



## RICHMOND COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT

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North Carolina  
Public Health

Tommy Jarrell, PhD  
Director of Health & Human Services

Jacqueline Welch  
Director of Aging Services

### AGING SERVICES ADVISORY COUNCIL

#### MEETING MINUTES

**DATE:** November 7, 2019  
**TIME:** 2:00pm  
**LOCATION:** Human Services Building, Large Classroom

#### 1. ATTENDANCE:

Neel Peacock, Chairperson / Area of Richmond Transportation Director  
Jacqueline Welch, Richmond County Aging Services Director  
Tommy Jarrell, Health & Human Services Director  
Don Bryant, Richmond County Commissioner  
Dennis Holloway, Regional Aging Advisory Council  
Stephanie Powers, LRCOG  
Kim Partin, Nutrition Director  
Sheila Brosier, Administrative Assistant

#### 2. WELCOME:

Jacqueline Welch opened the meeting and welcomed Dennis Holloway, Regional Aging Advisory Council member. Mr. Holloway was commended for his volunteer work and enjoys working with and for seniors.

#### 3. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES (July 25, 2019):

Ms. Welch indicated there was an insufficient amount of members to hold a quorum; therefore, she asked everyone to review the meeting minutes and they will be motioned for approval at the next meeting.

#### 4. REVIEW OF MONTHLY REPORTS (July - September 2019):

Ms. Welch reviewed the RC Home and Community Care Block Grant Monthly Report for the first quarter of 2020, highlighting activities and expenditures for the months of July through September 2019. Thus far, In-Home Aid has met the target and Legal Services has exceeded the target set at 25%. Legal Services has been very active in providing legal aid to many seniors in the county.

The RCAS report reveals the waiting list for congregate nutrition is 180; while the waiting lists for home delivered meals and in home aid have decreased. The decrease can be attributed to the new part time meal site driver who began last week. His addition to the rotation of drivers will improve delivery service and has decreased the waiting list for home delivered meals by 40 people. It was noted that requests for home delivered meals is steadily increasing by about 5 per week, and we are receiving requests for seniors from their doctors. The Home Aid position is currently vacant and there are six applicants. Once the position is filled we expect to reduce the in-home aid waiting list. Ms. Welch noted the online application for home delivered meals has been updated to include questions to determine immediate needs of seniors, such as smoke detectors, wheelchair ramps, living with dementia, etc. The information on the online application can be used to better accommodate seniors and refer them to social workers who can assist them with enrolling in programs based on their needs.

In the absence of Lirosia Wall, Ms. Welch reviewed the Services for Seniors Report for the month of September 2019. A total of 30 seniors were assisted and 81.66 hours were billed to MAC. Ms. Wall is continuing to perform duties in her old position while assuming several tasks as the Senior Assistance Coordinator. She has conducted home visits and been present at senior centers to assist seniors in applying for benefits. Sharon Morrison is also assisting with services for seniors.

Ms. Welch provided handouts with summary and financial reports for the Senior Centers in Ellerbe, East Rockingham and Rockingham. **Ellerbe Senior Center** sponsored a field trip to the fruit cake factory in Bear Creek; 20 seniors attended. Seniors at Ellerbe enjoy board games and the birthday parties.

Events sponsored by the **East Rockingham Senior Center** in October included a trip to Robeson County with 16 participants. The seniors enjoy chair volley ball and compete at the other senior centers. The maintenance worker position has been filled and is responsible for cleaning the senior center after activities and events. Prior to his arrival, Aging Services staff were filling these duties on a rotating basis. The senior center was rented 23 times during the fiscal year, earning revenue of \$800.00. Seniors and foster care children in the Intergenerational Arts Program are working together to create artwork which will be displayed in the Generational Hall at the Human Services Building.

**The Rockingham Senior Center** welcomed five new participants at the exercise room in October. Popular activities at this center include the paraffin hand wax and the exercise room.

The Hamlet Senior Center hosted a Halloween Social which was well attended by seniors. Ms. Welch noted Aging Services hosts social events three times a year at different senior centers. She looks forward to planning a social next spring, possibly at the Richmond County Airport.

The Savings Report for Regular Travel revealed total year to date savings of \$3,851.21 for fiscal year 2019-2020. The Savings Report for Volunteer Hours revealed 491.20 total hours of service, which equals total year to date saving of \$12,491.22.

5. **DEMENTIA FRIENDS UPDATE:**

The number of Dementia Friends made in Richmond County to date is 283. Three (3) door alarms and nine (9) smoke alarms were issued to caregivers of Alzheimer/Dementia residents.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Alzheimer's Walk held on October 19, 2019, was a success. We raised over \$10,000, exceeding our goal of \$8,000. Exactly 65% of the funds will remain in Richmond County to assist with building wheelchair ramps, purchasing door and smoke alarms, and other items needed for residents with dementia/Alzheimer's. Ms. Powers stated the LRCOG provides money for the caregiver program for wheelchair ramps (\$1,309), incontinence products (\$139), and liquid nutrition drinks (\$65) for seniors. Mr. Holloway added he has a resource that builds and can supply wheelchair ramps to residents with dementia/Alzheimer's.

6. **GENERAL DISCUSSION & IDEAS:**

Ms. Welch stated February 2020 marks the second year since the Alive After 55 Supper Club began meeting. This event is for seniors to gather on the third Thursday of each month at a restaurant for dinner and fellowship. The next event is November 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00pm at La Cabana Restaurant in Hamlet.

The 41<sup>st</sup> annual Senior Christmas Party will be held at the Cole Auditorium on December 12<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am-1:00pm, and 2:00pm-5:00pm. Tickets will be available at the senior centers beginning November 12<sup>th</sup>.

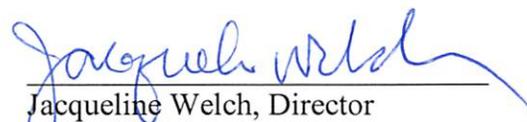
Ms. Welch solicited suggestions/ideas from the committee for other programs we can host for seniors. It was suggested to incorporate dinner and a play at the Richmond Community Theater.

7. **NEXT ADVISORY MEETING:** Meeting is held on the last Thursday of January, April, July and October at 2:00pm, unless a Special Called meeting is planned.

**DATE:** January 30, 2020  
**TIME:** 2:00pm  
**LOCATION:** Health Department, large classroom

8. **ADJOURNMENT:** The meeting adjourned at 3:00pm.

  
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Neel Peacock, Chairperson  
Director, Area of Richmond Transportation

  
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Jacqueline Welch, Director  
Richmond County Aging Services