

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA

9:00 AM

The Board of County Commissioners of Brevard County, Florida, met in regular session on August 16, 2012 at 9:00 AM in the Government Center Commission Room, Building C, 2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way, Viera, Florida.

Call to Order

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Robin Fisher	Commissioner District 1	Present	
Chuck Nelson	Chairman/Commissioner District 2	Present	
Trudie Infantini	Commissioner District 3	Present	
Mary Bolin Lewis	Commissioner District 4	Present	
Andy Anderson	Vice Chairman/Commissioner District 5	Present	

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Chuck Nelson led the assembly in the pledge of allegiance.

ITEM II., BREVARD COUNTY COMMISSION ON AGING PRESENTATIONS

Howard Tipton, County Manager, welcomed everyone to the Workshop, and talked about how the average life expectancy has gone from 47 years old in 1900, to over 80 years old in 2012. He stated today's Workshop will focus on where Brevard County is today and where it needs to go.

ITEM II.B., POPULATION DATA, PHIL KOECHLEIN, DISTRICT 15 AARP COORDINATOR

Phil Koechlein, District 15 AARP Coordinator, commented on the history of the BCOA (Brevard County Commission on Aging), and the purpose of BCOA, which is to create and sustain a community that accommodates, supports, and values aging; life expectancy in the 20th century; and the definition of aging. He also displayed charts detailing Brevard's population by chronological age groups, the proportion of population by age group in the U.S. and Florida, and Florida's population projections for 2005 to 2030. He commented on Florida being the second most populous state for adults age 65 and older, and how Florida's elders are a valuable resource in that they bring to the state new home construction, volunteer hours, spending power, donations to charities, and \$1 billion in local school taxes.

ITEM II.C., BCOA PLANNING PROCESS, COMMUNITIES FOR A LIFETIME MODEL

Ron Morgan, Brevard County TRIAD, talked about Communities for a Lifetime (CFAL), which is a statewide initiative of the Florida Department of Elder Affairs that assists Florida cities, towns, and counties in evaluating current conditions within the community, planning for the future, and implementing recommended improvements. He also explained how CFAL promotes opportunities for seniors to 'age-in-place' in their homes for as long as they choose, and the focus areas of the Brevard County Commission on Aging, which are long-term care, health and wellness, transportation, and elder rights.

ITEM II.D., FOCUS AREAS AND FORECASTS

Mark Brimer, PhD., Co-Chair, Florida DOEA Statewide Falls Prevention Coalition, commented on falls being the fifth leading cause of death in older adults, and the cost of hospitalization and surgeries due to falls. He stated that Falls Prevention workshops are key to increasing public awareness and result in fewer 9-1-1 calls, fewer emergency room visits, fewer hospitalizations, fewer doctor visits, and quality of life stabilization for older adults. He talked about Falls Prevention's current and future efforts, including applying for DOEA grants to educate healthcare professionals, and implementing plans and strategies that bring awareness to falls prevention.

Lynne Meagher, SHINE (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders) Area 7 Program Coordinator, explained SHINE provides free and unbiased health insurance counseling through a dedicated network of volunteers, empowering Florida seniors to make informed healthcare choices; and noted SHINE has provided assistance to 7,400 Florida Medicare beneficiaries. She further explained SHINE explains Medicare options to new enrollees, assists with access benefits, provides enrollment and prescription assistance, and assists with appeals and grievance resolution process. She further talked about the Affordable Care Act and the NACo Prescription Discount Card, which has saved Brevard County residents over \$5.7 million on the costs of prescription medications.

ITEM II.D.2., NUTRITION

Cynthia Flachmeier, CEO, Aging Matters in Brevard, talked about seniors struggling to pay for prescription medication and groceries, and their ability to prepare meals and navigate transportation to a grocery store or food pantry. She also talked about the Meals on Wheels program and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which makes food more affordable and reduces health costs by helping seniors prevent and manage chronic diseases such as, diabetes, renal failure, heart disease, and hypertension. She further noted that the Brevard Senior Nutrition Program strains to keep up with the current demands of serving 500,000 meals annually, and that the six percent increase in the price of food, along with the rise in gas prices, continues to be a budgetary challenge for the program, which relies on volunteers to deliver meals to home-bound seniors.

ITEM II.D.3., TRANSPORTATION

Dr. John H. Potomski, Jr., President, Florida Medical Directors Association, BCOA Chair, talked about seniors and transportation, and noted that in 2010 there were 5,570 fatal traffic accidents involving a driver 65 or older. He further talked about Space Coast Area Transit (SCAT) and how it provided 211,300 trips for elderly residents in Brevard County in 2011. He explained CarFit, which is an educational safety program designed to keep drivers safe and comfortable by improving the "fit" between the driver and their vehicle, and talked about the future efforts to make driving safe for seniors. He introduced Sandy Richards and Dana Ryder, from Watersong, who spoke to the Board about Universal Design, and how the Watersong community is designed for seniors to age-in-place. Ms. Richards stated Watersong is an all-inclusive retirement community, and provides transportation, nutrition, and socialization for seniors; and noted all of the apartment homes in Watersong are designed for seniors to age-in-place.

Board discussion ensued on the design of homes for seniors in the construction industry, and how it is recognized.

ITEM II.D.4., ABUSE, CRIMES, AND RIGHTS

Dr. Jack Sidoran, Florida Department of Elder Affairs Certified Ombudsman, explained that the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program advocates on behalf of residents of long-term care facilities through a statewide system of 17 distinct councils of volunteer ombudsmen, who identify, investigate, and resolve complaints made by or on behalf of residents of nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and adult family care homes, as well as administrative assessments.

Laura Moody, State Attorney's Office, 18th Judicial Circuit, Elder Services Division, talked about elder crime, abuse, and rights; and pointed out that the top five crimes against older adults are, grandparent scams, free lunch investment seminars, Medicare fraud, bogus sweepstakes, and Dialing for Dollars. She explained that most crimes against seniors go unreported because older adults are afraid they will appear incompetent, they are afraid family members will think they cannot manage on their own, and they fear that family members will take over their personal finances and move them to a retirement or nursing home. She noted in Brevard County, DCF (Department of Children and Families) reports cases of abuse, neglect, and exploitation to the Office of the State Attorney, 18th Circuit; and stated there are ongoing efforts to educate older adults on crimes against seniors through seminars and public service announcements.

ITEM II.D.5., LEGISLATIVE ISSUES

Randall Hunt, CEO, Senior Resource Alliance/Area 7 Agency on Aging, talked about the Continuum of Care, which is self care, early intervention, maintenance care, and institutional care. He mentioned that 2,000 clients are served annually through Aging Matters in Brevard, which is the lead agency for Federal Older Americans Act Services and State Community Care for the Elderly; and further talked about the top unfunded state mandate being Medicaid. He stated strategies for reducing Medicaid costs include funding for home care programs, home care programs that delay the need for nursing home placement, and home care that allows seniors to age-in-place and remain in their homes as long as they choose.

Mr. Koechlein talked about the Tax Payer Bill of Rights (TABOR) and Florida's Smart Cap Amendment 3. He stated the Smart Cap is a constitutional limit on state revenue growth by the combined rate of inflation and population growth; the limitation would apply broadly to state taxes, fees, assessments, licenses, fines, and charges for services, and it provides an incremental reduction of flexibility in the limit with full-implementation of the limit in FY 2019. He also talked about Florida Property Tax Amendment 4, which would prohibit increases in the assessed value of homesteaded property if the fair market value of the property decreases, reduces the limitation on annual assessment increases to non-homesteaded property, and provides an additional homestead exemption.

Dr. Potomski explained the Transitions of Care (TOC) Document, Brevard Pilot Program, which is a two-page checklist that is completed by the transferring physician and included in the patient file; TOC ensures the continuity of care between the acute care setting and various post acute settings; and it improves patient care and outcome by providing the highest quality of health care. He further noted that upon implementation of TOC DOC, medical errors should be reduced, and duplicative testing should be eliminated, which can cause unnecessary hospitalizations. He mentioned the revisions necessary to HB 7095, Pill Mill Bill, which could have a negative impact on seniors by not allowing for controlled substances prescribed in order to prevent needless pain and suffering; and stated an exemption to HB 7095 should be in place for patients residing in these already highly-controlled and regulated environments. He further commented on Internet Cafes targeting high retirement areas and preying on retirees; and

August 16, 2012

stated the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) supports statewide oversight and regulation of so-called Sweepstakes Gambling facilities and Internet Cafes, including ensuring the reliability of computer terminals, while allowing counties to allow or deny the operation of such businesses within their jurisdiction. He concluded by saying he would like the Board to consider a one-year moratorium on the opening of internet cafes in the unincorporated areas of Brevard County, until the Planning and Development Office reports back to the Board and brings forward provisions and regulations for their operation.

ITEM III., BOARD DISCUSSION

Howard Tipton, County Manager, noted that the Planning and Development Office, in cooperation with UCF, is doing the study the Board had requested on Internet Cafes; and the report is anticipated to be brought back to the Board in December.

Chairman Nelson inquired if there is a guide for caregivers. Ms. Flachmeier replied, through the DOEA, Aging Matters receives a grant annually, and the agency produces a directory of programs and services for seniors. Ian Golden, Housing and Human Services Director, noted the 2-1-1 Brevard is another resource that people can call and get information.

ITEM V., PUBLIC COMMENT

Frank Leslie commented on the important role of caregivers and Alzheimer's dementia patients; in most cases the caregivers are caring for a loved one; and it is important to recognize the signs early.

Joe Steckler spoke to the Board about the various senior programs in Brevard County and stressed that awareness is key to helping seniors.

Pauline Taylor, Hospice of St. Francis, commented on Hospice as an option, or resource, for aging in place and elder services.

ITEM IV.1., APPROVAL OF MEDICAID SETTLEMENT

The Board accepted the Final Certification by the Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA) in the amount of \$455,449.82 (\$535,823.32 minus the 15% discount of \$80,373.50) pursuant to Florida Statute 409.915(7) in resolution of the disputed payments alleged to be owed to the State of Florida for past due Medicaid bills from November 1, 2001 through April 30, 2012, with payment being in accordance with Florida Statute 409.915(8) or as otherwise negotiated between the County and State. The Board further authorized the County Manager or his designee to execute any necessary documents to accomplish this result.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Trudie Infantini, Commissioner District 3
SECONDER:	Andy Anderson, Vice Chairman/Commissioner District 5
AYES:	Fisher, Nelson, Infantini, Bolin Lewis, Anderson

August 16, 2012

ITEM VI., ADJOURNMENT

Upon consensus of the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

ATTEST:

MITCH NEEDELMAN, CLERK

CHUCK NELSON, CHAIRMAN
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
BREVARD COUNTY, FLORIDA