

Rhode Island Governor's Commission on Aging
Minutes of the Meeting of September 19, 2012

Members Present:

Joan Crawley, Bill Finelli, Sister Marietta Walsh, Sue Robbio, Rev. Paul Bliss, Madeline Ernest, Esther Price, Rick Ryan and Helena Friedmann

State Staff Present:

Larry Grimaldi, DEA he apologized for Ms. Taylor's absence.

1- Call to Order:

Rick Ryan, the Chair, called the meeting to order at 10:08 am.

2- Approval of Previous Two Meetings' Minutes

A correction to the minutes of June 20, 2012: two names were not recorded; they are Helena Friedmann and Rick Ryan.

Motion to approve the minutes was made by Sister Marietta, seconded by Bill Finelli and approved unanimously.

3- Treasurer's Report

Balance on hand is \$109.59. Account maintenance fee is pending.

4- Membership Drive

Rick Ryan informed that currently we have only 10 members out of the 20 mandated.

Nancy Pontes resigned (health reasons) and Helena Friedmann is moving out of the State.

Mary Jane McNulty and Ken Reynolds have not been present at our last three meetings.

He stated that we need to have people that have a commitment to the members of the commission and to its mission. He thanked the ad-hoc search committee, consistent of Joan Crawford, Susan Robbio and Susan Adler, for their work; they have contacted three excellent candidates: Mr. Bill Flint, Mr. Jim Nyberg and Mr. Nasciminto. According to Larry they already have sent all the information to the Governor's office in order to be appointed.

A conversation followed and names of candidates were brought to the table. Rick requested that suggested possible candidates and organizations be sent to any of the members of the committee.

Larry will check with Christine Phillipa the list of the members and the expiration date of their appointment. It was also suggested that Ryan send a letter to the three candidates thanking them for their consideration, sending a short history of the commission and to inform them of the schedule meeting on the third Wednesday of every month.

Ryan would like us to consider the option of having a meeting with a facilitator to help us focus on the course of the organization.

All members present today checked the information on the record and corrected as needed.

5- News from the Network

Larry attended an NASUAD conference in Washington; he presented an Award to RI's Senior Journal. He attended some lectures and this year the emphasis was on Elderly Abuse, especially in Financial Exploitation.

This week is "Falls Prevention Week" and the activities include: an article in the Senior Digest, a radio program with John Casio, 5,000 placemats sent to the Nutrition Centers, a TV Cable program through URI and information through RIC.

6- Old Business

Commission member Sister Marietta reported on a meeting: "Integrate Care for Dual Eligible". It is a program from the Center for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS); it will deal with individuals that are eligible for both Medicare and Medicaid. The states are to develop a managed care program that in agreement with CMS will coordinate care for both of them.

RI is one of 15 states selected to develop new ways to lower cost and at the same time eliminate duplication of services and expand the access to care - especially of high risk people. The time line includes: apply for grants to CMS, have a plan by January 2013 and implement it by January of 2014. The benefits under consideration, all 40 of them, include a wide range, from Meals on Wheels to pharmacy to transportation, from nursing home care to mental health to shared living and hospice. They are many issues to be considered especially the Nursing Home Care and the high risk people whether disable or elderly. By January 2013 the client identification should be in process and there are three task forces set up to help with this and the selling of the program; there will be a lot of confusion about it, the elderly will have a hard time understanding clearly the facts to make a decision and there is no plan to deal with the language barriers. Volunteer enrollment should be ready by 2013. No information was given about who will manage and monitor the quality of the program.

7- New Business

It is important that we let it know that the Governor knows that we exist and we have the access to his ear personally or through DEA Director Catherine Taylor. We could work together to a common goal for the 2012/2013 session including the possibility of a forum on aging.

8- Adjournment

Meeting was adjourn at 11:45 AM

Thank you to Tamarisk Assisted Living for their hospitality and to recently retired Beverly ... for all her kindness to the Commission.

Add in the e-mail when you send the minutes to the members that Sister Marietta went to a meeting "Senior Awareness" and got the following information:

1- Nursing homes are getting together under a new home care called **Pinnacle**

2- If you want to get information about the "Integrated Care" Google

EOHHS (www.eohhs.ri.gov) and link into intergraded care; there is plenty of information there.

There is also integratedcare@ohhs.ri.gov