

**Orange County Commission on Aging
Bi-Monthly Board Meeting – January 9, 2017**

Pine Hills Community Center, 6408 Jennings Road, Orlando FL 32818 * 8:30 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

Vision	Create Positive Aging! An elder-friendly community that empowers older adults through choices that allow them to support and maintain their independence within their home community
Purpose	To identify the needs of the senior population and find ways to help by working collaboratively

Members Present

Mr. Crockett Bohannon, Chair
Ms. Sandria Foster
Ms. Edith Gendron
Mr. Gus Martinez
Mr. Lynn Nicholson
Mr. Lee Watson

Members Absent

Mr. Corey Douglas
Ms. Cathy Kerns
Mr. Randy Hunt
Dr. Carmel Munroe
Ms. Aquasia Johnson McDowell

Others Present

Ms. Mimi Reggentin, Office on Aging

Meeting Notes

Consent Agenda

- Mr. Bohannon opened the meeting. He stated that since the Commission on Aging has not had a quorum since May 2016, there is a large consent agenda. Mr. Bohannon asked for comments or changes on the minutes. Mr. Martinez stated the Commission on Aging minutes of November 14 needed to be amended. On page two, the first bullet under “Commission on Aging Structure, Programs and Meetings,” the word “contact” should be changed to “contract.” Mr. Martinez also asked whether the Board had voted to move the meeting time to 8 a.m. Mr. Bohannon stated that a vote had not been taken since a quorum was not present. However, the Board had asked staff to change the meeting time since the Board was having

significant difficulties obtaining a quorum. Mr. Bohannon added that the County does not allow for proxy votes or for alternates to represent Board members at their meetings. Board members can call into meetings, but are not permitted to vote on agenda items. Ms. Reggentin added that her system only allow one Board member to call into meetings.

- Upon a motion by Ms. Gendron, seconded by Mr. Nicholson, the consent agenda was approved as amended and as follows:
 - Approval of the Commission on Aging meetings of 5/9/16, 5/27/16, 7/11/16, 9/12/16, 10/12/16, 11/14/16, and
 - Acceptance of the Community Partnerships Committee minutes of 5/3/16, 6/28/16, 9/6/16, 11/1/16 and the Elder Ambassador Committee minutes of 6/9/16.

Community Partnerships Committee Update

- Ms. Gendron stated the Community Partnerships Committee meeting will be held on January 10. Since this meeting has not occurred, no update is necessary.

Senior Resource Alliance Update

- Mr. Hunt was not present, so no report was given.

City of Orlando Mayor's Committee on Aging Update

- Mr. Nicholson stated the City of Orlando's Mayor Committee did not hold a meeting in December and their January meeting is scheduled in two weeks. No update is necessary.

2016 Annual Report

- Mr. Bohannon provided an overview of the *2016 Commission on Aging Annual Report*. Mr. Bohannon commented the most significant topic on the Commission on Aging's agenda has been the re-establishment of the Elder Ambassador program. He added that staff is in the process of hiring a contract employee and it is anticipated this program will be re-established by spring 2017. Ms. Gendron stated she had recently met one of the former Elder Ambassadors who had expressed a strong support for this program.
- Mr. Bohannon provided a summary of the Aging Matters program. Mr. Watson offered to contact the Aging Matters graduates to see how they have used their training since the October graduation and to help motivate them to continue sharing their stories with the media. The Board agreed accepted Mr. Watson's offer and asked staff to coordinate with him over the next couple of weeks.

Additional Status Updates

- Ms. Reggentin stated the LIFE Information for Elders Spring 2017 schedule has been released. The Spanish translation of the Fraud Prevention Resource Guide arrived from the printer. Commissioner Siplin has requested this guide be translated into Creole and this translation should be finalized by late spring.

Commission on Aging Structure, Programs and Meetings

- Mr. Bohannon recapped that Board meetings will continue to be held at 8:30 a.m. at the Pine Hills Community Center.
- Mr. Bohannon asked staff for a general timeline for the re-establishment of the Elder Ambassador program. Ms. Reggentin replied that interviews were held in December and the County is in the middle of the hiring process. This process should be finalized by early February. If the contract position is filled by February 1, then staff will spend February and

March updating the documents and systems. The next core training class would be advertised in April and held in May – at which time, the program would be fully operational again.

- The Board suggested that potential volunteers be surveyed prior to being accepted into the Elder Ambassador program. Ms. Reggentin provided a brief overview of the application and selection process.
- The Board briefly discussed the format for future meetings and agreed that a speakers component should not be added to the Board's agenda.
- Mr. Bohannon asked staff to add an agenda item to the March meeting for the selection of a vice chairman. He added that he has commitments and will not be able to attend the May nor July meetings of the Commission on Aging.

New Business

- Mr. Martinez stated he has been trying to help an elder who is homeless in Osceola County find housing for more than a month. He provided a brief summary of the different organizations he has contacted, and each agency is unable to offer assistance. Discussion ensued. The Board expressed concern that elders living in Central Florida often have to choose between basic necessities such as food, shelter, medicine and health care. Mr. Martinez stated his nonprofit Miles of Help Through Christ is hosting their next Sharing Gods Love event on February 11 in East Orange.

Public Input

- There was no public input.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

MMR/