

**AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF PASCO-PINELLAS, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES
HELD AT AAAPP CONFERENCE ROOM, 9549 KOGER BLVD
ST. PETERSBURG, FL 33702
MAY 15, 2023**

Board Members Present

President, Stuart Strikowsky
Treasurer, David Alvarez
Secretary, Audrey Baria
Barbara Sheen Todd
Charlie Justice, Commissioner, Pinellas Board of County Commissioners
Chris Comstock
Judge George Jirotko, 6th Judicial Circuit
Julie Hale
Mai Vu
Paula O'Neil, PhD
Virginia Rowell

Board Members Not Present:

Vice President, Anne Corona (excused)
Immediate Past President, Charlie Robinson (excused)
Gary Bradford, Commissioner, Pasco Board of County Commissioners (excused)
Lena Wilfalk (excused)
Lisa Shippy-Gonzalez (excused)

Others Present on Teams

DOEA Secretary, Michelle Branham

Others Present in Person:

Ann Marie Winter, Executive Director, Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas
Paula Moore, Chief Financial Officer, Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas
Christine Didion, Director of Program Accountability, Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas
Tawnya Martino ARDC Director, Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas
Jason Martino, Director of Planning, Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas
Sandra Brown, Human Resources Manager, Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas
Colleen Flynn, Legal Counsel, Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas
Matt McKenna, Data/It Support Specialist, Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas
Virginia Joseph, Executive Assistant, Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas
Cathy Person, Pasco County
Christine Caudill, CARES
Christine Krohn, GCJFCS
Jemith Rosa, CEO CARES
Lea Thorpe, CARES
Maritza Valengues, CARES
Melody Peckas, CARES
Monica Olson, CARES
Patty Smith, CARES
Rick Soriano, CARES
Sabrina Topp, CARES
Sylvia Lockard, CARES
Tom Snee, Pasco County

Trudy Zayac, CARES
Veronica Ignat, Pasco County
Victoria Anei, CARES
Virginia Arruda, CARES
Zachariah Fromm, CARES

Agenda Item #1 – Call to Order

The Area Agency on Aging of Pasco-Pinellas, Inc. Board of Directors meeting was held on Monday May 15, 2023, at 9549 Koger Blvd, St. Petersburg, FL 33702. President Stuart Strikowsky called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

Agenda Item #2 – Introduction of Audience

President Stuart Strikowsky invited the audience to introduce themselves, which they did.

Agenda Item #3 – Public Meeting Notice

President Stuart Strikowsky announced the meeting was publicly noticed.

Agenda Item #4 – Roll Call

Ms. Ann Marie Winter, Executive Director called the roll. A quorum of board members was present.

Agenda Item #5 – Public Comments for Items on Agenda

Ms. Jemith Rosa, President/CEO of CARES on behalf of the CARES Board of Directors, stated that the employees, volunteers and clients deeply thanked the Agency for understanding the unfortunate situation that CARES was currently experiencing. Ms. Rosa stated that it is a one sided article in the newspaper. Ms. Rosa stated that CARES was seeking solutions to the problems, that CARES Board was actively trying to remedy the situation presented in the newspaper in Pasco County. Ms. Rosa ensured everyone in attendance that what appeared in the Tampa Bay Times is not the case, CARES was here to stay, have been providing services to the community in Pasco County for the past 50 years and will continue to serve. Ms. Rosa stated that the CARES Board has decided to concentrate on what CARES does best, which is to provide services in home care, and soon to be 4 adult day care centers throughout the county. Ms. Rosa expressed her apologies for the misinformation that is out there in the Tampa Bay Times and stated that it will be clarified sooner than later. Ms. Rosa thanked Ann Marie Winter and her Team for everything being done and it is CARES' hope that when a new agency is chosen to manage the CCE Lead Agency, that CARES team of Case Management and Case Aid will assist with transition to the new lead agency, to continue the care for seniors in Pasco County.

DOEA Secretary Ms. Michelle Branham, commented that she deeply appreciated the incredible work being done by Ms. Ann Marie Winter. Secretary Branham stated that she has been working very closely with Ms. Winter and the Board President at the AAAPP, the organization and the providers who work with the agency and the seniors in the area. Secretary Branham stated that she wanted to lend her support and tell everyone on the Board that she is very impressed with the Executive Director and the work that she is doing, and the steps being taken to ensure that services are not interrupted in order to meet the needs of seniors in PSA5. In closing Secretary Branham thanked Ms. Winter for working diligently, for the great work and leadership that she provides.

Rick Soriano, Chairman CARES Board thanked case managers who took time off from their busy schedules to be here at this meeting. Thank you for everything that you do for seniors your job is not an easy one and we understand that.

Agenda Item #6 – Addendum Item(s) or Any Item Requiring Discussion

Addendum Item - RFP CCE Lead Agency Pasco County

Ms. Ann Marie Winter, Executive Director reported that CARES was the only respondent to the 2023-2024 RFP for the CCE Lead Agency Pasco designation. Owing to the programmatic, fiscal and managerial concerns that the AAAPP has identified, an award was recommended with a 60 day probationary period. Ms. Winter highlighted the documents presented on the issue, which were as follows: Summary Document re CARES, Programmatic & Fiscal 60 day requirements, CARES Termination Letter and 2023 Timeline for RFP for CCE-HCE-ADI- Lead Agency Pasco. Ms. Winter stated that since then, CARES has withdrawn its application in response to the RFP. Ms. Winter highlighted that CARES' decision was an immediate danger to the public health, safety and welfare of the seniors of Pasco County which requires an emergency procurement. With the above in mind, the Area Agency on Aging of Pasco Pinellas recommended that Gulf Coast Jewish Family & Community Services be named as the interim Lead Agency effective July 1, 2023 and that an emergency procurement be initiated. There were questions and comments which was addressed by Ms. Ann Marie Winter and staff. There being no other comments Ms. Barbara Sheen Todd made a motion to approve the Emergency Procurement owing to the immediate danger to the public health, safety and welfare of the seniors of Pasco County and to award the Lead Agency designation to Gulf Coast Jewish Family & Community Services on an interim basis until a new lead agency is awarded the contract. Ms. Virginia Rowell seconded the motion, none opposed. Motion carried.

Agenda Item #7 – Consent Agenda

Treasurer David Alvarez stated that the items on the Consent Agenda were: Board Meeting Minutes of April 17, 2023, Finance Committee Meeting Minutes of April 6, 2023, AAAPP Unaudited Statements of Financial Position Year to Date, March 31, 2023, AAAPP Unaudited Statement of Revenue and Expenditure Report Year to Date March 31, 2023, AAAPP Unaudited Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets Year to Date March 31, 2023, Surplus (Deficit) Report by Planning and Service Area (PSA) for Year to Date March 31, 2023, Monitoring Report(s): Gulfcoast Legal Services – Annual Programmatic Monitoring Report for the Older American's Act Title IIIB/LSP Legal Services Program, Pinellas Opportunity Council, Inc. - Annual Programmatic Monitoring Report for the Emergency Home Energy Assistance Program (EHEAP) and Fiscal Monitoring Schedule for 2022 Contracts. Treasurer David Alvarez made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Commissioner Charlie Justice seconded. None opposed, motion carried.

Agenda Item #8 – Items for Discussion from the Consent Agenda

None.

Agenda Item #9 - Program Planning and Development Committee Report RFP for CCE Lead Agency Pinellas County

Chair, Julie Hale reported that the Program Planning and Development Committee met via Teams Meeting on May 1, 2023 and reviewed the RFP for CCE Lead Agency Pinellas County.

Ms. Hale noted the RFP Selection Committee met on April 24, 2023 by Teams and reviewed and scored the applications submitted by Gulf Coast Jewish Family & Community Services, Inc. (GCJFCS) and Independent Living Systems, LLC. (ILS). Ms. Hale stated that GCJFCS scored an average of 592.44 and ILS scored an average of 535.13. Based on the results of the scores, the RFP Selection Committee made a motion to recommend GCJFCS, Inc. as the successful respondent to the RFP for CCE Lead Agency in Pinellas County. The Program Planning & Development Committee made a motion to award the CCE Lead Agency Pinellas County contract to GCJFCS. The Board voted on the recommendation of the Committee, none opposed. The motion was carried.

Agenda item #10 – DOEA Funding

Ms. Ann Marie Winter, Executive Director reported that the AAAPP have been notified by the Department of Elder Affairs that an additional allocation of \$995,000 will be contracted to the AAAPP for CCE services to be expended by June 30, 2023. These funds will be allocated to CARES to help cover their deficit. Judge George Jirotko made a motion to approve the DOEA additional allocation of \$995,000 for CCE services. Dr Audrey Baria seconded. None opposed, the motion was carried.

Agenda Item #11 – Older Americans' Month 2023

Mr. Jason Martino, Director of Planning presented on Older Americans Month (May 2023). Mr. Martino highlighted that every May Every May, the Administration for Community Living leads the nation's observance of Older Americans Month (OAM). This year the 2023 theme is "***Aging Unbound***" and celebrates older adults remaining engaged, independent, and included. The 2023 theme is "***Aging Unbound***" which offers an opportunity to explore diverse aging experiences and discuss how communities can combat stereotypes. A number of proclamations from each municipality in our Planning and Service Area was received. Proclamation were on display, in observance of Older Americans Month. For information only. No action necessary.

Agenda Item #12 – 2023 Annual Luncheon Update

Ms. Ann Marie Winter, AAAPP Executive Director provided an update on the 2023 AAAPP Annual Luncheon. Thanked Dr Baria for WellMed Charitable Foundation, being our presenting sponsor. A leader of the foundation will be presenting on behalf of WellMed. The luncheon is about celebrating seniors and the organizations that help the Agency in ensuring that seniors have live their best lives. There will be more than 20 vendors participating in the exhibitors showcase. Ms. Lynette Buchanan will be the awardee for the 2023 Sallie Parks Outstanding Humanitarian Award.

Agenda Item #13 – President Report

President Stuart Strikowsky thanked Board members, Executive Director and staff for their support on the luncheon despite trying times, ensuring that it happened for the benefit of seniors in Pasco and Pinellas Counties.

Agenda Item #14 – Executive Directors Report

The Executive Director reported that the Agency was now at one business day on returning helpline calls compared to 12 business day last month. Congratulated ADRC Director and her team. Announced that the COO position has now been filled. Ms. Kerry Marsalek will be joining the Agency on Monday June 12, 2023. Two articles in the Tampa Bay Times where the Executive Director was quoted, noted on record that she did not reach out to the Tampa Bay Times, was contacted by the Tampa Bay Times. There will be a Wall Street Journal Article on Housing Insecurity specially aimed at seniors due by the end of May. The Executive Director reported on the following: Two senior members of DOEA visited AAAPP offices on April 19, 2023. Discussed issues that are impacting the Agency; 2809 calls versus in April 2022 when we had 2115 calls, an increase of 694 calls or 33% over last year; staff vacancies on the Helpline; 1043 clients being served by GCJFCS and CARES in the state funded CCE, HCE and ADI programs; 1310 seniors on the waitlist for GR programs; progress on the new statewide system, eCIRTS and AAAs issues with reporting, billing and data accuracy. The Executive Director serves on the SE4A Board, the 9-state regional as the Co-Chair of the ADRC workgroup with Tawnya Martino, our ADRC Director, am a founding member of the St Pete Food Policy Council and serve as a Director on the Board of HPH Hospice of Chapters Health Systems. Meetings are now being held virtually and in person. For this period, the Executive Director participated in 36 meetings. Meetings with individual board members, DOEA, agency's legal counsel and individual AAAPP staff are not included in this number.

Agenda Item #15 – Board Members Comments

Board members commented as follows:

1. What have been the factors contributing to the increase in calls which Ms. Tawnya Martino, ADRC Director, addressed.
2. Jason Martino, Director of Planning and staff were commended on the display of proclamations, a job well done.
3. Current immigration legislation in Florida and how that will impact the work of the agency of which Ms. Winter addressed.
4. The current situation of homelessness among seniors, the Agency is encouraged to invite representatives from the Homeless Coalition of Pinellas and Pasco to do a presentation to the Board which Ms. Winter addressed.

Agenda Item #16 – Open Agenda/Public Comments

None

Agenda Item #17 – Adjourn

There being no other items for discussion the meeting adjourned at 10:15a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Audrey Baria, Secretary

Approved if signed

Virginia Joseph
Recording Secretary

Date_____