**North Carolina Partnership to Address Adult Abuse**

**7.18.18 Minutes**

Present: Joanne Otuonye, Ayanda Meachem, Madeline Masters, Angie Dorsey, Rosalyn Pettyford, Phil Brown, Tiffany Smith, Camilla Ungaro, John Maron, Pam Palmer, Mary Edwards, Amanda Little, Laurie Dotson, Laura McCracken, Roxann Sizemore, Nancy Warren, Leo Boland, Dr. Althea Taylor-Jones, Joan Pellittier, and Laura Jett

Meeting called to order at 9:30 by Nancy Warren, Chair.

**Review of Minutes and Treasurer’s Report**

Laura Jett, Secretary, shared results of the election for our new slate of officers from the May 16th general membership meeting. The new officers for the NCP3A are: Nancy Warren, Chair; Laura Cockman, Chair Elect; Laura Jett, Secretary; and Pam Palmer, Treasurer.

Pam, Treasurer, gave a Treasurer’s Update. Balance on hand as of June 30th was $9,289.16. There is one conference related expense pending.

**Program**

Joyce Massey-Smith, Director of the NC Division of Aging and Adult Services shared updates regarding the division. Some highlights of the program are below:

* A new trainer position was approved for the Adult Protective Services Division to develop training for DSS.
* In the short session, HCCBG was awarded an additional $1,000,000.
* Attempting partnerships with universities for research using APS funding.
* Universities need to train more social workers for the field of APS.
* APS reports increased 9% from 2016/2017 to 2017/2018.
* Adult Services is launching a new website for DSS that will have all DSS resources on one platform.
* APS manual is almost ready. They are gathering new data for the manual.
* House Bill 630, child welfare reform bill, recently added Adult Protective Services, Special Assistance, and guardianship to the text. This will establish ways to evaluate APS and guardianship. It will also add a Regional Supervision System with improved communication.
* A work group through the School of Government has been working on exploring what a regional State Supervision System would look like. The group presented to the division in June. The end result is to provide consistency and deploy resources as needed.
* There is a need to find a better way to collect data for APS and guardianship. Changes are being made to the 5026 APS registry form and a new code is being created to document 90 day contacts for guardianship. Partnered with CFS vendor to work on data analysis and gaps in data collection.
* NAMRS- National Adult Maltreatment Reporting Systems, is an ACL sponsored and voluntary reporting system. All 50 states have entered some data. NC is beginning to enter case level data with a goal of assisting to paint a national picture of elder abuse.

The department goals and priorities were also shared. These were:

* Opioid Epidemic- The division signed on with the Lock Your Meds campaign with goals of curbing the opioid epidemic by keeping medications secured.
* Partnering with local management entities (LME’s) – Partnership to have LME’s provide regional training this fall. Having further discussion with public health on causes of death for the elderly.
* Grant funding to dual eligibles for SNAP is coming to an end. Division want to continue this outreach effort with the Area Agencies on Aging.
* Medicaid transformation- priority to decrease the number of uninsured. Division to attempt to increase the number of staff working with Special Assistance programs.
* 2019 State Aging plan- Four year plan is in the development stages. Listening sessions are being held and the survey is online. Over 1,000 surveys have been returned so far.

The committee encouraged continued communication so that our members can support the division priorities and advocate with one voice.

**Committee Reports**

In the interest of time, committee reports were tabled to allow ample time for discussion and review of the conference held in May. Madeline Masters, Education Committee Co-Chair, led the discussion.

Feedback from surveys and committee members:

1. Location was remote but great facility and ample parking. More signage may be needed for the back entrance.
2. Members providing direction inside and upstairs was very helpful.
3. One complaint of temperature. Can remind on registration material to suggest dressing in layers or bringing a sweater.
4. Feedback on speakers was positive. Breakout intensives are helpful in case participants have already heard one of the speakers. Continue to invite the state division to discuss vision and priorities. It is important to have a national expert there as well to give a national perspective.
5. Discussion was held on whether the organization should offer payment to speakers. The possibility of payment specifically for speakers from marginalized groups such as LGBT members was discussed as they are often asked to come speak but may have financial hardship. Suggestions of paying to cover travel and gas was discussed.
6. Timing limit of 45 minutes did not allow for questions and felt too tight to some. Others felt anything over 45 minutes creates an issue with attention spans.
7. A suggestion of having a morning hot topic session with multiple experts presenting on the subject for 6 minutes each was discussed.
8. A joint session with APS and CPS regarding grandparents raising grandchildren was suggested. They could discuss how to holistically help the family.
9. An idea for an expert on opioids and the new regulations.
10. Dr. Fagan with MAHEC, was suggested as a speaker to discuss Opioids and Alternatives to Treat Pain.
11. A speaker to share and discuss the Stanford program of Chronic Pain Self-Management was suggested.

Conference and membership gaps were identified:

1. Invite Joyce Massey-Smith next year.
2. We need more county staff as they are a priority target for membership. There were 40 DSSs represented at the conference.
3. Location is an issue for those located further east or west without budget to travel. Idea posed to alternate West, Center, and East.
4. Idea shared to provide a web based conference for $10.
5. Discussion to have one monthly meeting in the West and one in the East to boost participation in those areas and gain more members. Identified Winston-Salem and Wilmington as possible options.
6. Lack of participation by law enforcement and legal entities was identified as a gap. Participation of Attorney General’s office, District Attorney’s, and law enforcement bodies is desired. Discussed making the theme of the next conference one regarding law enforcement or justice.
7. There were 135 in attendance this year and the goal is 200.
8. Ideas regarding how to keep people around for questions was discussed. Having more gift card drawings or scattering the drawings throughout and saving some for the end was identified as a possibility.

The committee agreed that the conference should be kept in the same location and reserved soon. Madeline and Shevel will contact the college to find availability and schedule.

**Member Updates:**

National APS Conference will be held in California at the end of August

Conference of District Attorneys on August 2nd and 3rd

Financial Exploitation session in Buncombe County October 5th

Law and Aging Conference October 25th and 26th

Friends of Residents in Long Term Care April conference on Advocacy

Members are needed to join the communication committee

The next meeting is September 19th at the Judicial Center. Our November meeting will not be the usual week. November meeting will be November 7th.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Laura Jett, Secretary