



Hampton Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
Hampton Senior Center, 3501 Kecoughtan Road
July 11, 2022

Call to Order and Welcome

Chair Linda Kindred opened the meeting by welcoming all in attendance and reminded all attendees to ensure that the attendance sheet at the back of the room was signed upon arrival. She stated that, sadly, Vice Chair Jeanette Augustine, recently had a death in the family and would not be attending today's meeting. She also added that if anyone needed to be absent from future meetings to please contact her directly at 757-776-2286. Opening prayer was then offered.

Roll call & Approval of June Minutes

Present: Linda H Kindred- Chair, Martha L. Clark, Lewis Dawley III, Tonya L. Grant, Cynthia Harris, Graylyn Owens

Absent: Jeanette Augustine, Yvonne Gaynor, George Gwynn, Martha Johnson

City/Lead Agency Reps: Angela King (CAO), David McCauley (HPRLS), Phyllis Palin (DSS), Mary Mills-Collins (HNNCSB), Susan Elswick (HPRLS), Joseph (HPRLS), Shaeron King (HPRLS), Susan Crigler-Castle (PAA)

Guests: Doris Farmer, Virgil Moseley, Josephine Reaves

Linda conducted the roll call; a quorum was present. The opportunity was given for the advisory board to review the June minutes. Mary Mills-Collins made the correction that she attended the June meeting, but was marked as absent. Phyllis Palin noted that Gina Lewis retired, not resigned, as head of the Foster Grandparents Program. Cynthia made the correction to Ms. Palin's name. A motion was made to accept the June minutes as revised. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

Opening Remarks

Director Dave McCauley stated that he had spent the last few weeks with his children and grandchildren visiting several Hampton sights and that they were pleased with all Hampton has to offer. The Parks Master Plan Open House will be Tuesday, July 12, 5-7pm, at the Rupert Sargent Building, 1 Franklin

Street. All were encouraged to attend to find out more about how PRLS will be moving forward in improvements. Upcoming PRLS events include:

- ✚ A Splash of the Arts! Mill Point Park on Saturdays, July 16, 23, and 30, 10am-4pm
- ✚ Groovin by the Bay Concert Series at Mill Point Park, Sundays, July 17 & 24, August 21 & 28, 5-8pm.
- ✚ Front Porch Music Series, ft. Bill Jenkins & The Virginia Mountain Boys, Hampton History Museum, Wednesday, July 20, 6-8pm
- ✚ Induction Banquet for the Virginia Lower Peninsula Athletic Hall of Fame, Boo Williams Sportsplex, Sunday, August 7, 6pm – tickets \$30
- ✚ Crabtown Seafood Festival, Downtown Hampton, Saturday, September 3, 11am-7pm

Dave added there are several PRLS activities that are free to Seniors, such as the tennis, volleyball, basketball and pickle ball courts, outdoor fitness equipment at Gosnold's Hope Park, the disc golf course, dog parks, nature/hiking trails, and many volunteer opportunities with the Hampton Clean City Commission.

Fee-based PRLS activities for Seniors include the golf courses, museums, pedal boating, kayaking, and canoe rentals, access to the James T. Wilson Fishing Pier which is now open 24hrs., camping and yurt rentals, fitness and leisure classes at the community and neighborhood centers, picnic shelter and facility rentals, and indoor pools and water instruction classes.

Martha Clark stated that parking was a huge issue for her at Buckroe Beach events. Dave responded that parking is being addressed.

Old Business - Subcommittee Meeting Update

Speakers Bureau: Cynthia advised that there was not a quorum at the June 6 meeting, but she and Martha Clark were able to present several topics for discussion at the July 11 meeting. At today's meeting, there was a quorum and a decision to meet on a quarterly basis was voted upon. Upcoming meeting dates are October 3, January 2, and April 3. At the June meeting Martha suggested speakers that would address services provided by the Peninsula Food Bank, and how seniors can downsize. At today's meeting, Lewis brought up topics needing immediate attention – hunger/food desserts/food inadequacies within the senior demographic. Linda asked Lewis to briefly speak on the topic during today's meeting.

Mayor's Town Hall: Lewis announced that there was a quorum at the June 6 meeting. It was decided that the meetings would coincide with the monthly SCAC meetings and would convene at 11am. Right now, the committee is determining dates/sites for the forum and to work with the Mayor's office on topics to be addressed. Cassandra Alston-Townsley requested to speak with Lewis after the meeting regarding more information that may be included.

Senior Residential Living: Tonya said there was no quorum at the June meeting; however, they are currently working on updating a previous submitted listing of senior residential living facilities.

Annual Report: Cynthia noted there was not a meeting in June, and asked permission to postpone meeting until August 3. Angela asked that the request for meeting change be noted in the minutes and a correction be sent for posting to the city website.

Hospitality: Doris noted there was not a quorum at the June meeting, but a quorum was present at today's meeting. Graylyn noted that gift bags are being designed to distribute to new members. He asked if personal information is allowed, such as personal ads, etc. Angela and Dave stated that only information pertaining to senior resources and information may be placed in the bags, and all must be Hampton specific.

Linda reiterated the need for each subcommittee to record and submit meeting notices, agendas and minutes in a timely fashion. For right now, subcommittee chairs to forward their information to Cynthia.

Lewis was then invited to address the board on the food inadequacies and hunger issues faced by so many seniors. He introduced articles published in the Washington Post citing the growing crisis of food insecurities for many senior communities. In addition to food insecurities are food desserts and hunger in general. He asked if speakers could be scheduled that could address this problem. The Virginia Department of Health's nutrition division, in addition to the Peninsula Agency on Aging, the Peninsula Food Bank, and the Hampton Ecumenical Lodgings and Provisions, Inc. Martha noted that these agencies would be resources for addressing the issue and could connect us to more such agencies. Lewis said there's a need to have a centralized mode of getting this information out to the community.

Other suggestions included researching what surrounding cities are doing to address the need, contacting area farmers for partnership opportunities, and asking for agency sponsorships. Cassandra added that in finding ways to cope with her disability, she has begun networking with Hampton food ministries. She's also working on researching grants to help her transform her garage into a food pantry. She stated that she would share her information with Lewis in an effort to link seniors with area food resources. Susan Crigler-Castle gave the name of Amy Whitcover-Sandford of S.A.M.E that operates out of Hampton Baptist Church, 40 Kings Way. Vivian Clayton, PAA's Resource Coordinator was also suggested as a contact. Vivian coordinates PAA's Meals on Wheels and the Dining Center at Ivy Memorial Church. T.H.R.I.V.E. is another resource. Susan C that in order to participate in Meals on Wheels, residents must be Peninsula residents, at least 60 years of age and be considered homebound or present a safety risk in preparing their own meals. Linda added that as a former Meals on Wheels driver, the people you meet during deliveries look forward to not only the meals, but also the conversation and friendship. She stated that for some clients, the Meals on Wheels driver might be the only person they see all week.

Phyllis announced that Human Services also offers a food pantry, as does the Hampton Senior Center. Dave asked what are the top three items seniors want/need. Susan Elswick stated non-perishable items,

especially canned meats, along with potatoes and rice. Dave asked that once a listing of resources has been created that it be submitted to Marketing, Inc. for publication.

New Business - Board Member Updates

Cynthia stated that although it was noted in the June meeting that member Yvonne Gaynor had resigned, no official notice has been received from Council. Council has been asked to provide a new list of board applicants, keeping in mind that both Yvonne's and George Gwynne's 2nd terms will expire in December this year.

Lead Agency Updates

Social Services: Ms. Palin stated that she was Yolanda Clark's and the now retired Gina Lewis' supervisor. She asked if she should continue to attending meetings until such time a new head of the Foster Grandparents Program would be selected. Linda told her yes. Phyllis also stated that Yolanda will continue to attend.

PAA: Susan Crigler-Castle announced PAA's annual Senior Expo. This expo, usually held in March, was changed to an October date during the pandemic, but will be scheduled again for March of 2023. Several hundred vendors will be on hand along with special presenters at the October 5 event. Ample parking will be available at the Hampton Roads Visitors and Convention Center. Susan also added that PAA provides free transportation to Hampton Vets for medical visits to the Hampton VA Center – and this is free to vets only. She stressed that this service is for morning appointments only since drivers must be back in time to perform other duties. PAA asks for a 24hr notice of transportation requests for vets. Transportation is also provided to independent living seniors for medical appointments, and these require a 7-day notice to request services.

HNNCSB: Mary Mills-Collins asked if anyone knew of other organizations or resources that provided geriatric outreach/assistance to those experiencing behavioral health issues. Mary added that she's seen an increase in homelessness after hospital stays and would like more information on if there's a task force that can address these issues and concerns. Susan Elswick asked to speak with Mary after the meeting to provide more information. Dave asked that her request be placed on the August agenda.

Senior Center: Susan Elswick introduced Anthony Bunn, a student intern working with her through the City's Youth Summer Employment Program. Linda said that Anthony taught her some points on how to get the best use from her computer and cell phone. Workshops with Anthony are 15 minutes in length and are on Fridays by appointment only. Members were encouraged to participate.

Public Comment

Former Board Member Doris Farmer introduced Virgil Moseley, stating that he always give flowers to women at the Center and he is an awesome gentleman. Linda invited Virgil back to future meetings, asking him to share his ideas and concerns and she thanked him for attending.

Adjournment

Linda allowed all remaining guests the opportunity to identify themselves and the agency they represented. She closed the meeting by inviting everyone to exit the meeting through the rear doors so they could see the wonderful patio and garden installed by the Senior Center Staff. She also asked that everyone be a ray of sunshine in someone's cloud, adding that by sharing your smile, you just may brighten someone's day. The meeting closed with prayer and adjourned at 11:10am.

Minutes submitted by C'Faison Harris, Board Member