

Minutes
Alamo Area Council of Governments
Alamo Senior Advisory Committee Meeting
September 14, 2007 – 1:00 p.m.
Al J. Notzon III Boardroom
8700 Tesoro Drive, Suite 100
San Antonio, TX 78217

Members

Regina Applewhite, present
Judge Diana Bautista, present
Ann Gay Bishop, present
Marilyn Bullock, present
Yvonne Coronado, absent
Patrice Doerries, present
Barbara Effenberger, excused
Darlene Evans, absent
Dr. Robert Fitzgerald, present
Ginny Funk, present
Irma Gonzalez, present

Carolyn Goodall, absent
Cyndy Hahn, excused
Margie Jetton, present
Robert Lopez, present
Lisa Loya, present
Beverly Lutz, present
Genevieve Manley, absent
Bill MacAllister, present
JoAnn McFarland, present
Ysabela Pena, present
Eleanor Preston, absent

Lavern Peterson, absent
Lucille Rochs, present
Irene Scholz, present
Carolyn Stauss, present
Denise Usener, present
Raymond White, present
Tina Woods, absent
Opal Word, excused
Dona Yanta, absent

Guests

Pam Thatcher, Silver Sage

Staff

Debbie Billa, Director
Julie Sakelakos
Alvin Arada
Evangeline Diaz
Henri Eaton

Suzanne Ruff
Trish Slaton
Nanci Struble
Candy Walsh
Maria Wilson

1. Meeting Called to Order.

Ginny Funk called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

2. Roll Call.

Ann Gay Bishop took roll call. Twenty (20) members were present.

3. Citizens to be heard.

None.

4. Approval of Minutes for September 14, 2007.

Lucille Rochs moved to approve the minutes of September 14, 2007. Carolyn Stauss seconded the motion. Motion carried.

5. Director's Report.

The Director's report was sent in the packet. Debbie Billa announced that the new programs "A Matter of Balance" and "My Health Matters" are being well received. New participant & coach training classes will be starting after the first of the year; more information on the dates and locations will be forthcoming.

Debbie also stated that the House and Senate will be voting on an increase in the OAA (Older Americans Act) funding which has been combined with the Labor and HSS bills. It looks very good.

6. Staff Report, Medicare Check-up.

Suzanne Ruff, Ombudsman/Elder Rights Specialist for Alamo AAA gave a report on Medicare Part D. Open enrollment is January 1 thru March 31. If anyone is interested in a presentation or more information, contact Suzanne at (210) 362-5223.

7. Staff Report, FY 2007 Residential Repair Activities.

Maria Wilson, Geriatric Care Specialist for Alamo AAA, gave a report on FY07 Residential Repair activities. The partnership with the Texas Ramp Project has been very good. In the past only 1-2 ramps a year have been built due to the expense. With the Texas Ramp Project we have been able to construct 19 ramps from May through September, in several counties, with the help of volunteers and limited funding. If you know of anyone in need of a ramp or would like to volunteer, please contact Maria at (210) 362-5276.

8. Consider and act upon the Nominations Committee Report.

A. 2008 Alamo Senior Advisory Committee Officers

A motion was made by Lucille Rochs to approve the following officers; Ginny Funk, Alzheimer's Association as Chairperson, Robert Lopez, Comal County Senior Citizens Foundation as Vice Chairperson and Ann Gay Bishop, Silver Sage Corral Senior Activity Center as Secretary for 2008. Marilyn Bullock seconded the motion. Motion carried.

B. New Members

The following new members were accepted by the committee; At-Large Members-Christine Cervera, Health and Human Services Commission, Kelley Gallant, Catholic Charities, and County Representative-Margie Jetton, Kerr County, replacing Mr. Weinberg.

9. Consider and act upon 2008 Meeting Dates.

A motion was made by Marilyn Bullock to approve the list of 2008 meeting dates. The Honorable Judge Diana Bautista seconded the motion. Motion carried.

10. Consider and act upon FY2008 New Vendors and rates.

A motion was made by Bill MacAllister to approve the FY2008 New Vendors and rates. Irma Gonzalez seconded the motion. Motion carried.

11. Information Items.

Robert Lopez announced that Comal County Senior Citizens Center received a grant for Senior Outreach Services to reach seniors that are homebound and assess all their needs. Also, they will be partnering with The Scooter Store for their 1st Annual Thanksgiving Luncheon from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., free for anyone 50+ on Wednesday, November 21st.

Ann Gay Bishop announced that the Silver Sage Corral Senior Activity Center is co-sponsoring with Bandera Area Foundation an a.m. workshop assisting with grant writing and an afternoon session with Tom McGuire as speaker.

Carolyn Stauss announced that the Senior Centers in the Alamo Area counties and a few of the Bexar County HDM centers are working on creating a buying coop to help them acquire their supplies and food at a better rate, which means they will be able to serve more clients.

Ginny Funk announced that November is National Alzheimer's Awareness Month. They will be partnering with the Texas Diabetes Institute, focusing on Hispanics. Also, on November 27th they will have the Candlelight Ceremony at the University of the Incarnate Word.

Debbie Billa announced that November is also National Family Caregivers Month.

12. Next Meeting Date.

The next meeting will be held on January 11, 2008, in the Al J. Notzon III Board Room at 1:00 p.m.

13. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.