



Central Texas Regional Aging, Disability & Veterans Resource Center
Advisory Committee Meeting Notes
July 9, 2018

Members Present:

Jerry Butts, Chairman
Peggy Cosner
Tama Shaw

CTADVRC Staff Present:

Kerry Phillip, Director
Jessica Keys
Pam Patterson
Thomas Wilson

Jerry Butts, Chairman called the meeting to order at 3:09 p.m.

The following items were discussed:

- Peggy Cosner motioned that the minutes from the April meeting be approved, Tama Shaw second the motion and it was carried by the members.
- Kerry provided AAA second quarter metrics charts to the members, explaining that the staff has been working very hard. She is pleased and confident that the numbers reflect the work that is being done by staff.
- Members continue to be concerned that it is not logical to expect AAA's to provide services for \$95 per unit. To address that concern Kerry told the group about the meeting with Wayne Salter, HHSC Director of Access and Accessibility held in Austin. She stated that he took off his coat, loosened his tie and sat on the corner of the table and told the people present to "let him have it". Kerry was the first one to speak and it opened the "flood gates". Most ADRC and AAA directors are concerned about the lack of communication, the constant deadlines we are required to meet and the lack of help with our questions and concerns.
- Kerry further explained that the new department created by HHSC, BOS is designed to separate the programmatic side from contracting. This was done in order that staff can better concentrate on their area of expertise.

- Kerry mentioned that we will be getting new software with RTZ shortly. The new software will allow both AAA and ADRC staff to have one sign on capability. She believes this will eventually lead to more required reporting on the ADRC side to get them aligned with the AAA's.
- Kerry provided information on the Texas Serves program designed to help veterans make one phone call for all their needs. She explained that the program in San Antonio has out-performed the program in New York and North Carolina in their first 6 months. A second Texas program is starting shortly in Dallas and she is attending the opening. The program administrators are leaning towards placing the third program in Austin or El Paso, but Kerry and Jim Reed are campaigning to have it reside here at the COG. Their main weapon is that we are in close proximity to Fort Hood and our veteran population is growing in this area. They are meeting with the Texas Serves administrators on July 27th to discuss the nuts and bolts of the funding.
- The next item discussed was a dementia project that has been approved by Baylor, Scott and White to be housed with the AAA. The program will aid patients and their caregivers to set up an action plan. It is a self-directed program that helps them with goal setting and achieving those goals. This will be a static plan that can change according to needs and circumstances. The patient will participate as long as they are able. Baylor Scott and White will provide the healthcare and the AAA will do community-based work.
- Kerry gave the members an update on AAA/ADRC personnel changes. Margaret Matthews will be transitioning to BC and Care Coordination therefore we are interviewing for the Ombudsman position. Jerry Butts commented that this person will need to be passionate about this position. Kerry introduced Jessica Keys as a new Veterans Options Counselor. Melissa Gammage who is currently with Housing will be hired for the BS&W Dementia project.
- Peggy Cosner shared that their offices will be moving to Commerce in February. She invited members to the Housing Navigator conference to be held at the COG on August 21st from 9:00 a.m. – 12:00. They will be discussing the growing need for integrated, affordable and accessible housing. Also, they are bringing in entities to discuss and promote Universal Design in homes and apartments. She finds it interesting that Temple is only building for young professionals with little or no concern for elderly and disabled.

- Jerry Butts mentioned that his veteran's department is branching out their employment program. It now includes people ages 19-24, disabled, homeless, high school diploma is not required and out of incarceration in last 6 months. The DOL pays their salaries and places the rules and restrictions during their employment. Jerry is going to check on space availability for Hood Howdy event. Kerry said that she was not aware of the event.
- Tama Shaw said that her entity, Hill Country Community Action is continuing to lose funding. They no longer receive money from United Way. She reported that they are doing what they can with what they have. She left the meeting at 3:56 p.m. for another appointment.
- Members continued to discuss the importance of providing meals for seniors and especially the importance of one on one contact to check on their well-being. The state has not increased the amount we are able to reimburse for Home Delivered Meals in several years which is causing the issue with the entities trying to provide this service. The suggestion was made to have Tama talk about her program to discuss possible resolutions for their issues.

Jerry Butts gave the motion to adjourn.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Pam Patterson, CTADVRC Contract Compliance Manager