

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

DATE: August 3, 2010

PLACE: Senior Services Building

TIME: 12:00 N – 1:30 PM

ATTENDEES: Rhonda Blanton, Dorothy Crawford, John Crawford, Mike Grubermann, Lisa Hilliard, Ruth Jordan, Martha Lind, Kathy McGaha, Cindy Miles, Derek Roland, Sheila Southard and Vince West

TOPIC	DISCUSSION	ACTION	FOLLOW-UP
Welcome and Approval of Minutes	<p>Sheila Southard welcomed everyone to today's meeting of the Elder Care and Caregivers Committee. Ms. Southard asked the committee members to review the minutes of the last meeting. Lisa Hilliard motioned for the approval of the minutes. Vince West 2nd the motion, with a unanimous vote for approval.</p>		
Senior Friendly Presentation	<p>Kathy McGaha reported that the presentation at the recent Full Partnership Meeting on Senior Friendly Communities had received a lot of compliments. Ms. McGaha said Colin McCandless with The Franklin Press had done a very nice article on the presentation.</p> <p>Sheila Southard asked the committee members to consider how this committee wanted to proceed with the topic of Senior Friendly Communities. Mr. Roland reminded the committee members that the Senior Friendly Community Concept will be integrated into Macon County's Comprehensive Plan.</p> <p>Sheila Southard suggested composing a list of what is currently being done or what is being planned by different individuals, committees, organizations, etc., concerning senior friendly projects. Ms. Southard asked the committee members to bring a list of these items or projects to the next meeting.</p> <p>Kathy McGaha suggested possibly developing a draft on what is involved for both commercial businesses and residential living spaces to be considered senior friendly. Cindy Miles, Vince West and Ms. McGaha volunteered to work on developing a draft residential first, with commercial being developed later.</p>	<p>The committee members will bring a list of what is currently being done or what is being planned for senior friendly projects in our area.</p> <p>Cindy Miles, Vince West and Kathy McGaha will work on developing a draft for residential living spaces. A commercial draft will be developed later.</p>	

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	<p>Sheila Southard said it would make a difference between a new residential living area and an existing structure. Ms. Southard offered to talk with Jack Morgan to get further details and report on this at the next meeting.</p> <p>Mike Grubermann explained that current laws that apply to ADA construction apply only to new construction, or alterations of public accommodations and commercial facilities. Mr. Grubermann said sometimes it might be cheaper to move or build a new house, rather than remodel an older house to make it senior friendly.</p> <p>Kathy McGaha also wanted the committee members to consider what happens once this plan is in place. Who will be giving the approval and who will enforce it? Ms. McGaha said at some point these questions will need to be answered.</p> <p>Sheila Southard informed the committee members of an upcoming conference – <i>Building a Livable and Senior Friendly North Carolina</i>. Ms. Southard said it is scheduled for October 13-15 at the Research Triangle Park. Ms. Southard will forward this information onto Ms. Blanton.</p>	<p>Sheila Southard will meet with Jack Morgan to get details on constructing a residential living area or converting an existing structure to be senior friendly.</p> <p>Sheila Southard will forward the conference information to Rhonda Blanton.</p>	
Other Items for Discussion	<p>Other Items for Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Kathy McGaha informed the committee members that Dr. Oliver, the dentist at the Adult Clinic, had resigned. Ms. McGaha said he will operate a private office in downtown Franklin and would be accepting Medicaid patients. Ms. McGaha said the Health Department is currently looking for another dentist. ○ Rhonda Blanton passed out a handout of the Jackson County Healthy Living Exhibitor Layout. The committee members reviewed this handout and discussed if any options would work for our 		

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	<p>Senior Expo. The committee members discussed possibly hosting the Senior Expo at the Senior Services Building next year. Ms. Miles suggested possibly also changing the name of the event. The committee members agreed to discuss and consider these ideas further.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rhonda Blanton passed out a handout for an Extended-Family Child Caregiver Support Group, which Linda Davis is trying to form. The meetings are set for the third Thursday of each month from 10:00 AM – 12:00 N at the Franklin Covenant Church. ○ Rhonda Blanton next passed out a handout from a new website that Henderson County has started. The purpose of the website is to detail services offered in Henderson County to help keep people in their homes as they age. Ms. Blanton asked the committee members to review the website and discuss it further at the next meeting. The website is: www.HendersonCoNCAgingAtHome.org. ○ Sheila Southard gave an update on the Resource Center. Ms. Southard said a second full-time employee has been added. Ms. Southard also said the center is averaging 12-18 calls/people a day. Ms. Southard asked the committee members to continue encouraging businesses/organizations to get their information to the Resource Center. 	<p>The committee members will review the Henderson County website and further discuss it at the next meeting.</p>	
Next Meeting Date	The next meeting of the Elder Care and Caregivers Committee will be held on Tuesday, September 14 th from 12:00 N – 1:30 PM in the conference room at the Senior Services Building.		