

# Chatham County Council on Aging

## Board of Directors Meeting

January 29, 2016

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**Members Present:** Kathy Brommage, Louis Forrasi, Nansi Greger-Holt, Kalyan Ghosh, Jim Hackney, David Marty, Kathy Meredith, Larry Ross, Gerald Strobe

**Member Absent:** Cathy Taylor, Ernest Alston, Michael Nowicki, Emily Foushee

**Council Personnel Present:** Dennis Streets, Sadie McLaurin, Brett Moraes

Jim Hackney called the meeting to order at 4:10 pm, following the Board/Staff Retreat at the Western Chatham Senior Center

### **Public Comment**

There were no public comments at this annual, publicized meeting.

### **Member Updates**

Nansi Greger-Holt shared that she will be making a cake for the Council's upcoming Chocolate Cake Bake-Off.

Larry Ross spoke of his visit with Amy Gorely of Carolina Meadows and recommended that she be invited to attend a future Board meeting.

Jim Hackney had an opportunity to meet with Cindy Perry, new Mayor of Pittsboro, and she appeared to be very interested in exploring ways to support the work of the Council.

### **Review of minutes from December**

David Marty made a motion to accept the minutes from the December meeting. Gerald Strobe seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Committee Work**

### Nominating

David Marty introduced the proposed slate of officers for 2016: Larry Ross, President; Kaylan Ghosh, Vice-President; Jim Hackney, Treasurer, and Louis Forrasi, Secretary. No other nominations were offered from the floor. On a motion by Kathy Brommage, seconded by Kathy Meredith, the proposed slate of officers was approved unanimously. Larry Ross assumed responsibility for chairing the rest of the meeting.

David Marty raised the application of Stephanie Faris for one of the Board vacancies. Jim Hackney gave a brief history of her interest in the Council, and Kathy Brommage spoke of her favorable experience with Ms. Faris. The Board unanimously approved her application on a motion by Kalyan Ghosh, seconded by Louis Forrasi.

### Finance

Jim Hackney shared the notes from the Finance Committee and the November and December financial statements. He reviewed the statements' summaries which showed favorable change in net assets in both months.

In response to some members' questions, Sadie McLaurin provided clarification about fundraising and donations. Dennis Streets gave a brief update on the status of grants and mentioned that about \$14,700 was realized from the Holiday appeal.

### Programs & Services

Kathy Meredith reported on a visit from consultant Donna White, of the State Division of Aging and Adult Services, which helped clarify some questions about the in-home aide service. She suggested that a higher rate of reimbursement would likely be needed next year to attract quality in-home providers and that this might have implications on the budget.

Brett Moraes mentioned work underway with Gerald Strobe to finalize guidelines for the minor home repair service.

## Marketing & Fundraising

Kalyan Ghosh gave an update on plans for The Taste of Chatham, noting that the event would be held May 1<sup>st</sup> at the Governor's Club. He discussed the need for support from Board members in securing donations, sponsorships and auction items, and in selling tickets. Nansi Greger-Holt recommended that a fact sheet be prepared to present information about some of the core services (e.g., number of meals provided, trips, in-home clients).

Ghosh also mentioned that he and Mike Nowicki were still planning an open house at the Governor's Club as well.

## **Board Questions and Suggestions for Future Consideration**

There was discussion of an item that was raised in the Board/Staff Retreat—the need for a 24-passenger van. Dennis Streets mentioned current use of Chatham Transit for this and also discussions with Carolina Meadows. It was suggested that Chatham Transit and the School System might be other possibilities for donating a used vehicle.

It was recommended that management update the Wish/Requirements list for future consideration by the Board.

Kathy Meredith thanked the Council for its work during the adverse weather and suggested writing a news article that portrays the Council's role in this and advocates for general public support of seniors during such events.

Kalyan Ghosh reiterated the importance of doing an assessment to answer such questions as: Are we effectively doing what we need to do? Are we doing some things that are not necessary? Are we not doing some things that we should? Jim Hackney mentioned that was still more to be done with the recommendations that Micah Guindon made during her work on the BCBSNC project.

Louis Forrasi mentioned his suggestion that there be signs at the Western Center to reserve parking for meals-on-wheels volunteers. Brett Moraes indicated that securing these signs is underway.

## **Other Business**

Dennis Streets mentioned the Home Depot Foundation grant that will support minor home repair work for older Veterans in Chatham. He asked Board members to assist in the outreach. Nansi Greger-Holt indicated that she would assist with review of potential cases.

Streets mentioned that the County budget process would be beginning the first of February. He also asked for help in reviewing the bids for the paving of the Eastern Center and for considering how best to use any balance of the \$75,000 awarded by the County. David Marty and Jim Hackney agreed to assist with this.

Streets mentioned the idea of increasing use of Chatham Transit for congregate meals at both centers to five days (now four).

The meeting was adjourned at 5:05 pm, on a motion by Louis Forrisi and a second by David Marty.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis Forrisi