

## LAWRENCE DOUGLAS COUNTY ADVOCACY COUNCIL ON AGING

Arbor Court, 1510 St Andrews Drive, Lawrence, KS 66047

Minutes of August 20, 2019

**Attending:** Mary Johnson, Katie Whitenight (CVL, Susan Harris (JAAA), Michele Dillon (JAAA), Jennifer Devine (ELARA), Bob Russell (Vintage Park), Melissa Williams (Pioneer Ridge), Lisa Arch (Brandon Woods), Tracy Harmon (Arbor Court), Ellen Paulsen, Brenda Nunez  
Guest speakers: Megan Poindexter (Senior Resource Center)

Mary welcomed all attendees to the meeting. She then introduced Megan, speaker for the day.

Megan provided a little history since her arrival in Lawrence in 2006. She was the Executive Director for Trinity In-Home Care and earlier this year became the Executive Director for the Senior Resource Center (SRC).

Senior Resource Center was moved to the building at 8<sup>th</sup> and Vermont Street after a renovation in 1979. Lawrence Police Department was housed there prior to their move to new headquarters. The jail cells and bars were removed to make way for SRC to move in.

The senior center got a new name in 2016 as part of the rebranding of various Lawrence agencies. The building was also selected for renovation and SRC moved to the Peaslee Training Center on Haskell Avenue for the duration of the renovation. The old site was not a very “happy place” and the remodel was delayed by removal of asbestos and lead.

Lots of changes to the old site are:

- The Connelly room upstairs will be a new dormitory space for the firefighters. We[ now have a big room downstairs (called the garden level)
- The meals room is still there but without a kitchen. It will be a multiuse room.
- The elevator has been the biggest delay but is expected by August 28.
- SRC will still provide transportation services – Senior Wheels during the move.
- SCHICK counseling will be located at the library until SRC reopens 9/16.

### Homecoming events:

- 9/14 The Big Reveal - Fundraiser event, tickets \$75, live music, food, drinks
- 9/17 Ribbon cutting and Open House
- 9/19 Expo – Non-profit agencies will provide information from 10am-2pm

The big challenge for SRC is engaging the rest of the county.

### Other new changes:

- Game room with pool tables, TV and other tables for games, etc.
- Multipurpose room – audio-visual, hearing loop and a small kitchen.
- The old shooting range has a spring floor which is great for yoga.
- Painters group and crafts group will be continuing.
- Speakers series, support groups, caregivers groups.
- Library and LMH are sources for speakers for the informational series.

### Info referral services

- Affordable housing is a big one.
- Housing, downsizing, KU Volunteer program.
- Safe sidewalks- winter program will be open in September.

SRC Staff:

- 2 full time dispatches for transportation
- 10 paid drivers who work part time
- 15 volunteer drivers for Baldwin, and launching soon in Eudora
- Charlene mans the front desk, and we also have Janet, Larry and Lori
- Veterans Administration is also part of the office

Other notes:

The SRC building will be a secure building. Guests will sign in at the front desk and provide an emergency contact as well.

The Square Dancers may or may not return to the SRC.

Group discussion.

- Transportation, housing, caregiving topics all discussed.

Future speaker suggestions:

- Shannon -Housing update on the new projects
- County Health department – has 4 prong approach to improving Lawrence and Douglas Co. Theme of Healthier Together - Jobs, poverty, housing, food and nutrition.

The next meeting will be September 17 at 11:30 for eat and greet so bring your lunch and visit.

Guest Speaker will be :

NOTE: we will be meeting at **ARBOR COURT located at 15<sup>th</sup> and Kasold Drive.**

Respectfully submitted, Mary Johnson, Secretary