

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

DATE: September 14, 2010

PLACE: Senior Services Building

TIME: 12:00 N – 1:30 PM

ATTENDEES: Kristi Blanton, Rhonda Blanton, Dorothy Crawford, John Crawford, Kim Gardner, Michael Grubermann, Ruth Jordan, Kathy McGaha, Cindy Miles, Teresa Murray, Derek Roland and Sheila Southard

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.</p> <p>Cindy Miles asked on the second action step to list her name only with the residential living spaces and not the commercial businesses. The minutes will be redone and presented at the next meeting.</p>		
Senior Friendly Advocacy Efforts	<p>Sheila Southard next continued the discussion of the advocacy efforts to promote senior friendly communities. Ms. McGaha stated that Vince West could not be here today, but he had gathered a lot of information that he could present at the next meeting.</p> <p>Ms. Miles passed out a handout titled – <i>Making Your Home More Accessible</i>. Ms. Miles stated that this booklet promoted universal design. Ms. Miles explained that in universal design – the products and environment are usable by all people, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design.</p> <p>Ms. McGaha said one possible future idea is for this committee and the county building inspections department to co-sponsor a workshop on Universal Design.</p> <p>Ms. Miles said when most people are building a house, they are not thinking ahead for possible future needs. Ms. Southard stated that it would be nice if when people are the planning stages they are encouraged to plan for aging in place.</p>		

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	<p>Ms. Southard said she had met with Jack Morgan to discuss “Senior Friendly” houses and commercial buildings. Mr. Morgan had explained that in commercial development, there are certain guidelines to be followed. Mr. Morgan explained though that once a commercial building is opened some rules do not apply or are not enforced. Ms. Southard said this meeting had been very informative and would like to invite Mr. Morgan to a future meeting.</p> <p>The committee members agreed that it would be beneficial to also invite a homebuilder, to receive their feedback. Ms. Southard also volunteered to contact Reggie Holland, to possibly attain a list of homebuilders in Macon County and also invite him to attend a future meeting.</p> <p>The committee members asked Ms. Murray if it would be possible to set up a joint meeting with our local Board of Realtors and our local homebuilders. Ms. Murray said she would work on setting up this meeting and would let the committee members know when and where.</p> <p>Mr. Roland said “Senior Friendly Communities” could be used as a marketing tool. Mr. Grubermann suggested that we could possibly join with other local organizations like the Streets of Franklin and the Main Street Program. Ms. McGaha also suggested the Franklin Chamber of Commerce.</p> <p>Ms. Gardner stated that Haywood County had already done something similar in promotion of “Senior Friendly” in their county. Ms. Gardner stated that this program had used Ms. Gardner offered to obtain contact information and forward this onto Ms. Blanton.</p>	<p>Sheila Southard will invite Jack Morgan to a future meeting.</p> <p>Sheila Southard will contact Reggie Holland to attend a future meeting and ask for a list of local homebuilders.</p> <p>Teresa Murray will check on setting up a joint meeting between our local Board of Realtors, our local homebuilders and this committee.</p> <p>Kim Gardner offered to obtain contact information for who helped Haywood County and forward it onto Rhonda Blanton.</p>	

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	<p>The committee members next discussed placing links for some of these topics and items discussed today on our county website. Ms. McGaha offered to assist Ms. Southard with reviewing what links to place on the website. Ms. Southard said she would then turn this information into Chris Casses in the IT Department.</p> <p>Ms. Southard reminded the committee members of 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 and Ms. Crawford encouraged everyone to attend.</p>	<p>Sheila Southard and Kathy McGaha will review possible links to place on the county website.</p>	
<p>Next Meeting Date</p>	<p>The next meeting date of the Elder Care and Caregivers Committee will be held on Tuesday, October 19th, from 12:00 N – 1:30 PM in the conference room at the Senior Services Building.</p>		<p>The next meeting of the Elder Care and Caregivers Committee has been changed to October 26th, from 12:00 -1:30 PM at the Senior Services Building.</p>