

Chatham County Council on Aging

Board of Directors Meeting

February 25, 2016

Members Present: Louis Forrasi, Nansi Greger-Holt, Jim Hackney, David Marty, Kathy Meredith, Larry Ross, Emily Foushee, Stephanie Faris, Michael Nowicki

Member Absent: Gerald Strobe, Kalyan Ghosh, Kathy Brommage

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

Larry Ross called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm, at the Eastern Chatham Senior Center.

Welcome

Dennis Streets began by sharing photos of events since the last Board meeting, including Healthy Heart Day and the Chocolate Bake-off. Nansi Greger-Holt shared that she placed fourth with her chocolate cake.

It was noted that former Board President and long-time volunteer, Sue Ferguson, has been honored with an outdoor plaque at the Eastern Chatham Senior Center.

Larry Ross led the members in sharing personal news and activities since the January meeting.

Motion to accept the minutes of January 29, 2016, by Jim Hackney and seconded by Kathy Meredith. Motion was passed unanimously.

Committee Work

Finance Committee

Jim Hackney gave report highlighting the following:

- Met with Council's health insurance broker to discuss options in light of the Affordable Care Act and the Council's increasing cost.
- Sample Investment Policy, which has been offered by Kathy Brommage, will likely be considered at next month's meeting.
- Considered auditor's bill which may be adjusted; indicated likelihood of continuing with same auditing firm next year. There was some discussion of considering use of an auditor from Chatham in future years.
- Reviewed summary of Operating Income and Cash Basis Statement, showing a slight monthly decline in net income from operations, while maintaining a favorable overall net year-to-date. Additional observations: management forecasts that it will operate within budget this year; effective use of contract services (in-home aide and transportation) will be an emphasis for remainder of year; have achieved considerable success in securing private and competitive grants.

On a motion by Mr. Hackney, seconded by Louis Forrasi, the Board approved unanimously establishing an account with TD Ameritrade.

On a motion by Mr. Forrasi, seconded by David Marty, the Board unanimously approved the Finance Committee report.

Nominations Committee

David Marty announced that there are currently 12 Board members, with three vacancies. He discussed efforts to identify our suitable candidates, especially from western Chatham. Mr. Ross said it was important to have some Board meetings each year at the Western Senior Center.

Nansi Greger-Holt suggested reaching out to Chatham Park for a possible Board member and encouraged recruitment of minorities and younger members. Mr. Streets added that a connection with the faith community would be helpful, and Mr. Forrasi said that he was reaching out to pastors.

Newest Board member, Stephanie Faris, gave a brief background profile and was introduced to the other Board members.

Emily Foushee indicated her willingness to serve another term and this was affirmed.

Programs and Services

Kathy Meredith discussed efforts underway to better coordinate minor home repair work among various community agencies and the development of an inventory of such assistance within the county. She touted the potential of software (Air Table) that was demonstrated by Stephanie Watkins-Cruz, a UNC MPA student, who is doing an internship with the Council. Mr. Streets noted that the internship is being paid by the County.

Ms. Meredith suggested efforts to grow client participation in the congregate nutrition program, especially at the Eastern Center. These efforts included: approaching St. Bartholomew Church in Pittsboro that provides a Thursday community lunch; continuing to promote the service on the Chatlist; and talking with church groups. Mr. Streets announced a breakfast for the faith community planned on March 4th at the Pittsboro center and March 11th in Siler City. He will send information about these breakfasts to the Board members so they can help encourage pastors and other representatives to attend.

Ms. Meredith reported on the monitoring of services by the Triangle J Area Agency on Aging. She cited a misunderstanding involving the use of the approved menu for congregate and home-delivered meals that has already been addressed by Council staff.

Marketing and Fundraising Committee

Michael Nowicki gave a report on *A Taste of Chatham*, which is scheduled for May 1st at the Governor's Club, from 5 to 7 pm. He shared draft sponsor and vendor forms and encouraged members to help identify and secure sponsors and vendors. He also encouraged members to help publicize the event and said that

members would be getting tickets to sell, with the hope that each member would sell at least 10. The tickets will be \$50 for an individual and \$80 for a couple. Members shared ideas about potential sponsors and vendors and encouraged publicity in such publications as *Governor's Living* and the Chatham magazine. It was suggested that donation cards be available at the event.

Other News and Business, Including Questions of the Director

Mr. Streets distributed a 2016 calendar of Board meetings. He indicated that he would be absent from the March meeting and possibly April.

Mr. Streets mentioned that he had selected a paving contractor for the Eastern Center with the work likely to start in April. He thanked David Marty and Jim Hackney for their assistance with this. This expenditure will complete use of the \$75,000 allocated from the County.

Mr. Streets discussed the County's new Tobacco-Free Policy and how this will impact the Eastern Center since the Council's property is leased from the Community College.

Mr. Ross called attention to the report on the Board and Staff Retreat priorities. Relative to the second priority of raising more money for programming, Mr. Streets reported on securing E-Tapestry, a software application to help with donations and volunteers. Mr. Hackney added that outreach to the faith community should help with the priority of reaching more seniors.

Mr. Hackney raised several questions about the participant survey results that management had shared, especially some of the numbers pertaining to congregate nutrition at the Eastern Center. Mr. Streets emphasized the importance of following up with participants who may no longer be attending.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:03 pm, on a motion by Larry Ross and a second by David Marty. Motion was carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Louis Forrisi

