

Louisa County Commission on Aging

Meeting Minutes – April 5, 2023

Attendees

Angie Hunter – Louisa District (JABA)
Lily Bramble – Jackson District
Cindy Swann – Mountain Road District
Jo Griffith – Mineral District
Jon Tustin – Louisa District
Florence Reece – Louisa District
Curline Bell – Louisa District
Joanne Hogle – Cuckoo District
Tammy Rogers – Green Springs District
Jody McEwen – Bumpass District (AARP)
Barbara Hollins – Jackson District
Lillian Morris – Mountain Road District
Willie Gentry – Board of Supervisors
James Smith – LCPR
Kathy Swarthon – Cuckoo District

Notes

Treasurer Report:
Previous Balance: \$2,953.20
Balance as of March 31st: \$2,953.20

New Secretary: Angie Hunter (Louisa-JABA)
New Member: Tammy Rogers (Green Springs District)

Maxine Ryan – Current President AARP
“To Serve and Not Be Served.”
Meetings Aug-June, no meetings in July.
2nd Wednesday of each month, Methodist Church.

\$10 annual membership fee is used for the following:

- Not supporting anything nationally, only locally.
- Giving to the Resource Council.
- Supporting the school system (donating supplies).
- Collecting food for the animal shelter around June.
- Collect canned goods, bags of food.
- Giving to Santa Council.

Every Tuesday AARP visits Louisa Health & Rehabilitation to play BINGO with patients – help members with cards, distribute prizes, 1st card Bingo 2nd Full Card.

Next meeting will be Wednesday April 12th.

Anyone 50 & over can attend AARP meetings.

Volunteer services collect information on what members volunteer for, such as babysitting or Sunday school.

AARP will either have a table at the Betty Queen Center Barbecue or they will give COA material for their table.

Word of mouth will attract new members.

Shirley Mann is the travel group trip coordinator.

- 1) Day trip to Michie Tavern.
- 2) Fall trip to Graves Mountain lodge.
- 3) Ohio Island Hopping: June 19th – June 22nd, 4 days, 3 nights. Includes: transportation (charter bus), breakfast, dinner and hotel. Lunch you will have to buy or provide. At least 25 people to participate. Just a trip for the elderly to have fun!

Contact Stacy Fletcher for senior programs such as tax relief.

Connect with Board of Supervisors to tell the county what the elderly (seasoned adults) may need in the county.

Housing Seminar in Charlottesville – AARP gave report at the Seminar. Regarding housing needs, different situations and sources of information.

Old Business

Jo: All member information correct and finalize bylaws.

Willie: Once Tammy joins we will have someone from each district and we will be full.

Jo: Fair schedule – I am working on it.

COA to BOS – major concern presenting to the board, COA criticized by the BOS.

Willie: Very proud of the report but embarrassed about how Jo was treated at BOS meeting. BOS still does not know what COA does for the county. BOS was not very accepting of COA. Things did not get discussed by the board and has not been addressed. All volunteers' presentations & report Jo put together were wonderful. Survey took over 100 hours of volunteer services.

Rachel on BOS apologized about how Jo was treated.

Jon: Next steps: we need to go in front of them, express our disappointments, send letter; BOS approved COA bylaws.

Willie: Emphasized bylaws; board studies gather information.

Jo: Conservative faction reject Tony & Dwayne small government.

Willie: Where do we go from here? Board has to adjust itself. Party politics on local level. Plenty of services are needed in county – biggest service is housing and how to get to the middle people.

Joanne: Do not feel valued by the County. Can take services to JABA, etc. to help the elderly.

Jon: Never going to get 100% from the board – it has been this way forever.

Willie: Going forward, better educate the board – forcing ourselves on the board. Supply more education & information to the board to educate them about COA. Express more to the board and in groups like this.

Tammy: Take away from the BOA meeting: we should be collaborating with Housing more.

Attend IAC meeting on Thursday April 6th in person at the County Office Building at 9am.

Tammy: Formal request to review. What other localities do to engage with their BOS.

James: Clarify what the Board expects? Maybe attack mode is not the correct way. We need to collaborate with other organizations with elderly seniors etc.

Willie: We try to bring in other organization speakers in our meetings. Maybe let the BOS see our minutes.

Jo: Options – Go to the board, provide them with information on what we do, go before them every 3 months, change bylaws, collect data, collaborating discriminatory information, one-stop shop for elderly.

James: Figure out board expectations. (Value expectations and try to exceed them)

Jon: Dealing with the BOS, you can't go in with thin skin. We are here to fight for the elderly.

Willie: Educate the board on what we do.

Willie: Major ordeal with Christmas luncheon – decided to invite vendors in. Brought information back to the board, one board member said good job.

Losing Adams, Gentry and Purcell from BOA. We need an advocate on the board.

Jo: Take baby steps; do another BOA presentation in 1 month.

Willie: Jo, give Dwayne a call and ask what your expectations of COA are?

Lily: COA members try to attend IAC meetings.

Flo: 69 homeless students in Louisa County High School.

Willie: Can't afford rent. Housing increased. Federal funds and State funds - need more information from people. Talk to landlords.

Lily: Attorney Williams said not interested in affordable housing. We think we do not have a homeless issue in Louisa County but we do.

Jo: We all agree to do more frequent communication with the BOA.

Tammy: Focus on the reasons seniors need affordable housing.

Joanne: We need to see what we can do for organizations to give more money for housing.

Jo: Meeting member attend IAC meetings and make notes.

Willie: Ask organizations to come to meetings. Maybe Kim from Housing. Call supervisors for districts.

New Business

Jo: Joanne got us a spot at Parks and Rec Barbecue. We need someone to pick up the tent.

May 13th at Walton Park in Mineral, VA 11am-4pm.

Joanne & Lily will be there along with Jodi and Jon.

Joanne: Will be there with another organization that day too so Jodi and Jon will entertain people. Can we make time slots for coverage of COA table for that day?

Jo: Governor's conference – BGCA.com. May 9th & 10th, Richmond Marriott Downtown. Curline, Jon and Lily will be attending.

Jo: Senior JABA Digital literacy program is soon. Need to find a date for that.

Anything that we do to help seniors, let Jo know so we can mark it down for volunteer hours for presentation. Submit this information monthly.

Lillian: We need to add Jo to bank to sign – Blue Ridge Bank.