

**MORRIS COUNTY
ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING, DISABILITIES &
VETERANS
Morris Township
September 1, 2022**

Members Present

Christina Brino
Emerson Crooks
Joan Jensen
Tom Mazzaccaro
Anthony Romano

Staff Present

Kim Cacciebeve
Andrew Cornwallis
Christine Hellyer
Patricia Petrillo
Maria Rosario
Jessica Tomalo
Jennifer Van Natta

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 pm by *Tom Mazzaccaro*, the 2022 Chairman of the Council, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Christine did the roll call for Council and Staff members.

A moment of silence honoring those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. And the thirteen servicemen/women that lost their lives at the end of the twenty-year war.

The approval of June 2, 2022, minutes.

Motion: E.C./J.J.

Chairperson's Report- Tom Mazzaccaro

Advisory Council members are needed for the Nominating Committee to nominate a slate of officers for the 2023 Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson.

Anyone interested in serving on the Nominating Committee can contact Maria Rosario.

Staff Reports

***Director of Aging- Christine Hellyer
County Announcements***

Announced the retirement of the County Administrator John Bonanni, this coming January. Deena Leary was appointed acting County Administrator at the August Commissioner's meeting to be his replacement, to be announced at the Reorganizations meeting, January 2023.

We also have a new Veteran's Service Officer, Andrew Cornwallis, replacing Maria Salazar.

MAPS

We recently became aware of this transportation service:

Ride United Transportation Access is a partnership between United Way and 2-1-1 worldwide currently running through 2022, providing State-wide service.

- It offers/provides up to 3 (three) free or discounted round trip via Lyft rides for eligible individuals who have transportation challenges. I will request clarification on free/discounted requirements.
- Rides can be scheduled for: medical, employment, food, education, legal, housing, and financial services
- Eligibility: all NJ residents 18 years of age and older in need of transportation for one of the areas listed above where Lyft service is available.
- Ambulatory riders only.

The MAPS department is conducting the CHSTP Plan which is required by NJ Transit.

Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan is funded by NJ Transit 5310 program.

We are in the process of redoing the whole plan. We want to see where are the gaps and our strengths are in our transportation service.

We are studying the gaps outside of MAPS and local Dial-a-Rides for after hours access and weekend /holiday service.

Rutgers Coordinated Human Services Transportation Plan update:

Stephanie DiPetrillo

We are in the data collection phase of our work. This phase is expected to be completed by the fall and will be developing draft recommendations. We are undertaking three activities.

The Transportation provider survey, which will be wrapped up in the next couple of weeks. This is for organizations that provide transportation services or support clients with transportation.

- *If you have completed it thank you*
- *If you received a request from me or Christine, please complete it.*
- *If you haven't received a request but think you should, please contact me.*

We also have an online portal for collecting "Morris County Transportation Stories".

Please share:

www.vtc.rutgers.edu/morris-stories

Morris County and researchers from Rutgers invite you to "share" your transportation stories and experiences with us that will be available to the public.

These stories will be part of an ongoing project to draft the County's CHSTP (Coordinated Human Services Plan)

Office Reports

ADRC Maria Rosario

Information & Assistance and case management phone calls for June, July, and August 2022, totaled 863 calls. Monthly calls listed below:

- June: 332
- July: 290
- August: 241

Nutrition-Christine Hellyer

The Nutrition Project provided the following number of meals:

JUNE:

Congregate Meals	3,153
Home Delivered Meals	28,089
Weekend Meals	1,540
Total	32,782

JULY:

Congregate Meals	3,228
Home Delivered Meals	25,843
Weekend Meals	2,000
Total	31,071

HIGHLIGHTS

- **7/5/22 – 7/22/22** - In partnership with the VNA we provide vaccine education to all congregated consumers. The information was delivered through 15-minute PowerPoint presentation with the option for questions and comments at the end
- **7/13/22**- In partnership with ORT FARMS for Senior Farmers’ Market, we began our second year of distribution of produce bags. We delivered 48 bags to homebound seniors at local housing units. The three units that participated this year were Mt. Olive Manor, Jefferson Chase Senior Apartments and Butler Senior Housing. Nutrition Education and tote bags were also provided to each consumer.
- **7/27/22** – We added Roxbury consumers to our breakfast pilot. We have a total of five sites participating

Congregate Attendance total 247

Butler 20 Dover 14 Long Hill 16 Montville 22 Mt. Olive 30 Rockaway 20 Denville 9 Jefferson 25 Madison 16 Morris Mews 14 Parsippany 31 Roxbury 34

Committee Reports

Community Relations-Christine Hellyer

The Community Relations Subcommittee met with Christine Hellyer, Division Director, Office on Aging, Disabilities and Community Programming on July 12, 2022 at 10:00 AM.

In attendance were subcommittee members Christina Brino, Debra Eckert-Casha and Thomas Mazzaccaro.

The purpose of the meeting was for Christine Hellyer to brief the subcommittee on the recent efforts taken by the County to increase public awareness of the programs that the Office on Aging, Disabilities and Community Programming offers. Christine distributed some resources and explained that the Commissioner's Office had previously sent a letter to each municipality requesting the name of a contact for senior service/ senior recreation/and or social service contact. Her office staff began a matrix of the responses received, however, when the pandemic issues arose the project was not completed. The committee members after some discussion and with Christine's input decided that the best course of action for the subcommittee members to assist would be as follows:

- The initial step is for the subcommittee members to do follow-up outreach to the local municipal administrators and request a senior service/senior recreation/or social service contact to complete the matrix.
- Once the contact information is received, all contacts could be forwarded a copy of the various Morris County resources (the Division Brochure, Nutrition Brochure, MAPS Brochure, Transportation Guide, Home Health Aide Guide, and Senior Housing Guide) to better inform them of the services the County provides.
- A survey could be disseminated to the contact(s) to determine what information, if any, do they know of the Division
- A webinar/meeting would be held (with both an in person and virtual option) that would be recorded regarding the services that are provided.

Also, Christine hopes to be obtaining to see how the state outreach campaign in 2023 goes and then re-evaluate the goals to determine if there are still gaps.

Christine mentioned that a copy of the following resources would be provided to all the committee members at the next ACADV meeting and will be inviting Kim Cacciabeve the Disabilities Coordinator to attend the meeting.

Each committee member will receive the following:

- The letter sent to municipalities from Commissioner DeFillipo in 2021
- The excel sheet with the responses from that outreach
- A PDF version of the Morris County Manual
- Link to the Morris County Senior Centers:
<https://www.morriscountynj.gov/Departments/Aging-Disabilities-Community-Programming/Senior-Centers>

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 AM.

Subsequently the Community Relations subcommittee met on August 16, 2022 at 1:30 PM.

In attendance were subcommittee members Christina Brino, Debra Eckert-Casha, Doctor Joan Jensen and Thomas Mazzaccaro. The goals for the

meeting were to review the procedures and script that each member would use when calling the municipalities, to distribute to the subcommittee members the names of the municipalities for which they would be responsible and to outline the categories of the matrix that would eventually be completed.

To achieve the initial step which was previously identified as: the subcommittee members will conduct follow-up outreach to the local municipal administrators and request a senior service/senior recreation/or social service contact to complete a revised matrix, the committee members reviewed the script for the telephone calls. In addition, the contact data that would be requested was also confirmed, the respective municipalities were assigned to each subcommittee member and information was shared regarding some data that had been obtained from prior calls. Christina Brino offered to draft the matrix template.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15PM.

Legislative Review

The Committee met on *Thursday July 28, 2022*, reviewed the following bills, and recommended the following to the *Advisory Council* to endorse:

Assembly Bill No. A913

Requires calculation of need for low- and moderate-income housing units to be based current percentage of units occupied by low- and moderate-income individuals or families; revises "Local Redevelopment and Housing Law" to allow for senior citizen housing and community development.

Motion: *Initially, The vote on this bill was 2 in favor/1 opposed.*

Subsequent to the meeting, Tom conferred with community leaders within the area who are knowledgeable in Affordable Housing matters to ask for a review the proposed legislation and formula. He shared his findings electronically with the committee:

Upon applying the proposed formula in the legislation to the community and based on the 2020 census, it appears the low and moderate requirement under the formula would be 3 times greater than the existing obligations. It would have a much greater impact on municipalities that have larger more affluent residential populations.

Tom stated that he cannot endorse Assembly Bill 913. He informed the committee that he would request the Bill's sponsor Assemblyman Erik Peterson provide a town-by-town calculation of the formula to assess the impact on each.

Assembly Bill No. A357

Requires Adjutant General of DMVA create program for veterans to receive evaluation and treatment for PTSD and total brain injury.

Identical Bill Number: S1871000000

Motion: *The committee members suggested refinement to the bill to include more specifics in place of "This bill **MAY** include..." (page 5, line 11). Emerson stated he would reach out to Assemblywoman Aura Dunn regarding wording of the bill.*

Assembly Bill No. AJR43

Establishes "Persons with Disabilities and Senior Citizen Transportation Services Task Force" to study and make recommendations concerning ways to improve transportation services,

The members in attendance, Tom, Tony, and Emerson fully support this bill as written. Tom also stated that he would send a copy of this bill to Christina Brino to get her perspective on the bill.

Planning Program Review

The members from the Advisory Board met on August 25, 2022 to discuss and review the new applications for 2023 Grant-In-Aid Funding.

Announcements

Joan Jensen, president of MCCOPO (Morris County Council of Older Persons Organizations), will be resuming their first meeting since Covid 19, on September 6, 2022, 1pm here in this room. Many senior clubs have dissolved, due to inactivity. We hope to revive and rebuild. I recently have been in contact via e-mail, with previous presidents and delegates to invite them. I intend to share information from this meeting with the attendees at MCCOPO meeting.

We were planning to go into closed session after this meeting today, but we don't have Quorum, because Emerson Crooks has a conflict of interest. We will have to do the vote digitally, with the members that do not have conflicts of interest, the recommendations of the Committee. We need a quick turn-around these results have to reported by Monday.

Adjournment: 2:31pm

Motion: E.C./A.R.

Next Meeting: November 3, 2022