

# FULTON COUNTY LONG TERM CARE COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

**Date:** January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2013  
**Time:** 8:30 a.m.  
**Location:** Community Health Center  
2-8 West Main Street  
Johnstown, NY 12095

---

**Attendance:** Marion Balch, Chairperson, Fulton County LTC Council  
Andrea Fettinger, Director, Fulton County OFA  
Christina Akey, PHE, Fulton County Public Health  
Claudette Royal, Nathan Littauer Hospital  
Karen Thayer, Executive Director, SAIL  
Margaret Luck, NLH Lifeline  
Billie Herringshaw, RN, VNHC  
Ramon Rodriguez, CEO, Home Helpers and Direct Link  
Mary Hamm, RN-UR Coordinator, St. Mary's Healthcare  
Neal Van Slyke, Administrator, Wells Nursing Home  
Brigitta Giulianelli, Helpline Specialist, Alzheimer's Association  
Valerie Osborn, Outreach, Fidelis Care at Home  
Donn Diefenbacher, CEO, Mountain Valley Hospice  
Alissa LaPort, Fulton Centers  
Jodi Van Nostrand, Administrator, Top Quality Home Care  
Kathleen Hawley, RN Top Quality Home Care  
Tracy Russo, Director Adult Day Health Program, Wells Nursing  
Vickie Cronin, Nursing Supervisor, Top Quality Home Care  
Michelle Jones, Director, Johnstown Senior Center  
Gretchen Jeweli, Caseworker, FCDSS ALTC

---

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Chairperson, Marion Balch.

## **Roll Call of Voting Members**

A roll call of voting members was taken, and a quorum was present.

## **Approval of Nov 13, 2012 Meeting Minutes**

The minutes were reviewed and approved.

## **Election of New Officers**

The nominating Committee previously presented the following slate of officers.

Chair-Andrea Fettinger

Vice Chair- Claudette Royal

Secretary- Neal Van Slyke

There were no nominations from the floor. A motion was made by Billie Herringshaw and seconded by Donn Diefenbacher to cast one unanimous vote in favor of the slate as presented. The motion was passed.

### **Establishment of Goals for the upcoming year.**

The following suggestions were made.

Education on Medicaid Managed Long Term Care Plans

Health Home Development

Medicaid Redesign

Education of Legislators at Local, State and Federal levels

Further develop partnership or merger with Montgomery Co. Long Term Care Council

Education on Individual Benefits: How to get the funding and how to combine and maximize benefits while avoiding pitfalls.

Explore re-creation of Institutional and Non Institutional Committees to educate the council on specific issues.

### **Other**

Discussed frequency of meetings and decided to hold an extra meeting to address legislative issues. Set for March 5<sup>th</sup> at FCOFA.

There was a question about who provides what services. Andrea will bring copies of the Long Term Care Directory to the next meeting. It was noted that Montgomery Co. has a listing on line and the Fulton Co. directory is on line at the OFA web site.

### **Significant Agency Updates**

**NHL** is using a new hospitalist group.

**Hospice** is seeing a lot of patients very late in life. They have had 20 admissions and 20 deaths in two weeks. Recently overhauled their P& P.

**FC Public Health** has a new phone system and is still working out the bugs.

**St. Mary's** is developing a new department for Health Homes. Having a coach help with prescriptions is cutting readmits. Their coach Lisa, LPN, recently saved a live, finding a patient on the floor unresponsive.

**Fulton Centers** will be hosting a community event each month. In January there will be a Zumba event open to the public. In February a blood drive is planned as well as free CPR classes. Plans are in the works for a Senior Health Day. They will submit an agenda to the group.

**Top Quality Home Care** is applying for TBI and NHTD waiver approval. They have enrolled with Mont. Co. OFA. They are based in Gloversville on 6th Ave.

**Lifeline** has been in existence for 25 years. One fourth of all users are not with any agency. New products are coming out. Lifeline has been working with FCOFA presenting fall prevention and balance workshops.

**Alzheimer's Association** Brigitta Giulianelli is the new Program Manager for Fulton and Montgomery Counties. Karen Britt has been reassigned to Saratoga and Schenectady Counties.

**SAIL (TBI and NHTD Waiver Regional Resource Center)** is seeing an increase in referrals from Fulton and Montgomery Counties as well as an expanding provider base. CHC just completed service coordination training and is approved to deliver Service Coordination. Home Helpers has completed service coordination training and is awaiting approval to deliver service. Many providers seem to be having an issue with availability of staff. There is a new e-mod policy with tighter regulations for provider agencies. The Traid Project has received funding for new equipment. They have new portable ramp

systems and sit and stand lifts. They will send equipment anywhere in the state if needed. Currently in their 9 county region there are between 200 and 210 enrolled in the TBI waiver and 264 in the NHTD waiver. There were a number of deaths this winter-note: you can be enrolled with Hospice and be in the waivers.

**Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting will be held Tues. March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at Fulton Co. OFA, at 19 N. William St., Johnstown.

**Adjournment**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Marion M. Balch, Chair, Fulton Co. Long Term Care Council**