

OLDER AMERICANS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING 11/05/15 MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Pam Martin at 10:05am.

The pledge of allegiance was done. A quorum was established.

The last meetings minutes were read. A motion to accept & a second by both Jim's was passed.

County Commissioner Heather Carruthers was the guest speaker.

Heather reported: Senior Center in Key West continues with construction project. Physical condition of concrete is worse than expected and a new center will have to be built. Issues will be demolition of existing site, single story or two story new center, and locating a temporary site during construction. The old teen center is a possible location during construction. Bus transportation to teen center was discussed. There was a question about Key West bingo resuming. Parking for Big Pine Key location was discussed. Flood and windstorm insurance has increased. Wind is up 8-10%. FIRM has completed all inspections. The inspections were a big challenge. Many companies have backed out of evaluation/study. Flood insurance program is up for re-authorized in 2017. Questions about how FEMA sets flood insurance premiums was discussed. There is a concern over how much the third party companies make considering that they hold no risk, only make a profit, and it was noted that they can make up to 51% of the funding just for "pushing paper". Coastal communities contribute the most. Flood insurance is a very political issue. It was noted that there were \$320 million paid in Key West for flood claims with Wilma.

County wide: RAGNAR continues to be a hot topic. Traffic management is a never ending topic. Suits are settled for the Cudjoe regional system. Once the sewer bills start the fee will be \$28/month, which will be reassessed once everyone is connected. Roads and flood risks are being evaluated. Card Sound Bridge will be a new project in the next 5 years. Fantasy Fest bus parking was a concern.

Heather plans to run for one more term. She can be reached at BOCCDIS3@monroecounty-fl.com

Dixie discussed Obamacare open enrollment. It is Nov 1st thru Jan 31st. Monroe had the highest rates but also had the highest subsidies. Higher subsidies are associated with higher enrollment. The website is very

complicated. Marketplace is not easy to navigate. December 15 is deadline for January 1 coverage. Some plans have been discontinued. The penalties are \$695/adult and \$374.50/child or 2.5% of household income. The subsidy requires that you use the marketplace. Cigna left the Marketplace in Florida statewide. Freedom Life does not meet Obamacare guidelines. Healthy Kids is a good program.

Suzanne Dowling is the new associate for Monroe County Social Services. 305-289-6326. The electric bill assistance program is very helpful. There are funds remaining in several programs. Monroe County transportation is underutilized in Marathon area. Low income residents get a discount for transportation services. Darlene brought up the move to get the BOCC to pass transportation for free for those 60 or older.

Pam discussed Medicare. Her cell is 305-393-4643 for assistance. For help with Part D you can also call her at 305-853-0907. Open enrollment for Part D is 10/15 thru 12/7. There is no COLA increase for 2016. Numerous handouts were reviewed.

Motion to adjourn at 12:14.

Respectfully submitted by Keith Jackson, Secretary.