



Funded through the Texas Department of Aging and Disability Services
Alamo Area Council of Governments

Minutes of the Alamo Senior Advisory Committee Meeting Alamo Area Council of Governments

January 13, 2006 – 1:00 p.m.

AACOG Board Room
8700 Tesoro Dr., Ste 100, San Antonio, TX 78217
(210) 362-5200 / (866) 231-4922

Members

Linda Lee Davis, present
Ginny Funk, present
Carolyn Goodall, present
John Halloran, absent
Genevieve Manley, absent
Judge Diana Bautista, present
Raymond White, absent
Opal Word, present
Bonnie Flagg, present
Irma Gonzalez, present
Ysabela Pena, present

Lucille Rochs, present
Yvonne Coronado, absent
Darlene Evans, present
Cheryl Bush, excused
Linda Gonzales, present
Charles Donellan, present
Robert Weinberg, present
Regina Applewhite, present
Becky Byerly, present
Sherilynn Vineyard, present
Robert Lopez, present
Laura Tuttle, present

Beverly Lutz, excused
Carolyn Stauss, present
Denise Usener, present
Pamela Vann, present
Tina Woods, present
Glen Peterson, excused
Barbara Effenberger, present
JoAnn McFarland, present

Guests/Visitors

Louie Alvarado, Alzheimer's
Association

Staff

Debbie Billa
Carol Zernial
Julie Sakelakos
Maria Wilson
Suzanne Ruff

Nanci Struble
Candy Walsh
Alvin Arada
Henri Eaton

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Carolyn Stauss called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

II. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Carolyn Stauss welcomed members and guests.

III. ROLL CALL

Bonnie Flagg took roll call. Twenty-four (24) members were present.

IV. CITIZENS TO BE HEARD

None

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Darlene Evans moved to approve the minutes of December 9, 2005. Honorable Judge Diana Bautista seconded the motion. Motion carried with two (2) abstentions.

VI. SWEARING IN OF 2006 ALAMO SENIOR ADVISTORY COMMITTEE OFFICERS

Jack Leonhardt, Mayor of Windcrest and Vice Chair of the AACOG Board of Directors, swore in the following new and reappointed committee members: Robert Weinberg-Kerr County Representative, Charles Donnelan-Kerr County Representative and Opal Word-Bandera County Representative. He then gave the oath of office to the following new officers: Charles Donnelan, Chairperson; Ginny Funk, Vice-Chairperson; and Bonnie Flagg, Secretary. Charles Donnelan took over control of the meeting at this point.

VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Debbie Billa reported on the Medicare Drug Prescription program. The enrollment is very low and there have been problems encountered by beneficiaries at their first trip to the pharmacy. Candy Walsh, Alamo Information and Referral Specialist, was congratulated on her efforts with helping with these issues. We are really trying to reach homebound seniors to get them enrolled. The Federal budget for the funding of the Older Americans' Act has been finalized with a 1% cut, which means less money across the board. The new state call centers for Integrated Eligibility will be implemented shortly in Travis and Hays counties. Debbie also wanted everyone to be aware that the Estate Recovery Program, which was implemented on March 1, 2005, for people receiving Medicaid funded long-term care services, will be starting actual recovery efforts shortly. Debbie also announced that Bexar AAA has received a grant from DADS for an Aging and Disability Resource Center. Hopefully in the future the surrounding counties will benefit from this program. We will have an orientation next month for all the new committee members and those other members who wish to attend. Debbie distributed a list of meeting dates for this year.

VIII. PRESENTATION-WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON AGING-CAROL ZERNIAL AND BARBARA EFFENBERGER

Carol Zernial and Barbara Effenberger gave a presentation at the White House Conference on Aging in Washington D.C., which was a three-day event. Carol stated that the number one resolution was the re-authorization of the Older Americans Act. Barbara handed out the Resolution Vote Tally and discussed the way they held their meetings. She also brought back brochures that she displayed for everyone to look at in the back of the room, relating to senior issues. The value of the conference was that everyone seemed to agree on what the top issues were so they can bring these issues back to you and start working on how they might be implemented. One of the key messages that Barbara learned was the change in the demographics as the population ages. Also discussed were the issues that will become important as our children live longer lives. The 60-year-old population will double in 20 years and they have found a major concern of seniors is that they want to live as independently for as long as possible. The follow-up on this conference will be a Texas Conference on Aging which will be in El Paso on May 1-3, 2006. Barbara stated that she and any of the participants are available to share with any group on what they learned at this conference.

IX. REPORTS

A. RURAL PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION LIAISON

None. Carolyn Goodall stated that there would be a bid awarded for vehicles and ART will be applying for additional vehicles for their program. They will be awarded an Elderly and Persons with Disabilities Grant that will be for two more vehicles and also some maintenance grants.

B. TEXAS SILVER-HAIRED LEGISLATORS (TSHL)

The TSHL has six more months left in their 2-year term. JoAnn McFarland represents Atascosa, Wilson and Karnes Counties; Glen Peterson represents Kerr, Kendal, and Gillespie Counties; Barbara Effenberger represents Guadalupe and Comal Counties, and there is currently a vacancy for the area of Bandera, Frio and Medina Counties. The elections will be held on May 23, 2006. A candidate must be 60 years of age, a registered voter, and reside in the area that they would represent, and be willing to serve and travel at your their expense. Those interested should see Debbie for an application form.

C. ALAMO AREA AGENCY ON AGING PROGRAM REPORTS

Program reports were sent out in the packets. No questions were asked of staff.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

None

IX. NEW BUSINESS (ACTION ITEMS)

A. FY06 MEMBERS

Debbie has sent letters to all the county judges for the vacancies that we currently have on the committee and has received favorable responses. We have the reappointment of Judge Diana Bautista for Atascosa County, new appointments of Lucille Rochs and Yvonne Coronado and alternate of Carol Smith for Gillespie County, reappointments of Ysabela Pena and Irma Gonzalez for Frio County, reappointment of Darlene Evans and new appointment of Bill MacAllister for Guadalupe County and a new at large member, Karen Bailey from Adult Protective Services.

A motion was made by Carolyn Stauss to approve the new FY06 members. JoAnn McFarland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

B. RECOMMENDATIONS OF TSHL ELECTION COMMITTEE

The committee recommends that the districts remain the same for the 11 counties. Debbie handed out the Notice of election forms for TSHL and asked everyone to post them in their facilities.

A motion was made by Lucille Rochs to keep the same four districts, with one representative in each district. Irma Gonzalez seconded the motion. Motion carried.

C. REQUEST FROM RAINBOW SENIOR CENTER TO TRANSFER \$10,000 FROM HOME DELIVERED TO CONGREGATE MEALS.

A motion was made by Linda Gonzales to approve the request from Rainbow Senior Center to transfer \$10,000 from home delivered to congregate meals. Linda Lee Davis seconded the motion. Motion carried.

X. PUBLIC COMMENTS / INFORMATION ITEMS

Louis Alvarado of Alzheimer's Associations introduced himself to the new members of the committee. He announced that Alzheimer's Association, in conjunction with Alamo Area Agency on Aging, would be opening a new Caregiver Resource Center in Lytle on January 30. He discussed how they advertise the locations of these resource centers in all the areas and also that he is available to speak to groups.

Barbara Effenberger stated that the TSHL Foundation is having a fundraiser "Politically Incorrect Evening at Ester's Follies" on February 14th. Please see Barbara for details on how you can help support this foundation.

Darlene Evans stated that they are hosting a health fair at Autumn Winds Retirement Lodge on January 21st. Someone will also be there discussing Medicare Part D and blood pressure screening, etc. Also see her if anyone needs help with dis-enrolling auto-enrolled seniors in the Medicare Part D prescription program.

Debbie stated that the Health and Human Services Commission is having a meeting relating to the call center rollout on January 20, 2006, at 3:00 pm at the Region 20 Center off I35 and Harry Hines Blvd.

XI. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting will be Friday, February 10, 2006, at 1:00 p.m. in the AACOG Boardroom.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Robert Weinberg to adjourn the meeting. Carolyn Goodall seconded the motion. Motion approved. Charles Donellan adjourned the meeting at 2:07 p.m.