

# TOOELE COUNTY

## Council on Aging

Tooele Senior Center, 59 E. Vine Street, Tooele Utah

Meeting Minutes – April 23, 2019 1:00 pm

**Present:** Linda McBeth, Antoinette Romano, Joyce Tate, Karyl Maynard, Michelle Ross, Emily Johnson, Brad Pratt, Anne Smith

**Staff Present:** Jamie Zwerin, Bella Colovich, Kristen Bolinder

**Absent:** Mayor Brent Marshall, Roger Sawyer, Commissioner Kendall Thomas, Sarah DeBois, Diane Johnson

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1. **Welcome** – Antoinette called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone.
2. **Introduction of New Council Members** – New member, Tooele City Council Member Brad Pratt was welcomed to the group and gave a short introduction. Each member gave a brief introduction of themselves.
3. **Approval of March 2019 meeting minutes** – Joyce Tate motioned to approve, Michelle Ross seconded, all others were in favor. The motion to approve the March 2019 meeting minutes was passed.
4. **Area Plan** – Jamie Zwerin presented on the four year plan she is working on for Aging Services. She explained that this isn't just Aging Services plan, but the Counties plan as well. Jamie would like many perspectives from people in the community. She will present the plan to the State in June. Jamie shared a PowerPoint presentation of the plan with the group. Highlighted were the accomplishments of Aging Services such as serving 26,203 home delivered meals to 236 older adults throughout the community as well as 16,646 meals served at the senior centers. The Medicare Bill Assistance program was able to assist 148 people by saving them a total of \$223,048.00 on the healthcare bills. In-Home Services were able to do 196 visits for the year. Our Transportation department provided 6,624 rides for older adults and 102 volunteers provided 15,637 hours of service. The medical transportation program is running entirely by volunteers. Cissy Morton, Transportation Manager, will present to the Council on Aging group in August and will be available to answer any transportation questions. Jamie went over some of the goals for fiscal years 2020-2023 such as coordinating with Native American programs and using Skype and other technologies for services over the phone. These will be collaborated with the Tooele County Health Department.

Linda McBeth stated that she would like to see activities where seniors are offering to help others, such as when Tooele City does a clean-up and other acts of service that seniors can do. Bella replied that we can always look at other ways to serve. Many seniors currently make quilts to donate to the burn center as well as crochet hats for the homeless. For several years the seniors have held bake sales and rummage sales to raise

funds to donate to the Back-To-School Closet and Tooele County Children's Justice Center. Jamie stated that intergenerational programs will make our community stronger. The Salt Lake County Aging and Adult Services have partnered with schools to assist children with reading assistance. This is something we would like to do. We're looking for opportunities to give back.

Jamie stated that in the Tooele Aging Services Area Plan we are planning for the future. We're looking at grants to continue funding. An additional one million dollars was given to the State, she doesn't know how much Tooele will receive but they estimate around \$70,000.00.

Regarding Elder Justice: Adult Protective Services will provide training with emphasis on the homeless population, how best to handle situations, how to identify abuse and what to do about it. Anne Smith stated that banks are good at training their staff. She would like to see the community trained.

Jamie stated that the Tooele City Police have partnered with us in educating about fraud prevention. She would like to build an Elder Justice Program/Board in Tooele. Jamie would like Adult and Protective Services to present to the group next meeting.

Karyl Maynard said that when she sees a homeless person begging in Tooele and they appear to be 60 or older she tells them they are welcome at the Senior Center to have a meal. The group discussed local resources such as the Tooele Resource Center where all ages are welcome to get a ready to eat meal.

Ombudsman Program: Evelyn Van Zanten is currently the only Ombudsman in Tooele County. She goes into the nursing and care facilities throughout the community. Ombudsman services had a 75% increase in the past year. Desirae Taylor is in the process of getting certified. They will provide training.

Michelle Ross said that when a call is made to Adult Protective Services (APS) a call should also be made to law enforcement. Sometime APS doesn't know the history of the family or area. They should be able to coordinate services to work together. Michelle suggested to keep calling until you get assistance. They should share information if you are part of the case.

Michelle stated that in Salt Lake County the police departments have a CAP team that was aware of neighborhood issues and involved with neighborhood watch. Officers could spend time in different groups as part of their jobs. Meetings were held once a month at a local Senior Center at 11:00 am, after the meeting attendees were welcome to stay for a meal. Bella mentioned that both the Tooele and Grantsville Mayors come regularly to the Senior Centers as well as the Tooele City Police Department, they have been doing presentations at both centers.

Jamie distributed the Tooele County Health Department 2018 Annual Report to the group. This was the first year that Aging Services was included in the report.

Donations for evidence-based programs was discussed. Anne Smith stated that new programs like the Living Well with Chronic Conditions classes both in Tooele and Salt Lake County are not free, the books and supplies can be expensive. She stated that you value what you pay for. Anne explained that in Salt Lake County they are currently training the leaders of these groups to softly explain to their classes once or twice about the value of the classes. The participants are asked that if they want to donate that they do so at the front desk, also that they designate what program they want their donation to go towards. Anne added that asking volunteers to ask participants for money is tricky, but they are doing it in Salt Lake County. Jamie stated that some people can donate, and some cannot. Those wanting to contribute may feel better about attending classes and using the services available at the Senior Centers. The group discussed having an activity donation box. Antoinette thought if the box was off to the side somewhere it would be ok. Currently, Meals on Wheels and Transpiration Services recipients receive a mailed letter with a suggested contribution amount each month. Both Senior Centers currently have a contribution box for those coming into the Senior Centers for daily meals. Karyl suggested that in the monthly newsletter a suggested contribution amount be put on the meal schedule section. Michelle added that it should say something like "Requested but not required". Anne suggested practicing talking points when asking for contributions. Antoinette suggested having envelopes available that donations could be put in.

- 5. Senior Center Report** – Bella announced that the Grantsville Senior Center Open House will be held Wednesday, April 24<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, April 25<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is invited to attend and see what they have to offer. Grantsville has quilting, ceramics, flint napping, wood carving and many other fun activities. A van will be available to take Seniors from the Tooele Center to Grantsville on Thursday. The Cinco de Mayo party will be held on Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Tooele Senior Center at noon, the Grantsville Center will bring a van of seniors to the party. The Golden Mile will be Thursday, May 30<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am at the Skyline Park – all ages are welcome to attend.
  
- 6. Round Table** – Brad Pratt stated he is glad to be back. He would like to bring information from Tooele City to the Senior Centers and take wants and desires back to Tooele City. Brad would like to bridge communication gaps and have all agencies working together to take care of our community. He reported that all the construction taking place North of the Tooele Senior Center is the new Tooele City Police Department being built. The fence is coming down and the parking lot will be going in. Brad added that the Tooele City Police are in the school system already and two community officers have been hired. The new police station will also have a community room available for use. He looks forward to being in the Council on Aging meetings again and will help and assist. He will let us know in advance if he needs to be put on the agenda.

Linda asked if staff is looking for safety. She would like safety check of the buildings done as they walk around the building. Bella explained that the Maintenance Staff is responsible for repairs but that all staff regularly surveillance the building and work orders are submitted when needed. If anyone sees something unsafe they are asked to report it to a staff member immediately.

Anne announced that Living Well with Chronic Conditions classes will begin on Friday, June 28<sup>th</sup>. Anne will be one of the cofacilitators. She also asked if anyone had an updated on the Lighthouse Adult Daycare. Jamie said they were in the process of obtaining funding to do renovations. They are putting together donation packets and are expecting donations.

Karyl asked for clarification on the new Ensure policy. Bella explained that the policy is for people 60 years of age or older, with a prescription from their physician on file that will be good for one year, and that they meet the low-income guidelines. Once all these requirements are satisfied seniors can purchase three cases of Ensure on Tuesday afternoons 1 – 4 pm.

Emily stated that her organization, HealthInsight, would like to assist with painting the building. They are willing to donate paint, materials, labor as well as pull weeds or anything else that we would like them to assist with. Jamie stated that she would meet with Emily after the meeting.

Joyce said that she appreciates all the activities we do. She feels that it gets people involved in the community.

Antoinette suggested that we partner with the local schools for the upcoming Golden Mile. She stated that the local track teams may like to assist and participate.

- 7. Meeting Adjourn** – Antoinette motioned to adjourn, Emily seconded, all were in favor.

**The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 25, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. at the Tooele Senior Center.**