

M4A Board Minutes
May 26, 2010

In attendance: Chairman Richard Lovelady, Commissioner David Cochran, Mr. Gene Ford, Reverend Glenn Bynum, Commissioner Dan Acker, Ms. Lee Ann Clark, Mr. Chris Green, Mr. Reggie Holloway, Ms. Gay West, Ms. Martha Thornburgh, Mr. Bill Fowler, Carolyn Fortner and Dianne Nance.

- A. The meeting was called to order at 10:20 a.m. by Chairman Lovelady. Reverend Bynum provided the blessing.
- B. There were no proxies.
- C. A motion to approve the agenda was made by Reverend Bynum and seconded by Mr. Chris Green. All were in favor, no one opposed.
- D. A motion to approve the minutes from the March 24th Board meeting was made by Commissioner Cochran; the motion was seconded. All were in favor, no one opposed.
- E. Chairman Lovelady introduced Mr. Bill Fowler from Walker County as the newest M4A Board member.
- F. ADRC update by Ashley McGee
 - a. To date, there have been ten (10) advisory board meetings with a total of approximately 152 attendees. M4A is partnering with various agencies (such as the Social Security Administration, the Alabama Institute for the Deaf and Blind, etc.) for this project.
 - b. There is one ADRC located in each of our 5 counties. Ashley asked the Board members to assist in getting the word out in each of their counties.
 - c. In Walker County, the ADRC will be open on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month starting in June. For the other four counties, the ADRC will be open each Tuesday from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. starting on June 1, 2010. There will be someone at the ADRC to assist in filling out applications for assistance. In addition, each ADRC will have a Resource Guide to help in locating additional assistance for seniors.
- G. Update on Farmers Market Vouchers by Stacy Sasser
 - a. Stacy Sasser is from the State of Alabama Farmers Market Authority.
 - b. All vouchers have been distributed to M4A. M4A will begin distributing these vouchers on June 1, 2010, and will continue to distribute them until they are gone. She stated that the vouchers were good as of April 15, 2010, but that M4A had determined that they would not be distributed until June 1, 2010. Distribution procedures were discussed at the March 24th Board meeting.
 - c. Ms. Sasser said that she knew that more funding was needed for the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program and urged Board members to contact our Senators, Congressman and Representative. She handed out a list of appropriate contact information.
 - d. There are few roadside stands that are eligible to accept these vouchers. The reason is that they have to be certified and have a grower's permit,

they must have a permanent structure and a sign that states the days and times they are open for business. Many roadside stands are small and do not want to go through these procedures.

- e. The Farmers Market Authority is considering going from a voucher system to an EBT system. They are looking at using wireless handheld machines. Chris Green mentioned that this may become too complicated for some seniors. His concern was that many farmers are elderly and do not want to have to deal with new technology. He asked about some sort of pilot program to see how this would work. Stacy stated that there are pilot programs in Madison, Dallas and Lee Counties.

H. Executive Director's Report by Carolyn Fortner

- a. Agency update: M4A has hired a new bookkeeper. Her name is Renee Green.
- b. The Alabama Department of Senior Services has issued performance objectives for the AAA's (green paper). These are objectives required by ADSS as a way to ensure that the AAA's meet their goals.
- c. M4A is in the process of completing the Area Plan 2011 – 2014. Board members were given information from the Area Plan (yellow paper) showing the dates and locations of meetings, comments on the Area Plan and responses to those comments, a summary of the changes to the Area Plan as a result of the public meetings and comments, specific minutes to each meeting and information on the advertising done. The deadline for the Area Plan is June 17, 2010. A copy of the Area Plan will be given out at the July Board meeting.
- d. As a follow-up to Ashley's report on the ADRC, Carolyn mentioned that the ADRC will also assist consumers in accessing long-term care options. Currently, there are not enough long-term care options in Alabama. We need to advocate to re-allocate Medicaid funds to help keep services in the home and the elderly out of long-term care facilities.
- e. Carolyn presented the Board with a salary structure update and recommendations created by Chris Winchester. Reggie Holloway stated that Shelby County was not changing any of their salary structures at this time due to the economy. Carolyn recommended that the Board could accept the new salary structure but not the recommended increases in salary. Martha Thornburgh made a motion to accept the new salary structure but not the salary increases. Reverend Bynum wanted to know if the Board passed that motion, would it lock M4A into the salary structure and, hence, the salary increases. Chairman Lovelady suggested that Chris Winchester be asked to come and address some of the Board's questions before voting on this issue. Martha Thornburgh withdrew her motion. Reverend Bynum made a motion to table this item until Chris Winchester could address some of the Board's questions. Commissioner Cochran seconded the motion. All were in favor, no one opposed. Carolyn is going to ask Chris Winchester to attend the September Board meeting to address these issues.
- f. Prior to M4A taking over the Title V (SCSEP) program, the program was administered by the Regional Planning Commission. Some of RPC's participants contacted RPC for wage verification. RPC in turn advised

the participants to contact M4A for this information. ADSS and Senior Services of America, Inc. both agreed that this was RPC's responsibility. SSAI sent an e-mail to that effect to RPC. RPC stated that they have given M4A access to their participant files, since it will cost money to retrieve the wage verifications and RPC no longer has that funding source. M4A has been advised against accessing RPC's participant files. This issue has not yet been resolved and is still pending.


- g. Carolyn gave an update on the changes to the Alabama Cares program. Each board member was sent a copy of the memo regarding these changes. Carolyn asked if there were any questions or comments regarding these changes. There were none.
- h. M4A has received a letter from ADSS regarding the Medicaid Waiver adjustment from 2008. ADSS will be taking the funds from the April, 2010 payment.
- i. M4A has entered into two new SCSEP host agency agreements. They are with the Carl Elliott Museum (Jasper, AL) and Positive Maturity (Columbiana, AL).
- j. The next Board meeting is scheduled for July 28, 2010. Carolyn mentioned that the Board enrichment date was scheduled for July 22, 2010. Carolyn asked if the Board members would like to combine the Board meeting with the Board enrichment date. After some discussion, it was decided that the Board meeting and the Board enrichment would be combined and held on July 22, 2010. Then there was some discussion regarding the time of the Board meeting. Reggie Holloway made the motion to have the Board meeting in conjunction with the Board enrichment on July 22, 2010 and that the Board meeting be scheduled from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. All were in favor, no one opposed.
- I. Since Kelly Flick was unable to attend this Board meeting, Carolyn distributed the program updates to the Board members and asked them to review the updates and let her know if there were any questions.
- J. Dianne Nance provided a fiscal update.
 - a. The Board was provided with a copy of the quarterly report for the second quarter of 2010. Chris Green asked why some of our income numbers were negative. Dianne explained that this was money that was being reimbursed from ADSS, but that M4A had not received the reimbursement yet.
 - b. Dianne told the Board that Renee Green (the new bookkeeper) was working out well. She appears to be very competent and learns quickly. Commissioner Acker asked how we came to pick Renee as the new bookkeeper. Dianne explained that ads were put in newspapers and on the Non-Profit Resources site. Many potential candidates applied for the position and several were interviewed, but Renee seemed to be the best fit for the agency.
 - c. Aldridge Borden is in the process of finalizing the FY09 audit. They hope to have it finalized and to us within the next 2 to 3 weeks.
 - d. We have two audits coming up. Both are being conducted by ADSS. The first one is an audit of our Title V (SCSEP) program, which is scheduled for June 28, 2010. The second is an audit of our Title III/VII programs.

The date for this audit has not been scheduled yet, but is tentatively set for the end of June or beginning of July.

- K. Commissioner Acker stated that the Shelby County picnic went well and that everyone seemed to enjoy it. Gene Ford echoed the same for the St. Clair County picnic.
- L. There was no old business.
- M. New business
 - a. Carolyn gave out a list of the new FY10 MOA's. She pointed out that there were several new contracts. These included contracts with the State of Alabama Farmers Market Authority, ADSS for a new Food Stamp initiative, Mountain Pointe Ministries, the University of Alabama at Huntsville and several ADRC agreements. Reverend Bynum made a motion to accept the FY10 MOA's. Reggie Holloway seconded the motion. All were in favor, no one opposed.
 - b. Chairman Lovelady appointed a nominating committee for new Board officers FY2011 - FY2012. He asked Chris Green to chair this committee and for Gay West and Reggie Holloway to also serve on the committee. All agreed. Chairman Lovelady asked for a status report to be given at the July Board meeting.
 - c. Board members were asked to approve the Area Plan FY2011 – FY2014. A motion to approve the Area Plan was made by Gene Ford and seconded by Commissioner Acker. All were in favor, no one opposed.
 - d. Carolyn mentioned that M4A is receiving a large volume of calls lately. She told the Board members that, if they called and got a busy signal, it was because all the lines were in use, not because of a problem with the phones.
 - e. Commissioner Acker asked Carolyn about the \$250 rebate that would go towards the Medicare Part D “donut” hole or gap in coverage between initial coverage and catastrophic coverage. Commissioner Acker wanted to know how the check would be issued to beneficiaries. Carolyn said that beneficiaries did nothing to receive the rebate. It would automatically be sent. Rev. Bynum stated that beneficiaries knew when they would be in the gap by the quarterly Medicare summary notices. Carolyn said that she would mail information to the Board members so that they would be aware of the particulars of the rebate timeline and also be aware of the scams that have been perpetuated as a result of the rebate.

- N. A motion to adjourn at 1:00 p.m. was made by Commissioner Acker and seconded by Commissioner Cochran. All were in favor, no one opposed.

The next Board meeting will be July 22, 2010 (Thursday) at 9:30 a.m. at Jefferson State Community College. It will be held in conjunction with the Board enrichment day.


Richard Lovelady