman, Betty Ott, Vice- Chairman, Allison Alejos, Esmond Alleyne, Tony Augusto, Cyrene Holt, Nancy Kirk, Don Moses, Jo Ann Mzhickteno, Billy Ott, Jim Snyder, Virginia Tevis, Betty Webster, and Vicki Whitaker.

**Members Absent:** Tony Augusto

**Associate Members Present:** John Homlish, Mary Kerr

**Others Present:** Jocelyn Lyons, Rebecca Williams, Sylvia Hopper, Ken Schmanke, and Melissa Gray

#### **Approval of Minutes:**

John Tarlton called the meeting to order at 9:15 a.m. and requested approval of the minutes of July 1, 2009. Jim Snyder moved for approval of the minutes, seconded by Betty Webster, motion passed.

#### **LIAISON REPORTS**

##### *Let's Help*

Virginia Tevis introduced Ken Schmanke and Melissa Gray (the new Executive Director) from Let's Help. Ken informed the council that the agency has dropped certain programs outside of its core mission, but the program funded by SPE funds remains the same. Last quarter SPE funds to Let's Help served 33 seniors with assistance for utilities, housing, and medical.

The council asked if Melissa Gray would be available to join the council as an associate member, and she responded that she would.

##### *LULAC*

Jim Snyder reported on his site visit to LULAC Senior Center. During 2009, the senior center has provided various services to almost 500 seniors, with the most prevalent service being transportation. LULAC's biggest concerns are funding and operating with older vehicles.

#### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

There were no committee reports.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business

## **SPECIAL REPORTS**

Jim Snyder handed out articles: one on funding in Topeka and one regarding the Silver Alert. Jim suggested that people contact their city council member to ask that funding for senior programs stay in the budget.

Jocelyn said that JAAA and East Topeka along with the other senior centers and Meals on Wheels have to advocate on behalf of their agencies to both the city and the county to ensure that funding is continuous.

Mary Kerr announced that she is leaving East Topeka, and the board of directors has started the process of looking for a new executive director.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Jocelyn Lyons

- RSVP breakfast and information fair will be held October 1 at Fairlawn Mall.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rebecca Williams  
Community Resources Council