

MINUTES: Healthy Carolinians of Macon County – Elder Care and Caregivers Community

DATE: June 23, 2009

PLACE: Community Facilities Building

TIME: 12:00 N – 1:30 PM

ATTENDEES: Rhonda Blanton, Dorothy Crawford, John Crawford, Lisa Hilliard, Leslie Lawson, Kathy McGaha, Sara Melton, Jim Thurmond, Kim Watkins and Vince West

GUESTS: Michael Gregory, Teresa Murray, Thomas Ritter, Derek Roland and David Rowland

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
Welcome and Approval of Minutes	Kathy McGaha welcomed everyone to today's meeting of the Elder Care and Caregivers Committee. Ms. McGaha asked the committee members to review the minutes of the last meeting. Dorothy Crawford motioned for the approval of the minutes. Vince West 2 nd the motion, with a unanimous vote for approval.		
Introductions	Kathy McGaha asked everyone to introduce themselves and tell what organization they represented. Ms. McGaha thanked each of today's guests for attending the meeting. The invited guests were: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1) David Rowland – Local Realtor/Town of Franklin Planning Board Chair2) Derek Roland – Macon County Planner3) Tom Ritter – Local Architect4) Teresa Murray – Local Realtor/Board of Realtors Chair5) Mike Gregory – Development/Real Estate		
Review of County Plan on Aging	Kathy McGaha gave a brief review of the County Plan on Aging. Ms. McGaha stated that last year an assessment was done in Macon County to gather information on Livable and Senior-Friendly Communities. Ms. McGaha said one of the topics covered in this assessment was housing situations in Macon County and lack thereof. The committee members listed some of the comments on the local housing situation: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Need for assisted living facilities• Need for retirement communities• Need for more affordable housing• Need for handicapped accessible housing		

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	<p>Ms. McGaha also explained that a County Plan on Aging had also been done last year. Ms. McGaha explained that this document was a proposed Area Plan on Aging for 2008-2012. Ms. McGaha said Senior Friendly Housing and Communities was listed as objective in this plan.</p>		
<p>Senior Friendly Development Discussion with Guests</p>	<p>Kathy McGaha next led the committee members and invited guests on a group discussion of Senior Friendly Development in our county. Ms. McGaha also invited today's guests to participate in this discussion.</p> <p>Ms. McGaha asked everyone to consider whether being certified as "Senior Friendly" would be good for businesses and the community as a whole. Ms. McGaha asked for their opinions and suggestions.</p> <p>Everyone agreed that the previous list of the local housing situation was correct for Macon County in needing things such as affordable housing, retirement communities, more assisted living facilities and more handicapped accessible housing.</p> <p>The main question for this group was whether being certified as "Senior Friendly" would involve a cost and what guidelines would need to be followed to be certified. Ms. McGaha said she was not sure but would check on this information and report back to this committee. Sara Melton also volunteered to investigate this topic further and report back at the next meeting.</p> <p>Teresa Murray questioned if other surrounding counties had this particular certification or something similar to it. Ms. Melton said she was aware that Haywood County had promoted this topic. Ms. Melton also stated that Haywood County had received a grant in the past to do this.</p>	<p>Kathy McGaha and Sara Melton will investigate what guidelines are involved with becoming "Senior Friendly" and what costs are involved.</p>	

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New Chair	Kathy McGaha asked the committee members if anyone would volunteer to be the New Chair of this committee. After a group discussion, the suggestion was made to ask Sheila Southard if she would consider this position. Ms. Crawford volunteered to talk with her.	Dorothy Crawford will contact Sheila Southard.	
Next Meeting Date	The next meeting of the Elder Care and Caregivers Committee will be held on Tuesday, August 11 th , from 12:00 N – 1:30 PM in the Game Room at the Community Facilities Building.		

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