



**ARLINGTON COMMISSION ON LONG-TERM CARE RESIDENCES**  
c/o Agency on Aging, DHS  
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**MEETING SUMMARY**  
**November 13, 2013**

Approved on December 11, 2013

**PRESENT:** Tom Fonseca, Chair; Joe Briglia, Steve Carfora, Sara Greenberg, Claire Jacobsen, Steve Jennings, John Kozar, Elizabeth Margetta, Lynne Pilot, Alice Paxton, Lynwood Sinnamon, Leslie Walsh

**ABSENT:** Kristi Dudash\* (ex-officio member), Andrea Callow,\* Gene Robinson\*, Cynthia Schneider\*, Genevieve Timpane\* \* excused absence

**STAFF:** Glenda Blake, Maimoona Bah-Duckenfield, Meredith Eisenhart, Reggie Lawson

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**I. Call to Order**

**II. Presentation:** Where to Look for Answers to Your Long-Term Care Questions: State Advocacy Resources –Erica Wood

- Erica Wood is assistant director of the American Bar Association’s Commission on Law and is a member of the Arlington Commission on Aging. She presented state level resources for researching issues in long-term care. Andrea Callow will present national level resources at an upcoming Commission meeting.
- Resources discussed included: Virginia Elder Rights Coalition (pertaining to discharge); Virginia Poverty Law Center (discharge); Virginia Association of Personal Care Assistants (workforce); Office of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program (workforce); Virginia Service Employees International Union (workforce); Auxiliary Grant program; and more. Ms. Wood’s handout is available by email for a detailed summary of these resources.
- There was discussion around the low level of funding that Auxiliary Grants provide to ALFs, which dis-incentivizes their participation in the program. Mr. Fonseca raised the question of whether there is unmet need in the County for Auxiliary Grants, as well as the extent of need for ALF level of care that is not being met.
- Arlington County’s Economic Independence Division would be able to provide additional information on Auxiliary Grants, and may be an appropriate future speaker for LTCRC.

**III. Minutes Approval** – October 2013 minutes were approved with no changes.

**IV. Staff Reports**

A. EMS (not present)

B. LTC Ombudsman (Beth Ann Margetta)

- Ms. Margetta provided updates from the NVLCOP’s recent quarterly report

- Ombudsman staff investigated 6 complaint cases with 8 issues in the jurisdiction of Arlington.
- Trained volunteers of the Ombudsman Program handled 23 complaint cases with 25 issues.
- Leading complaints were related to care and availability of choice. Others were related to environment, diet, and access to information.
- NVLTCOP has seen more issues arise where individuals are concerned about their choice of activities, particularly for residents with dementia.
- NVLTCOP has increased visitations by 20% from previous quarter.
- Staff conducted presentations on resident rights at Mary Marshall and Emeritus.
- Staff conducted volunteer training in the spring and volunteers have been placed in residences. Actively recruiting for more volunteers for the next training which will be held in March.
- In Arlington, volunteers are placed at Cherrydale, Manor Care, Potomac Center, and Sunrise Bluemont. There are two volunteers each at Potomac Center and Manor Care. Hope to be able to provide additional coverage after volunteer training.

C. Adult Protective Services (Reginald Lawson)

- 4 new investigations in October that are in process. There were no new allegations in September, and therefore no new findings in October.
- APS does not typically investigate resident to resident altercations at facilities, unless there is a pattern or a need for medical treatment. When APS is involved, staff will typically examine whether there is an appropriate safety plan.

D. Staff Report (Maimoona Bah-Duckenfield)

- Open enrollment for Medicare Part D began October 15. VICAP is mobilized to many of the independent residences and ALFs.
- Guardianship training was held at Mary Marshall on November 12 to explain role of guardian in participating in care plans to ensure they are person-centered and address challenges.
- Affordable dental resources is an issue; Medicaid has limited coverage. Staff will provide information on local dental resources.
- As of December 1, Susan Lane will attend Commission meetings and provide additional administrative support to the Commission.
- Walter Reed Adult Day has a free memory screening on November 20.

## **VI. Announcements and Public Comment**

- Mr. Carfora: The 55+ Guide has classes on dementia, legal services, nursing home quality, and more. Some are provided by DHS staff. Inquired whether other trainings are consistent with Commission trainings and whether there is overlap.

## **VII. Committee Meetings**

A. Outreach Committee (John Kozar)

- There have been six confirmed slideshow presentations with several underway. Looking for locations for February, May, and June presentations.
  - Mr. Fonseca remarked that of the presentations conducted thus far, the general reaction has been surprise and interest in the number of facilities in the County, where they are, and what they do.
  - Website may launch in December and will incorporate information on long-term care residences.
  - Ms. Joy Nathan, a volunteer with the Commission, is organizing the awards program for staff at long-term care residences. The awards will be presented at the June County Board meeting.
  - Mr. Fonseca noted that there is a lot of momentum in this committee. It is important to address sustainability. Looking at coordinating more with COA's Committee on Public Information and Outreach.
- B. Legislative Impact Working group (Tom Fonseca)
- Goal is to look at ACA and identify opportunities of potential funding for innovative ways of providing care.
- C. Standards Committee (Tom Fonseca)
- Ms. Schneider will be acting chair of this Committee.
- D. Liaison Meeting (Maimoona Bah-Duckenfield)
- Administrator has traditionally been primary contact for the liaisons. To gain more insight within the community, it may be best to go directly to social work staff. Social work staff is aware of resource needs or other gaps. They would also be the ones to implement linkages between County and community.
  - DHS staff would like to link with Administrator at the start when a new Administrator is hired or when a new liaison starts.
  - Liaisons will also be connecting the facilities with community resources that they may not otherwise be aware of.

**VIII. Adjourn** – Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Next meeting: December 11th at Mary Marshall Assisted Living