

# AGING SERVICES COUNCIL

Minutes: February 7, 2008

**Time:**

8:30 – 10:30 a.m.

Location: St. David's Foundation

**Attendees:**

Lisa Kerber	SDCHF	Kim Blackburn	United Way Capital Area
Carol Johnson	TCC	Patricia Bordie	AAACAP
Marjorie Mulanax	HA	Ellennita Hellmer	Austin Diocese
Jason Earle		Katy Kappel	HAND
Connie Beran		Willie Williams	HHSD
Karen Wilson	Safe Place	Jean Teel	Faith in Action Caregivers
Courtney Greenberg	Amerigroup	Rachel Portnoy	APS
Shalmah Ross		Joyce Hefner	Family Eldercare
Christian Wells	Alzheimer's Association	Eva Church	AGE/CRC
Margarine Beaman	Retirees Coord Bd	Jessica Irving	Catholic Charities
Della Sprager	RSVP		
Z Blair	APS		
Korey Darling	Travis Co. HHS&VS		
Andrew Shell	WBCO		
Annette Juba	Greater Austin Cares		
Jeff Kaller	AGE		

**Items covered:**

1. Welcome and Introductions – Jeff Kaller introduced as ASC support.
2. Review of Minutes: - Lisa K motioned for approval of Minutes from December, approved.
3. Membership Update: - Invitations to join sent to Hospice Austin, Urban League, Catholic Charities, WBCO, Samaritan Counseling Center, Capital Area Food Bank, Alzheimer's Assoc., Connie Beran Concordia University, and Bastrop County Family Crisis Center. New attendees from Hospice, Catholic Charities, WBCO, Alzheimer's Assoc., Concordia, present. Samaritan Counseling would like to attend but has a conflicting meeting. Capital Area Food Bank going through staff change so new contact has been recommended for follow up. Bastrop center is interested in meeting, too. No response yet from Urban League. Joyce will follow up with those contacted and asked for any other potential new members to be sent to her.
4. Retreat Follow up: Please fill out Zoomerang Survey sent out by Korey to give feedback on the team that led the Retreat.
  - We reviewed the current/ongoing projects and top 3 projects from the retreat. New projects are mapping services, e-news update, and handyman/chore collaboration. We discussed that education and advocacy are common themes running through these activities. We also need to complete work on Vision and Mission and resolution of Social Isolation project.
  - Vision/Mission group: Plan is to put this on the Steering Committee for the March 10 Steering Committee meeting. Because of Spring Break it is proposed that the steering committee be moved to March 3. Those interested in this activity should attend the meeting.

- ❑ The resolution of the Social Isolation project will also be discussed at the March Steering Committee meeting.
  - ❑ Mapping Group- We have old data that we can use to build on from a project done by Korey Darling when she was an intern. Rachel has interns that can help with this project during the semester. With use of interns we will need to get the group active so they can complete their assignment by May. Korey, Rachel Portnoy, Willie Williams, and Liz Guernsey are members assigned to the project. Korey will set up the first meeting.
  - ❑ E-newsletter: Annette Juba, Christian Wells, Lisa Kerber interested in this project. Can look at examples of existing formats. Use the KLRU depression event (Out of Darkness, May 21) and Older Americans month as focus areas. Annette will set up first meeting. Set up ASC as source of e-mails for this
  - ❑ Handyman/Chore collaboration: Lisa K. stated that this is a project St. David's Foundation is willing to support. Caregivers groups had been discussing but barriers exist regarding liability. The services needed are those that require more skill than currently being provided by existing organizations (example: plumbing). Kim Blackburn (211), Linda Perez with MOW, Katy Kappel with HAND, Rachel Portnoy with APS, Patricia Bordie, Willie Williams, and Jeannie Teel with WACG interested in group. Kim will schedule first meeting.
  - ❑ Katy asked about two issues not ranked in the top 3 groups of council priority but still ranked by the group as an area of interest. These are the caregiver issues and the legislative issues. Joyce H commented that the caregiver issue was important to the group and also included the caregiver workforce and that these two areas are themes that run through the groups projects. The group agreed that legislative and caregiver issues should be brought up at meetings as needed. Katy has taken the lead on sponsoring a Town Hall meeting regarding needs of elderly and will continue this. She will provide updates to the group as this develops.
  - ❑ Several members commented that the criteria for successful projects defined at our retreat should be used as a guide but agreed we did not expect each project to meet all criteria.
5. Treasurer's Report: - Joyce H. gave update as Liz G could not be at the meeting. Joyce said Liz had sent an e-mail update but she forgot to print it out and bring it to the meeting. She will e-mail out with minutes. The money in the account has increased due to the funding to support the PSA project and the support position.
6. Committee Reports: -FAQ: The FAQ is linked to the website. Any organization wishes to get copies should call Brenda Arens with CAN.  
 -Telephone Survey: Lisa K gave update. The survey will cover Travis, Williamson, and Hays counties. She provided a handout on the project timeline and what is needed from the council members. We need to help with modifications of questions if needed and communicating results to the community. Those interested should e-mail Lisa Kerber.  
 -PSA-Transportation project: Carol and Jeannie gave an overview of the project. The funding for the project is worked out and there will be occasional need for people to provide input on the project. They are seeking to remove logos on the current PSA to make it more versatile. They will request assistance as needed.
7. Old/New Business: Joyce H. gave an overview at the beginning of the meeting that Jeff Kaller has joined us as staff support to the council activities. The position is paid for by the St. David's Foundation. Currently Joyce Lauck, the lead chair is set up to supervise Jeff. Jeff is an employee of AGE and this set up will make it easier for the lead to supervise. When Joyce H is lead chair it is likely an employee from Family Eldercare will take over the duties. The assistant is responsible for taking minutes, helping with projects, and keeping the website updated. To avoid potential

conflicts and problems scheduling work, all requests for Jeff's time should go through Joyce L or Joyce H.

-Update on Request to City: Willie provided the update. A proposal to support caregiver education was submitted to City HHS staff but is on hold for now. The city is holding any decision to spend discretionary funds until it determines the impact of recent funding decision made by the United Way.

-Katy commented that there are other issues related to transportation that the ASC should keep up with. One example is housing not located near bus lines and transportation infrastructure.

-Jeannie Teel informed the group that two new Caregiver groups are forming. One is in Elgin and one is SW Travis County (Oak Hill area).

-We discussed that the Austin Mayor's Committee on People with Disabilities has requested that an ASC member come to one of their regular meetings. The group agreed that we have common interests with the group and should look for opportunities to work together. Examples are with working caregivers and transportation. A member from the steering committee will be assigned to the presentation.

8. Announcements: An announcement about the Leadership Summit (KLRU Depression/Mental Health project) will be sent out soon. Please make sure you are involved and forward to anyone who might be interested.

-Andrew Shell announced that the Round rock Adult Day care has been getting media attention due to concerns that it will have to close. Things are looking better and he will keep the ASC informed.

-Eva C announced an upcoming training at AGE on 3/18 for "fighting siblings."

9. Next Meeting: April 3<sup>rd</sup> at 8:30am. Location: St. David's Foundation.