

Minutes
Bexar Senior Advisory Committee Meeting
Friday, June 13, 2008 – 10:00 a.m.
Al J. Notzon III Board Room
8700 Tesoro Drive
San Antonio, TX 78217-6228

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sharon Baughman
Jana Cragg
Elsa Davis
Ed Dylla
Victor Garcia
Ruth N. Garcia
Patti Gunter
Milo Hoenscheid
Laurin Lee Jimenez
Tito Villalobos Moreno
Donald B. Moye
Dean M. Murphy
Steve Saldana
Jimmy Toubin
George Walton
Mary Will
Lucille Wohlfarth

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Chris Alderete
Alex Davila
Hon. Ruth Jones McClendon
Marcia A. Katz represented by Barbara Fromme
Ida Kenny
Ernie Lopez
Barry Muth
Victoria Palm
Marolyn Stubblefield represented by Julia Castellano-Hoyt
J. Elaine Talarski
Dorothy Jo Weiss

1. Call to Order – Ms. Mary Will
2. Roll Call – Ms. Ruth Garcia (she welcomed back Lucille Wohlfarth)
3. Consider and act upon approval of the minutes of June 13, 2008. Steve Saldana recommended minutes be amended to include names of members present and absent for the meeting. Upon consideration, a motion was made to approve the minutes as amended.
4. There were no citizens to be heard.
5. Chairperson's Report – Ms. Mary Will
 - Ms. Mary Will invited all BSAC alternates to sit at the main table up front, especially if they are representing a BSAC member who is absent. She also announced there would be no July meeting.

6. Director's Report – Ms. Carol Zernial, Bexar Area Agency on Aging Director

- The Safety of Seniors Act passed – this is legislature to help prevent falls among seniors by encouraging research, evaluating programs and supporting demonstration programs. We have A Matter of Balance program that we operate all over Bexar County and we are one of seventeen AAA's that offer this falls prevention program.
- Baucus Bill did not pass. This was a bill to give 4.5b to do Medicare outreach
- CDC is suggesting that seniors receive vaccination for shingles that is prevalent among those who have had the chicken pox virus. Shingles is a very painful disease, so if you're working with seniors encourage them to get the vaccine. Medicare Part D covers the cost of the vaccine for seniors 65 and over.
- Not Forgotten Coalition (NFC) was outstanding with several caregivers speaking. Jacquelyn Marcell shared poignant experiences about taking care of her parents who both had Alzheimers and lived in a motor home. Paul Greenwood is an assistant prosecutor who only prosecutes elder abuse cases. He will be at the Domestic Violence Conference in September. Bob Blancato talked about the Elder Justice Act. Thanks to Nick Monreal of BAAA and Elizabeth Michaels of the City and Joint Commission and other members of the NFC for their hard work.
- Copies of APS letter to Elder Justice Coalition to support the Elder Justice Bill are available and can be used as a template to do your own letter and send to Senators. This bill takes funding for APS out of the block grant and gives them dedicated funding, gives education to police officers and EMS respondents.
- Three year Area Plan for 2008-2010 that the state has approved is available.
- We have submitted two grant applications to AT&T Foundation and The Harry and Jeanette Weinberg Foundation. We have been working with the Leeza Gibbons Foundation that operates Leeza's Place, which is an Alzheimer's caregiver facility located on the northwest side. This grant is to support a caregiver program at the Bob Ross Center that will be a part of the Alamo Service Connection and would give us a dedicated person at the Center to respond to caregivers' needs and provide online training for caregivers.

7. Subcommittee Status Reports

- A. Access and Assistance
- B. Allocations and Monitoring – Ed Dylla requested and received approval of FY08 budget revisions. Dean Murphy and Sharon Baughman abstained.
- C. Family Caregiver Support Program – Ruth Garcia requested approval of the FY08 caregiver budget revision which reflects \$38,288 carryover. Lucille Wohlfarth motioned that the budget be accepted and approved, Sterling Neuman seconded; Sharon

Baughman and Steve Saldana abstained. Celebration of grandparents raising children is scheduled for September 6th. Nellie Garay is coordinating this event.

- D. Information and Special Events – Julia Castellano-Hoyt noted the pictures in the packet that depicted Older American Month events. The highlight of the events was the Ice Cream Social held at Lion's Field. Thanks to Burma Hyde who worked really hard to get the great talent, food and vendors. It was by far the best event so far, and we keep getting many compliments. It is believed that if the facility were larger, we would have even more participants. Over 400 people attended.
- E. Nominations/Bylaws and Legislative – Sharon Baughman stated we were trying to fill the six alternate positions available on the BSAC. Nominees are Sue Ellen Lewis Scharein who has a wealth of experience in public relations and communications; Barbara Baldwin of the AT&T Pioneers; Alice Rose Kennedy of the San Antonio Retired Teachers Association; Mary Jo Rodriguez who is involved in the social work program at Our Lady of the Lake University; and Valerie Taylor who has been very involved with the Long Term Care committee. Sharon made a motion that all nominees be approved and accepted by the committee. Don Moye seconded the motion. Sharon noted that if a member had a preference for one of these alternates to let Carol or her know; otherwise, they will be assigned to fill the vacancies. All alternates can attend meetings and serve on committees. Members/alternates will be sent a roster that identifies their member/alternate.
- F. Long Term Care – Don Moye stated members agreed their vision for a direct caregiver collaborative could be enhanced through a consortium model patterned after the Aerospace Consortium. Dr. Gerald B. Tucker volunteered to contact an Aerospace Consortium member and ask if he would share his experiences with our committee. Mr. Joey Wilson did present on various aspects of the methodology of the Aerospace Consortium. Don Moye and Vicki Palm attended the Workforce Solutions feedback session on June 11th. Their goal is to produce a premier workforce in America by providing employers and residents with opportunities, resources and services that give them a competitive edge in the global economy. Mr. Moye also addressed the plight of the CNAs who are vital to the care of our aging society. In order to get them and keep them, we need to pay them higher wages.
- G. Alamo Service Connection – Sterling Neuman stated the ASC is probably the biggest project to hit San Antonio in a long time in terms of information and referral for seniors and the disabled. The website is a fantastic vehicle for identifying available services and resources. We have been averaging over 12,000 hits per month. The marketing efforts have been very strong, including TV, radio, commentary and newspaper circulars. Our grant will end in September, and we need people from this group on the steering committee to generate more funding. For more information, contact Gloria Nesby at 362-5273.

8. Informational Items

- Victor Garcia stated that Project Cool is now in effect. This is a program to provide fans to seniors. Over 1800 fans have already been given away. If you want to donate fans, take them to the fire department and we will see that seniors receive them.
- Steve Saldana noted that the award for outstanding professional in the field of aging in Texas was awarded by the Texas Conference on Aging to Carol Zernial.
- Don Moye reminded us that the Folklife Festival starts today and encouraged everyone to attend and enjoy the many exhibits, food and family fun.
- Laurin Jimenez invited everyone to attend the open house for their new Social Security Office located on Southcross on August 1, 2008.

9. Adjournment

This meeting is wheelchair accessible. The accessible entrance is located at the front entrance of 8700 Tesoro Drive. Accessible parking spaces are also available. Interpreters for the deaf must be requested forty-eight (48) hours prior to the meeting by calling (210) 362-5200 or by calling Texas Relay at 7-1-1 for assistance.