

OLDER AMERICANS ADVISORY BOARD 2-4-2016 minutes, MONROE COUNTY, FLORIDA

February 4, 2016

Call to order by Chairperson Pam Martin at 10am.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Establish a quorum.

January minutes reviewed. One correction made. The correct name of the marina is Rowells. Motion to

accept with correction by Jim, 2nd by Pat.

Minutes approved.

Introductions by attendees.

County Commissioner David Rice was the scheduled speaker. Tamara Lamarche spoke on behalf of Commissioner Rice. Tamara Lamarche reported that David was at an economic meeting focused on transient housing units for local/temporary workers. The January BOCC meeting discussed and approved 2 new buses for Monroe County transportation services. Free bus transportation for citizens 60 and older was also approved for the county. It is for residents and non-residents as well and is effective February 1, 2016. The commissioners continue to review all transportation concerns county wide. The question came up as to what people should do with the bus vouchers they already purchased. This will be investigated to determine how to get a refund. Affordable housing calculations were discussed at length.

Transportation updates have been and continue to be promoted at various community events. Affordable housing for local employees was discussed by the group. A brief discussion of lease/property managers for private homes took place. Legal Aid in Miami will assist citizens with tenant rights. There is much discussion and no new update for the temporary move of the Key West Center & possible move of the Big Pine Key Center. The Trauma Star conversation continues (info and links are attached here).

Jenna Tuttle from MCSS spoke briefly. The new year started 01/01/16 for Social Services for the Meal Program. She reminded us that OAA is income based and minority and rural area focused. ADI is the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative, you must have a diagnosis of Alzheimer's Disease to qualify. For HCE home care you must have a live-in care giver. STEPS is out of business and Social Services took over these duties. The meal program has the same funding for 2016. Once again there is discussion of a new location for the Plantation Key meal site. MCSS reports that only a very small amount of money from 2015 was unspent. The Dietician schedule for March will be announced. Meals go thru several levels for approval, they cycle every 6

months. Attendance has improved for meal sites especially at Marathon and Plantation Key. Home delivered meals continue to be a good program with success.

Pam announced that she is now a board member for the Alliance For Aging and was awarded the Unsung Hero award. She briefly reviewed the handouts for senior citizen issues and distributed them to the group.

Kathleen announced that VNA and Hospice of the Florida Keys are now FIVE STAR rated. This is a very noteworthy rating.

A motion to adjourn was made at 11:45 am by Bob and second by Jim.

Respectfully

Please

note the next meeting is at 1:30 pm on Thursday, March 3, 2016.

Respectfully

submitted by Keith Jackson,
Secretary.

Trauma Star links and info attached: next pages.

For more information on Trauma Star Fee waiver Program please call Monroe County Fire Rescue at 305-289-6010.

From this link: <http://monroecountyem.com/index.aspx?NID=270>

You are here: Home > Fire Rescue > Operations > Trauma Star Air Ambulance > Trauma Star FAQs

Trauma Star FAQs

1. I was transported by Trauma Star air ambulance. I thought this was free for Monroe County residents so why did I get a bill for this?

A statement is sent out to every patient transported by Trauma Star along with an application for the Monroe County Resident Trauma Star Fee Waiver. This must be completed and returned to us to write off any out-of-pocket expenses for qualifying Monroe County residents.

2. Do I qualify for the Monroe County Resident Trauma Star Fee Waiver?

A qualifying resident is either a property owner (or member of their immediate household) who is current in paying property taxes in Monroe County, including the Trauma Star tax, or a person (or member of their immediate household) who rents property subject to the Trauma Star tax.

We also require a copy of your Florida drivers license showing your address in Monroe County, valid for the date of transportation.

Please send your Monroe County Resident Trauma Star Fee Waiver Application Form and proof of your Monroe County residency in the form of copies of property taxes for property owners or, for renters, copies of your long-term lease and/or utility bills plus a copy of your Monroe County drivers license to the address on the bottom of the application form.

3. Do I have to sign up for the Monroe County Resident Trauma Star Fee Waiver before transportation?

No, you only need to apply for the Trauma Star Fee Waiver after you have been transported by Trauma Star and have received a billing statement. An application form should be included with your statement or you can download it [here](#).

4. I was transported by an air ambulance other than Trauma Star. Will Monroe County cover this bill?

No, we only waive out-of-pocket expenses for Trauma Star transportations for qualifying Monroe County residents.

Monroe County Residents

As a resident or property owner of Monroe County, you have the option of requesting Trauma Star for air ambulance transportation and you may qualify for a waiver of the out-of-pocket costs related to air-transport fees as per [Resolution No. 188-2015](#). The application form for the resident fee waiver can be found [here](#). If you qualify for the resident fee waiver, Monroe County will continue to seek reimbursement from any private insurance companies, but any remaining unpaid fees would be waived and there would be no out of pocket expenses.

From this link:

<http://www.monroecountyem.com/DocumentCenter/View/379>

TRAUMA STAR AIR AMBULANCE

Resident Fee Waiver Program

PLEASE READ THIS WAIVER IN ITS ENTIRETY TO ENSURE YOU COMPLETE IT CORRECTLY

If you are a resident and/or property owner of Monroe County Florida and you were transported by the Trauma Star Air Ambulance, you may be eligible for a waiver of out of pocket expenses related to Trauma Star transport fees.

On May 20, 2009 the Monroe County Board of County Commissioners passed Resolution #152-2009 which introduced a fee waiver program for qualifying Monroe County residents using Trauma Star. This waiver of out-of-pocket expenses is retroactive to November 4, 2008, the date of passage of the voter referendum. In July 2015, the Board of County Commissioners voted to extend this waiver program to all Monroe County property owners, regardless of residency, for all air transports on or after July 15, 2015. The fee waiver is not applicable to transportation by ground ambulance, and is not applicable to transport by any other helicopter.

The County will continue to seek reimbursement from third-party payers, including but not limited to automobile insurance, healthcare insurance, Medicare, and Medicaid. For qualifying residents and/or property owners, the County Commission will waive any and all balances remaining after third party payments and in those cases when the qualifying residents do not have third party insurance.

To qualify for the waiver, the patient must provide the applicable documentation to the Monroe County Fire Rescue billing office for waiver consideration.

PROPERTY OWNERS or immediate members of their household:

1. Property tax bill showing that all taxes, including the Trauma Star tax, have been paid and are current.

RENTERS or immediate members of their household:

1. A copy of a long-term lease and/or utility bills for the address of tenancy at the time of the incident.

The term "immediate member of his or her household" means (a) residing at the same address as the property owner; and (b) son, daughter, father, mother, brother, sister, mother-in-law, father-in-law, uncle, aunt, nephew, niece, brother-in-law, sister-in-law, stepfather, stepmother, stepdaughter, stepson, half-brother, half-sister, grandchild, or domestic partner.

PATIENT NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

RUN NUMBER (FROM INVOICE): _____ DATE OF AIR

TRANSPORT: _____

IF THE PATIENT IS NOT THE OWNER/RENTER, EXPLAIN
RELATIONSHIP: _____

PATIENT SIGNATURE: _____

DATE: _____

To qualify for the waiver, please provide the required documents along with this application form and submit in person or by mail to:

Monroe County Fire Rescue

Attn: Billing Office

490 63rd Street Ocean

Marathon, Florida 33050

(FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY)

DETERMINATION:

APPROVED NOT APPROVED NEED ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

REVIEWED BY: _____

DATE: _____

PREPARED BY: _____

DATE: _____