

MINUTES

AREA-WIDE RESIDENT COUNCIL MEETING Friday, October 3, 2008

Upon arrival at the Browning Room of the Central Library, attendees were asked to sign the attendance sheet, complete the photo release form, fill out the METS Mobility questionnaire and were offered refreshments. The Area-Wide Resident Council meeting began at 2:30, at which time attendees were welcomed and provided with general housekeeping information. Introductions were made for: Michelle Motta Local Long-Term Care Ombudsman, Rebecca Adamson VOICES, Inc. Administrative Assistant and Lynne Davenport Ombudsman Volunteer. Roll call was taken with residents from 6 local long-term care homes in attendance for a total of 35 residents present.

Michelle Motta informed the attendees that changes were being made within the city transportation department so this was not a good time to have a METS Mobility representative attend the meeting. She suggested that the council wait and see what changes were made first and, in the meantime, gather information on continuing issues with METS Mobility. Council was in agreement. Michelle Motta asked that those residents in attendance complete the Questionnaire to Gather Information to Improve Mets Mobility and turn them in at the conclusion of the meeting. She also asked residents to take blank copies back to their home and ask others to complete the form. The forms should be returned to VOICES, Inc. by November 30th. The information gathered will help in advocating for improved transportation service.

Michelle Motta informed residents that those who do not apply for Economic Stimulus Package rebate by October 15th will be able to do so when filing their 2008 federal income tax return. As of yet, it is not known if there will be an additional form required to file for the Economic Stimulus Package rebate.

Since elections are coming up in November, Michelle Motta reminded residents of their right to vote. Residents should be allowed to vote without the traveling election board trying to influence their vote. If either member of the traveling board makes inappropriate comments, they should report the conduct to the Vanderburgh County Clerk's Office.

A short PowerPoint program was given on various rights of residents of long-term care homes. Michelle Motta answered questions from the attendees. After the presentation, the council discussed the need for the council to have a name, logo mission statement or officers. It was decided that the council elect officers first then approach the other issues. Michelle Motta asked attendees if they thought it would be good to start with a resident liaison from each home first. It was agreed that each facility would appoint or elect a liaison between the home and the area-wide resident council.

Refreshments were available. Bingo was enjoyed. The meeting concluded at 4:00 p.m.