



**REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL
MEETING AGENDA**

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

November 30, 2017

PPACG Main Conference Room

- 1. Call To Order/Establish a Quorum/Introductions**
- 2. Consent items**
 - A. Agenda – November 30, 2017**
 - B. Minutes – October 26, 2017**
- 3. Public Comments - Items not on the agenda**
- 4. Special Presentation:**

Veterans in Charge program, The Independence Center – Marsha Unruh
- 5. Information Items**
 - A. Provider presentation - Silver Key Senior Services – Pat Ellis**
 - B. Membership Subcommittee report – Wendy Farr**
 - C. AAA Director’s report – Joe Urban**
 - D. RAC Chair report – Dave Betzler**
- 6. Calendar of Events**
 - A. PPACG AAA events**
 - B. Community information**
 - C. Next RAC Meeting**

January 25, 2018, 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

PPACG Area Agency on Aging Main Conference Room

14 S. Chestnut St., Colorado Springs, CO 80905

7. Adjournment

***Please park in the large parking lot on the east side of the building
and enter the east entrance to the lower level.
(This entrance faces Chestnut Street.)***



Pikes Peak Area
Council of Governments

Communities Working Together

AREA AGENCY ON AGING

REGIONAL ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES
for Thursday, October 26, 2017

MEMBERS PRESENT

Cynthia Aki
Bea Babbitt
Dave Betzler
Wendy Farr
Norma Garbani
Dixie Herring
Phyllis Huggins
Margaret Hunter
Jerry Novak
Carol Parks
Cheryl Schnell
Frances St. Germain
Nancy Stannard
Joyce Whittle

STAFF

Carrie Schillinger, PPACG AAA
Lisa Alldridge, PPACG AAA
Joe Urban, PPACG AAA
Kent Mathews, PPACG AAA
Bethany Schoemer, PPACG

MEMBERS ABSENT

Barb Caudle
Clint Cooper
Lucy Crandall
Richard Elsner
Marylyn Massey
Jo Ruth

GUESTS

Pat Ellis
Marianne Hamilton
Kristin Ackor
Sarah Lipka
Rebecca Blair
Angie Vehlewald
Laura Engelman
Ralph Power
Gail Gerig
April Leary
Ted Borden
Elisha LoBosco
Traci Tardif

1. CALL TO ORDER/QUORUM/ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS

The October meeting of the Regional Advisory Council (RAC) was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by RAC Chairperson, Dave Betzler, at the PPACG offices in Colorado Springs, Colorado. Members, staff, and guests introduced themselves. **Let the records show that a quorum was present.** (Quorum constitutes 30% of members.)

2. AGENDA APPROVAL

The agenda was approved as written.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

RAC member Phyllis Huggins shared a recent experience at the Ellicott Senior Dinner, in which representatives from TESSA, a domestic violence advocacy agency, gave an informational presentation to the diners. Ms. Huggins spoke to how well the information was received and that older residents of eastern El Paso County would welcome more presentations from other nonprofit agencies serving the area.

5. MINUTES APPROVAL

A motion to approve minutes from the September 28, 2017 RAC meeting as written was made. The motion passed unanimously.

6. SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Angie Vehlewald of the Better Business Bureau of Southern Colorado (BBBSC) gave a presentation to RAC members about illegal scams which target older adults. Scammers are still using established ploys to perpetrate fraud on older adults, such as unnecessary home repairs (driveway sealing or paving, roof repair, sidewalk repair) in which they request payment before doing the work and then never return to do the job. Scammers are also becoming more and more resourceful in their methods to defraud older adults, especially in using telephones to trick individuals into believing a call is local and then requesting financial assistance from a “grandchild”, when these calls often originate from outside the country, which helps protect the perpetrators from criminal prosecution. The BBBSC has rolled out a new program in Colorado Springs, which is connected to the city being awarded Age-Friendly status by AARP and the WHO. The new Age-Friendly business designation the BBBSC offers is intended to help establish safe businesses which older adults can trust. In addition to requiring Age-Friendly businesses to meet all regular BBB business standards, they are also required to make their websites easy to read for those with low-vision and other age-friendly features. The most visible of the age-friendly requirements is requiring all staff of an Age-Friendly business to possess a photo ID card from the business. This ID card shows their name, the business name and their photograph. Response to this new program has been positive in the year since its inception.

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Provider presentations:

- i. Colorado Legal Services– Sarah Lipka: Ms. Lipka gave a presentation to RAC members on the variety of legal services her agency provides to seniors using PPACG AAA funding, as well as on the challenges of the many unmet legal needs of seniors.

- ii. Community of Caring– Ted Borden and Rebecca Blair: Mr. Borden discussed the successes and challenges he and his staff face in delivering case management services to seniors in southern Teller County. The isolated geography of the area can lead to social isolation and the extreme winter conditions can create even more challenges for area seniors, including transportation, access to meals and increased social isolation. Rebecca Blair described the ways in which the Community of Caring acts as a vital community resource in helping seniors successfully address these challenges, giving examples of success stories with teller County seniors.
 - iii. Peak Vista Community Health Centers– Marianne Hamilton and Kristin Ackor: Ms. Hamilton and Ms. Ackor gave a presentation to RAC members about the audiology program for seniors operated at Peak Vista Community Health Centers which is funded by PPACG AAA. Through a variety of innovative strategies, PVCHC has managed to reduce the waiting list for audiology services from as long as 5 years to now only 3 months over the past few years. The 3 month waiting list is now due to a scheduling challenge based on the part-time status of the audiologist, whereas in the past it was due to the limited funding under which the program operated.
 - iv. Teller Senior Coalition– Ralph Power: TSC Executive Director Ralph Power gave a brief overview of the history of the Teller Senior Coalition, which has been serving the seniors of Teller County since 1996. TSC offers seven basic programs to area seniors, five of which are supported by PPACG AAA funds; transportation, rural area meal program, material aid, caregiver support and caregiver respite services, and case management.
- B. AAA Director’s report – Joe Urban
- i. PPACG AAA has been operating since July 1st exclusively on state funds, as the federal Option Letter (allocating federal funds) has not yet been received. This poses a big challenge for programs we fund which are heavily reliant on federal funds, to include all the meal programs and transportation programs we fund. The state did just announce that they have received 1/6 of the FY2018 federal allocation because of the current continuing resolution from the US Congress, which they are going to combine carryover funds from FY2017. This new amalgamated pot of money should allow our providers to operate through early 2018, at which point we are hopeful a new continuing resolution on the federal budget in the US Congress will direct more federal dollars to Colorado. This should enable us to operate all programs for the entirety of FY2018.
 - ii. PPACG is nearing the completion of the executive director search. The search committee will be forwarding the names of three individuals on to the PPACG Board of Directors for final selection at the November 8th PPACG Board meeting. Meet and greet events for both PPACG staff and Board of Directors will be held on November 7th.
 - iii. The Innovations in Aging Collaborative is convening a meeting to discuss the concept of an information portal for the community, one to which

seniors and their family members could be directed to find the resources they need related to aging. PPACG AAA staff will be participating in this process.

- iv. Senate Bill 17-11: committed funds to design a pilot project in El Paso and Teller counties to use technology to improve access to transportation for adults with disabilities. PPACG AAA has participated in the working group which is helping to define the pilot program. The final report is due to the governor by December 31st.
- v. The Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging (SAPGA) top priority when formed was to establish a cabinet level position in the Colorado governor's office. The Next 50 Foundation has agreed to fund that new cabinet position for the first 3 years. The governor's office is currently working to identify and hire the individual who will fill that new cabinet position. The goal is to have that task complete by the end of 2017.

C. RAC Chair report – Dave Betzler: There is a Tri-Lakes area church which is emphasizing community information sessions for the public. The sessions are held in Monument at the Pikes Peak Brewery, which has a large meeting space. Kent Mathews recently presented about family caregiver issues at one of these information sessions. There is an interest in the Tri-Lakes area in having more agencies which serve northern El Paso County participate in these sessions.

D. Community Information

John Zay House (next door to Penrose Hospital) has recently had an addition built on to it that has expanded its capacity to house the family members of patients at Penrose Hospital. Operated by the Penrose Hospital Foundation, this housing, and the meals prepared and served there, are free to those who are staying there. Generous donations paid for the addition onto the building and teams of volunteers rotate through the kitchen preparing dinners for those staying at the facility.

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| 9. | <u>NEXT RAC EVENT</u> | <u>November RAC meeting</u> |
| | DATE: | Thursday, November 30th, 2017 |
| | TIME: | 9:00AM – 12:00PM |
| | LOCATION: | PPACG AAA
14 S. Chestnut Street
Colorado Springs, CO 80905 |

8. **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned by Chair Dave Betzler 11:48PM.