

FULTON COUNTY LONG TERM CARE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Date: March 28, 2012
Time: 8:30 a.m.
Location: Community Health Center
2-8 West Main Street
Johnstown, NY 12095

Attendance: Marion Balch, Chairperson, Fulton County LTC Council
Andrea Fettinger, Director, Fulton County OFA
Lauren Bisio, Administrator, Getman Home
Margaret Luck, Lifeline Coordinator, Nathan Littauer Hospital
Neal VanSlyke, Administrator, Wells Nursing Home
George Scala, Board Member, Getman Home
Kristen Batcheloer, Board Member, Getman Home
Nancy Leach, RN Supervisor, Visiting Nurses Homecare
Billie Herringshaw, RN Supervisor, Visiting Nurses Homecare
Karen Glover, Fulton County Adult PSA & Long Term Care Services
Catherine Saj, Administrator, Hillcrest Spring Assisted Living
Ramon Rodriguez, CEO, Home Helpers
Patricia Mullarkey, Program Manager VNHC
Christina Akey, PHE, Fulton County Public Health
Claudette Royal, Nathan Littauer Hospital
Ann Quinn, Home Health Care Partners
Karen Clark, Home Health Care Partners
Mildred Ferriter, Executive Director, Community Health Center
Karen Britt, Alzheimer's Association, FC LTCC Vice Chairperson
Karen Thayer, ED/Sr. RRDS
Shery Cooper, Commissioner, Fulton County DSS

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Chairperson, Marion Balch.

Approval of November 29, 2011 Meeting Minutes

The minutes of the November 29, 2011 meeting were reviewed with copy on file. A motion to approve the minutes was made by N. VanSlyke and seconded by K. Clark.

Bylaws Revisions – Karen Clark

Proposed revisions to the Council's bylaws were provided to members in advance of the meeting. K. Clark explained that the goal was to add flexibility to the bylaws without having to amend them on a continuous basis. This included developing a mechanism to add new people and remove people who have not met attendance criteria. The current membership would be grand-fathered in until a resolution is

added to the bylaws reflecting that these are the beginning members for voting purposes. M. Balch added that a membership chairperson or a secretary could be appointed to track membership and recruit new members. M. Balch asked the group to send recommendations or questions regarding the bylaws to Karen Clark, noting that the bylaws will be voted on at the next business meeting.

There are some individuals who serve on the Montgomery County Long Term Care Council as well the Fulton County Long Term Care Council. Following discussion, it was felt beneficial to combine the full membership of both groups for educational sessions or as needed.

Discussion re: Educational Program by NYS Home Care Association on 3/9/12

K. Britt reported that there was a good turnout at the educational program presented by the President of the NYS Home Care Association on March 9th. Feedback reflected that this was good information on the changes in the health care environment, their perspective on care, and the overhauling of the long term care system.

Suggestions for topics in the future included the following:

- 1) Ongoing updates on Medicaid re-design – K. Thayer will provide K. Britt with names of potential speakers
- 2) Home modifications and potential funding sources for it
- 3) Palliative Care

K. Britt asked members to let her know of sources for this information. A suggestion was made to schedule the next educational session in the fall.

CAP Restructuring – Andrea Fettinger & Sherri Cooper

The Fulton County Board of Supervisors Human Resources Committee recently voted to dissolve the Central Assessment Program. This issue will be brought before the full board for approval at their next meeting. Previously, the DSS handled Medicaid Long Term Care and the OFA handled all non-Medicaid aging funded services. It is clear that Long Term Care services will transition to a Managed Medicaid model and the elements of the assessment will change. The two caseworkers from CAP are returning to the OFA. The DSS will move into adult services, with Karen Glover as the contact. PRI's will be completed by the DSS.

A suggestion was made to put together a services directory reflecting the changes. A. Fettinger recommended using the New York Connects website for making the changes and making people aware of the resource links on this website.

Getman Home Presentation –

George Scala, Kristen Batcheloer, and Lauren Bisio from the Getman Home were introduced. Background information on the Getman Home was provided, including the fact that the facility has a maximum capacity of 19 residents (both male and female) and is currently fully occupied. Some operational changes were made in 2010 to keep it afloat, and, as a result, the facility is currently at breakeven.

The aging population in Fulton County is higher than other counties in the state and the average income is relatively low, approximately \$25,000. The Getman Home is looking at an expansion of its mission that would include serving the low income population. This is currently in the planning phase and will include a feasibility study conducted by a team of people who interact with this population. Once this study has been completed, it may be decided to construct a larger facility to service 100 to 150 people based on the needs of the population. This could also include congregate living and dementia care.

Request for Information Regarding New Long Term Care Agencies in Fulton County

M. Balch requested that members contact Lynn Richardson or herself with suggestions for new members.

Other

K. Britt informed the group that the Alzheimer's Association will have its annual Fundraiser Walk on May 6th at FMCC and distributed materials containing information on sponsorship of this event.

Significant Agency Updates

B. Balch distributed the Sacandaga Task Force's brochure, noting that this group has a bus for non-duplicated transportation for MD appointments, senior events, etc., to fill niches in the community.

Adjournment

Following discussion, it was decided to schedule the group's next business meeting on June 20th at 8:30 a.m. at the Community Health Center.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynn Richardson
Administrative Assistant
Community Health Center