

Minutes
Bexar Senior Advisory Committee
Friday, February 10, 2006 – 10:00 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sharon Baughman
Julia Castellano-Hoyt
Laura Cisneros
Alex Davila rep by Pat Hoenscheid
Elsa Davis
Ed Dylla
Victor Garcia
Hon. Ruth Jones McClendon rep by Sandra Sapenter
Marcia Katz
Ida Kenny
Yvonne Lozano
Winn Murnin
Sterling Neuman
Victoria Palm
Nancy Rheams
Alicia Rodriguez
Steve Saldana
John Sampson
Rev. Gene Sheppard
George Walton Jr.
Dorothy Jo Weiss
Mary Will
Lucille Wohlfarth

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Chris Alderete
Ernie Lopez
Tito V. Moreno
Donald Moye
Irene Rodriguez
J. Elaine Talarski

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

None

1. Call to Order – The meeting was called to order by Sterling Neuman, Chairman.
2. Roll Call – Roll call was taken as reflected above.
3. Consider and act upon approval of the Minutes of January 13, 2006 – Upon consideration, a motion was made by Mr. Sampson to approve the minutes as presented. Motion was seconded by Ms. Wohlfarth and passed.
4. Citizens to be Heard (Limit to Three Minutes) - None
5. Director's Report – Carol Zernial, Bexar Area Agency on Aging Director - Ms. Zernial referred BSAC members to the handouts included in the packet and provided information on the following:
 - Recent approval of the FY2007 \$39.7 billion budget reconciliation bill (S. 1932) in which they finalized the Medicaid cuts that will affect beneficiaries.
 - Budget update on FY2007 Older American's Act Title/Programs
 - Update on Medicare Rx Prescription Drug Coverage

Ms. Zernial proceeded to inform BSAC members on the newly established AACOG Aging and Disability Resource Center (ARDC). AACOG has had a Regional Access Plan for a number of years that staff has been working on to help get community providers where the consumers do not have to repeat their demographic data numerous times, i.e. name, address, nature of call, etc. so that referrals may be made among providers. The City of San Antonio and Bexar County are working on a one-stop that will help integrate City and County services. Above this will be an Aging and Disability Resource Center that is a one-stop shop for aging, persons with disabilities, and mental retardation. AACOG will receive federal and state funds to create this one-stop here at AACOG and it will be a physical and virtual co-location of programs, public resources that serve the elderly, persons with disabilities and persons with mental retardation. The Mental Retardation Authority will come to AACOG sometime this year and there will be links to the old legacy DHS offices as well as other providers. Ms. Zernial referred BSAC members to the handout and reported on the Goals and Vision and Milestones of ARDC.

6. Special Reports

1. Medicaid Estate Recovery – Ms. Tina Smith provided a brief overview on the new revised documents for the Medicaid Estate Recovery Program designed to help pay for long term care services that are paid for by the State. This program affects only long-term care services received after the age of 55 and only if they first applied for these services after March 1, 2005. If a person applied for and received these services before March 1, 2005, then the Medicaid Estate Recovery Program (MERP) does not affect them. Ms. Smith proceeded to identify the services and programs affected by MERP. A copy of the handout has been filed with the official minutes.

7. Subcommittee Status Reports

- A. Access & Assistance – Mr. George Walton presented the following TRACS applications received:

1. Greater Randolph Area Services Program, Inc. (GRASP) “GRASP Transit.” Funding: Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Grant (Section 5310) \$ 11,646 Recommendation: Favorable Review
2. Kirby Senior Center “Kirby Senior Center.” Funding: Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Grant (Section 5310) \$44,800 Recommendation: Favorable Review
3. Presa Community Service Center “Presa Community Center.” Funding: Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Grant (Section 5310) \$ 30,400 Recommendation: Favorable Review
4. St. Gregory The Great Parish “St. Gregory the Great Catholic Church.” Funding: Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Grant (Section 5310) \$65,703 Recommendation: Favorable Review
5. Warm Springs Rehabilitation Foundation, Inc. “Resource Center.” Funding: Federal Transit Administration (FTA) Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Grant (Section 5310) \$ 133,600 Recommendation: Favorable Review

- B. Allocations and Monitoring – No action at this time.

- C. Family Caregiver Support Program – Ms. Nancy Rheams reported that there were no action items at this time. Ms. Rheams further commented that there will be a Quarterly Family Caregiver Training scheduled for Wednesday, Feb. 22, 2006. (copy of flyer attached to minutes).

- D. Information and Special Events - Ms. Sharon Baughman informed that the subcommittee has not met; however, this year for Older American’s Month scheduled in May, there will be an Ice Cream Social scheduled May 12, 2006.

- E. Long Term Care – Ms. Vickie Palm reported that on May 18th, there will be a 2006 Symposium, Older American’s Breakfast tentatively scheduled at the University of Incarnate Word. Ms. July Clinco will be the guest speaker and the target audience will be the direct care staff, direct caregivers, federal and state officials, elected officials and education.

9. Informational Items – Ms. Laura Cisneros reported on the City and the County Bob Ross Multi-Purpose One-Stop Center. At this time, she introduced Mr. Pete McKennan as Special Projects Coordinator to oversee the project. At this time Mr. McKennan reported that the facility will be 2200 sq. ft and located at 2200 Babcock Rd. This will be a multi-purpose center for seniors, there will be a pool, computer lab, exercise room, library, health department will be housed there as well to perform health screenings. The final architectural plans will be available at the end of February.

10. Adjournment – There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.