

MANSFIELD COMMISSION ON AGING

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 14, 2015

PRESENT: Will Bigl (2018), Bev Korba (2018), Laurie McMorrow (2017), Martina Wharton (2018), Bettejane Karnes (2018), and Don Nolan (2017)

ABSENT: Jean Ann Kenny, Nancy Trawick Smith—Commission accepted Jennifer Hoskins resignation.

STAFF: Pat Schneider, Human Services Director, Sara Taylor, Senior Center Supervisor

COMMUNITY REPRESENTATIVES: David Palmer, Juniper Hill Village---John Adamick, Wright's Way.

GUESTS: Ida Belacor

GUEST SPEAKERS: Marlene Walsh, Administrator, Juniper Hill Village
Rebecca Fields, Executive Director, Mansfield Housing Authority

November 9, 2015 minutes were read and accepted with one correction.

Rebecca Fields gave a detailed report regarding housing programs at **Wright' Way, Holinko Estates and Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program**. She provided hand-outs to all members which included Income Limit Summary. A discussion followed her presentation and because of the amount of time needed to adequately explain the guidelines of the programs, Rebecca will be invited back to a COA meeting to provide more information. She noted that many applicants are older than in the past and there is a need for more housing opportunities for those with lower incomes. **Mansfield Housing Authority is state funded.**

Marlene Walsh provided a history of **Juniper Hill Village**, a service enriched environment, It included information available to members outlining type and number of units, income guidelines, tax structure, and activities. She noted the average age of present residents is 90. There is a security officer on duty 24 hours for assistance. New large outdoor space was added this year. **Juniper Hill Village is a HUD funded facility.**

PST Schneider's Report: Cara Webb has accepted the position of **Program Coordinator**. Senior Center is now at full staff.

She noted that the town is starting the budget process and it will no doubt be a tight budget year.

Applications for agency grants have gone out.

Facility staff is presently negotiating with the top candidates regarding assessments of town buildings.

Safety & security are priorities.

Senior Center is cooperatively sponsoring programs with Mansfield Library and Parks & Recreation.

A draft of the letter to the Town **Council** regarding handicapped parking at the Community Center was reviewed by committee members. All agreed that the letter should be signed by Will and mailed to the Town Council.

Bettejane reported on progress of New Senior Center Committee. She stated that committee will wait for appointment of company who will be evaluating community buildings before scheduling a meeting and wishes to be part of that discussion.

Meeting was adjourned @ 11:05 AM

Respectfully submitted by Bev Korba