

MINUTES
PENNYRILE AREA LONG-TERM OMBUDSMAN
ADVISORY COUNCIL
September 28, 2016

The Pennyrile Area Long-Term Ombudsman Advisory Council meeting was held September 28, 2016 at Pennyrile Area Development District, Hopkinsville, KY.

The following Council members were present and a quorum was established per the bylaws.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Nell Ritzheimer
Anita Simmons
Chad Roberts
JoAnne Ayres
Margaret Gilland
Kathleen Pharris

Christian County
Christian County
Christian County
Christian County
Crittenden County
Trigg County

VISITORS:

CALL TO ORDER:

Bruce Carver determined that there was a quorum and the Ombudsman meeting was called into session.

MINUTES:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the March 16, 2016 and May 18, 2016 minutes as printed. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bruce stated that he would be facilitating the meeting due to Cindy being out of the office. Bruce provided an update for FY'16 for the LTC Ombudsman Program. Bruce mentioned that the primary role of the Ombudsman is to advocate for residents in nursing facilities, investigate and resolve complaints made by residents or families and empower residents with information about their rights. Bruce mentioned that the Ombudsman is the only one by law who cannot report abuse by law unless the resident gives his/her consent. Bruce stated that the Ombudsman office serves the nine county Pennyrile region with 32 facilities and 2,566 beds. Bruce reported that the LTC Ombudsman office provided 1,343 consults to individuals and 105 to facilities. Bruce stated that 357 facility visits were completed. He mentioned that the LTC Ombudsman office also participated in 106 facility surveys. Bruce reported that the LTC Ombudsman office received 330 complaints. Bruce discussed the top three complaints;

care, choice and environment. Bruce stated that the LTC Ombudsman office is in need of volunteers, friendly visitors and certified ombudsman volunteers.

There was some discussion by the Council on the number of required visits for a friendly visitor. Bruce mentioned that there is not a requirement on the number of visits, but that Cindy would like for everyone to make one visit a week if possible.

Bruce reported that October is Resident Rights Month and provided a hand-out on, "My Vote Matters." Bruce reviewed the hand-out and stated that the nursing home is required to make arrangements for any resident that wants to vote.

Bruce provided a hand-out on Summary of Older Americans Act Reauthorization Act of 2016 and reviewed the hand-out with Council members.

Bruce discussed the 2016 Alzheimer's Walk that was held, Saturday, September 26 in Hopkinsville. He stated that the walk was started four years ago and that it has continued to grow each year. Bruce reported that over \$90,000 was raised this year. He mentioned that the money raised is used for research. Bruce provided information on Alzheimer's support group meeting times and Alzheimer's telehealth video conferences.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made, seconded and approved. Meeting adjourned.