

**Orange County Commission on Aging  
Bi-Monthly Board Meeting – May 8, 2017**

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

**Meeting Minutes**

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Vision	<b>Create Positive Aging!</b> 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

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**Members Present**

Mr. Gus Martinez, Vice Chairman  
Ms. Edith Gendron  
Dr. Carmel Munroe  
Mr. Lynn Nicholson  
Mr. Lee Watson

**Members Absent**

Mr. Crockett Bohannon  
Ms. Sandria Foster  
Ms. Cathy Kerns  
Mr. Randy Hunt  
Ms. Aquasia Johnson McDowell

**Others Present**

Ms. Mimi Reggentin, Office on Aging  
Ms. Ona Taylor, Office on Aging

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**Meeting Notes**

**Consent Agenda**

- Mr. Martinez opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Mr. Martinez noted that a quorum was not present and, therefore, the consent agenda could not be approved.

**Community Partnerships Committee Update**

- Ms. Gendron stated that Brian Sanders from the Orange County Transportation Planning Division presented on the “creating an elder-friendly transportation environment.” Mr. Sanders discussed crash data for elder drivers, pedestrians and bicyclists; transportation design efforts to increase safety; and, Central Florida’s transit network. Ms. Gendron

provided a summary of the agency go-around, noting that Ms. Maura Hassey, who manages the CCE program at Seniors First, has tendered her resignation.

#### Senior Resource Alliance Update

- Mr. Hunt was not present, so no report was given. Ms. Gendron commented that state funding for the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative and its Memory Disorder Clinics was restored to the proposed Senate budget. It was noted the Memory Disorder Clinic at Orlando Health was one of the centers that had been slated for defunding.

#### City of Orlando Mayor's Committee on Aging Update

- Mr. Nicholson stated Ms. Antonio Torres, a long-time member of the City's Mayor's Committee on Aging, is retiring from the Board and will be honored by Orlando Mayor Dyer on May 25.

#### Elder Ambassador Update

- Mr. Martinez provided a status update of the Elder Ambassador program, noting that 280 hours of training had been provided to existing Elder Ambassadors since February. With regards to community outreach, 20 of the 34 planned events have taken place and a total of 416 volunteer hours have been logged.
- Mr. Martinez reviewed the 2017 Core Training program, noting that 24 individuals had been accepted into the program. Training is scheduled for May 3, 4, 9 and 11.
- Ms. Reggentin stated the *Community Resources for Elders* was updated and expanded for this training. This document is currently being translated into Spanish. A quarterly training was held for current Elder Ambassadors and was focused on this updated resource document.
- Ms. Gendron stated that, at the March meeting, the Board had directed staff to add an agenda item to their May meeting regarding writing a letter of support for the Elder Ambassador program.
- The Board discussed this agenda item and expressed an interest in writing a letter of support for the continuation of the Elder Ambassador program. The Board asked staff to review the history of this program. Ms. Reggentin stated that the Elder Ambassador program was established in 2014. It was placed on hiatus in 2016 after the Office on Aging staff was reduced to a one-person office. At that time, the Board expressed written concern to County Administration asking that this program be re-established. The Office on Aging hired a contract employee in January to re-establish the Elder Ambassador program. This contract position runs through June 2017.
- Ms. Gendron asked if a permanent position for the Office on Aging was part of the 2017/18 budget request. Discussion ensued. The Board expressed support for outcomes achieved by the Elder Ambassador program since the program was re-established. The Board expressed concern that the contract position ends in June and funding might not be continued. Ms. Reggentin stated the Board did not have a quorum to make a motion.
- Discussion ensued. The Board stated it was important to find out if a permanent position was proposed for the Office on Aging. The Board expressed concern that this issue should not be tabled to their June meeting since the 2017/18 budget was currently under review. Ms. Reggentin was directed to ask staff if a permanent position for the Office on Aging was part of the 2017/18 budget request.
- The Board agreed a letter of support for the Elder Ambassador program should be written regardless of whether a permanent position was part the current budget process. Ms.

Reggentin was directed to ask Mr. Bohannon to write this letter of support. Ms. Reggentin was asked to contact existing Elder Ambassadors to ask how this program has impacted the community.

#### Additional Status Updates

- LIFE Information for Elders – Mr. Martinez stated attendance at the monthly seminars continues to be strong, with 55 people attending the April seminar and 52 attending the March seminar.
- First Quarter Attendance Report – Mr. Martinez reviewed the First Quarter Attendance Report. The Board expressed concern that no quorum was present and that several Board members had high absenteeism. Discussion ensued. The Board requested that staff email them the County's application for advisory boards. Staff was directed to express this concern about the Board's attendance with Agenda Development.
- Volunteer Hours – Mr. Martinez asked the Board if they had any additional volunteer hours related to the Commission on Aging activities. Ms. Gendron stated she was involved in the Elder Ambassador program training and updated her volunteer hours.

#### New Business

- There was no new business.

#### Public Input

- There was no public input.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 a.m.

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