

Minutes
Alamo Area Council of Governments
Alamo Senior Advisory Committee Meeting
July 11, 2008 – 1:00 p.m.
Al J. Notzon III Boardroom
8700 Tesoro Drive, Suite 100
San Antonio, TX 78217-6228

Members

Regina Applewhite, present	Kelley Gallant, excused	Ysabela Pena, excused
Judge Diana Bautista, excused	Carolyn Goodall, absent	Eleanor Preston, excused
Ann Gay Bishop, absent	Cyndy Hahn, present	Lavern Peterson, absent
Marilyn Bullock, present	Margie Jetton, excused	Lucille Rochs, present
Christine Cervera, absent	Robert Lopez, present	Irene Scholz, present
Patrice Doerries, excused	Lisa Loya, present	Diane Sides, absent
Barbara Effenberger, excused	Beverly Lutz, present	Carolyn Stauss, present
Darlene Evans, present	Genevieve Manley, present	Denise Usener, present
Angela Fiedler, present	Bill MacAllister, excused	Raymond White, present
Dr. Robert Fitzgerald, absent	JoAnn McFarland, excused	Tina Woods, present
Ginny Funk, excused	Sara Picardo (Alt), present	Opal Word, excused

Guests

Dawn Lee, Dietert Center
Tina Ramos, VistaCare Hospice
June Russell, Experience Works
BJ Burns, Experience Works
Sue Dritsch, Experience Works
B. Fortin, Experience Works

Staff

Debbie Billa, Director
Julie Sakelakos
Alvin Arada
Evangeline Diaz

Henri Eaton
Trish Slaton
Nanci Struble

1. Meeting Called to Order.

Robert Lopez, Vice Chairperson called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m.

2. Roll Call.

Julie Sakelakos took roll call. Sixteen (16) members were present.

3. Citizens to be heard.

DJ Burns from Experience Works introduced members that were present and stated that they were interested in what ASAC was doing and how they could help.

4. Approval of Minutes for May 9, 2008.

Lucille Rochs moved to approve the minutes of May 9, 2008. Tina Woods seconded the motion. Motion carried.

5. Presentation: Hospice Services, Alan Marsico and Tina Ramos, VistaCare Hospice

Alan Marsico and Tina Ramos gave a presentation on the VistaCare Hospice services and handed out a brochure.

6. Discussion Item: Legislative Priority Recommendations, 2009 Texas Legislative Session.

Rate Cap on home delivered meals
Senior Mental Health funding if specific services increase and access
Incentive to support physicians in rural communities
Public Transportation; seniors, shopping and medical, funding
Public Housing; affordable, with handicap accessibility
Attendant Care/Caregiver Support; access to benefits
Preventive Care/Wellness
Planning for an Aging Population
Health & Human Services funding
Long Term Care funding; rates (Medicaid)
Long Term Care facilities
Cost of medications
Respite Care
Major Home repairs

In September sub-committee will sort through these suggestions and see which ones should go to the state or federal, and come back with a suggestion for a legislative priority agenda.

7. Director's Report.

The Director's complete report was sent in the packet. Debbie Billa stated that the Medicare bill passed the Senate. This bill had many components to it including raised the mental health reimbursement under Medicare, more funding for outreach for Medicare Low Income Subsidy. We were notified by DADS that we will be receiving targeted funding specifically for outreach in the counties for the Medicare Saving program and Medicare Low Income Subsidy for Medicare Part D. Medicare has also started a Durable Medical Equipment pilot project that will be done in the Dallas area. A study was done and they found Medicare was paying higher costs than private pay on medical durable equipment. On August 5th & 6th there will be a Medicare Training in Kerrville at the YO Hilton.

8. Consider and act upon TRACS review for a continuation grant, Texas Lutheran University RSVP program in the amount of \$103,542.

Marilyn Bullock made a motion to accept TRACS review for a continuation grant for the Texas Lutheran University RSVP program in the amount of \$103,542. Darlene Evans, seconded the motion. Motion approved.

9. Consider and act upon authorizing the Executive Director to apply for a Department of Aging and Disability Services grant, RFP #539-08-33519. Grant funding is for \$100,000 each year for two years to establish an Aging and Disability Resource Center in the Alamo AAA region.

Lucille Rochs made a motion to authorize the Executive Director to apply for a Department of Aging and Disability Services grant, RFP #539-08-3351. Marilyn Bullock seconded the motion. Motion approved.

10. Information Items.

Carolyn Stauss announced that she and a board member from Rainbow Senior Center went to Dallas and had a meeting with Mr. T. Boone Pickens about donating to their building fund.

11. Next Meeting Date.

The next meeting will be held on September 12, 2008, in the Al J. Notzon III Board Room at 1:00 p.m.

12. Adjournment.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.