



Shawnee County Advocacy Council on Aging
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December 3, 2008
Meeting Minutes

The Shawnee County Advocacy Council on Aging met on December 3, 2008 at the Jayhawk Area Agency on Aging.

Roll Call/Introductions:

Those present were: John Tarlton, Vice-Chair, Betty Ott, Secretary, JoAnn Mzhickteno, Cyrene Holt, Billy Ott, Virginia Tevis, Jim Snyder, Allison Alejos and Don Moses.

Those absent were: Nancy Kirk, Georgina Webb, Betty Webster and Vicki Whitaker.

Associate members: Mary Kerr and Marie Landry.

Others present were: Rebecca Williams, Jocelyn Lyons and Tava Weidenbaker, Hospice Care of Kansas.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

John Tarlton called the meeting to order at 9: 20 a.m. JoAnn Mzhickteno requested a change in the minutes, Marie Landry was listed as others present, she should have been listed as an associate member. It was then moved by Jim Snyder and seconded by Billy Ott to approve the November meeting minutes. Motion carried.

LIAISON REPORTS

Allison Alejos reported on her site visit to Kansas Legal Services. Last year Kansas Legal Services served 319 individuals 60 years of age and older with free legal counsel. Their services are free regardless of income. After the initial contact, clients are seen within 24 hours. Kansas Legal Services are currently fully staffed and helped more clients than projected. They have pro bono attorneys available to help with issues out of their expertise. Don Moses moved that Allison didn't need to create a written report for the board, the motion carried.

Virginia Tevis reported that Let's Help has a new board member and CEO. The new staff is working hard to turn the financial problems of Let's Help around. Their warehouse is currently rented to a Colorado Share Program.

Mary Kerr reported that the current director of the East Topeka Senior Center has resigned after it became known that there was some misappropriation of funds from the centers budget. There

will be an audit of the books and the board is working hard to get the center back to normal.

Tava Weidenbaker introduced herself and told the board a little about Hospice Care of Kansas. This program has been in Topeka for one year and has 14 outreach clinics in all parts of the state. They are located in the Brookwood Shopping Center.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cyrene Holt reported the nominating committee met on Dec. 2nd and presented a slate of officers to the board for approval. John Tarlton, Chair, Betty Ott, vice-chair, JoAnn Mzhickteno, secretary. She then opened the floor for other nominations, there were none. Cyrene then moved the board accept the nominations, Don Moses seconded. The motion carried.

Cyrene also mentioned that we are in need of more board members. John Tarlton has one interested, he will give that person an application. Board members were asked to find people who might be interested in serving and have them fill out an application.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mary Kerr asked if anyone was interested in being a personal shopper for the Christmas Bureau to contact the United Way.

SPECIAL REPORTS

Jocelyn Lyons reported the needs assessments were going well in Jefferson and Douglas counties. Shawnee county needed more input. There were some suggestions from the floor for more focus groups.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jocelyn stated JAAA is offering after hours times for Medicare Part D enrollment. They are also offering times the 1st and 3rd Saturdays of December.

The snow removal program has signed a contract with the city again for this year.

The rebate on water, gas and electric bills will go to those who qualify for the Homestead refund program. Credits will be given for the months of May thru December of 2008.

JAAA met with SRS to work on a resolution on the handling of paper work for those eligible for Medicare.

It was moved by Cyrene Holt and seconded by Billy Ott to adjourn the meeting. The meeting ended at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Betty Ott
SCACA Secretary