



Talbot County Commission on Aging

Wednesday, August 12, 2026, 8:30 A.M.

Date: 8/12/2026

Time: 8:30 A.M.

Location: Brookletts Place – Talbot Senior Center
400 Brookletts Avenue
Easton, MD 21601

Members Present: Rachel Smith, Wendy Palmer, Jacqueline Kreinik, Kathleen Dormody, Carrie Ottey, Grace Lyons, Childlene Brooks, Megan Murray, Jenna Marchi, Veda Gibson, Kate Stinton, Herb Cain, Jen Pierson, Sandy Wieland, Veda Gibson

Members Absent: Lee Newcomb, Andy Hollis, Marion Donahue, Rachael Cox, Amy Keller, Lynn Mielke

Guests:

- Karla Wieland-Cherry (Board of Ed)
- Helga Einhorn (Board of Ed)
- Brian Naranjo (St. Michaels citizen)
- Sevan Topjian (new owner of building next door)

1. Call to Order 8:31 am

2. Approval of June 2026 Minutes- minutes not sent out in advance, will send out prior to next meeting (Sept) for approval during the meeting

3. Treasurer's Report-

- Total \$5199.39
- \$3428 profit from Sr Resource Fair

4. Old Business

Commission Membership

- Two current opening on the Commission
- Ellen's resignation effective August 2026

5. Sub-Committee Updates

A. Senior Task Force

Lead: Jenna



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- Monthly meetings are held on the second Thursday of each month
- Location: Talbot County Health Department
- Time: 10:00 A.M.

Updates

- Report presented to County Council on **June 9, 2026**, report also presented to Easton Town Council per request for informational purposes (no ask), article was in Star Dem 7/9/26
- County Council agreed to issue an RFP for a feasibility study regarding a low-barrier shelter. RFP discussed at 7/9/26 Task Force Meeting.
- Carrie Ottey is new chairperson as of July 1
- Next meeting August 13, 2026

B. Senior Resource Fair

2027 Event Date: May 19, 2027

- Both the Easton Volunteer Fire Department and Talbot Community Center (Hog Neck) have been reserved.
- Commission to determine final venue.
- Discuss team lead for 2027. Wendy Palmer volunteered. Committee members will remain the same.
- Thank-you notes have been sent to participating vendors.
- Jenna will load her Resource Fair files and send thumb drive to Rachel
- Sandy will contact Jamie to get him on the schedule to provide food

C. Marketing Committee

Website • Social Media • Email Newsletter

- Newsletter-in draft mode, hopefully ready for launch in Sept
- Hope to make it interactive, highlight seniors in community
- Commission members should share sign up info with community members that you interact with to spread the word
- Will be published quarterly (Jan, April, July, October starting in 2027).
- Send info to Wendy by end of Aug for Sept newsletter.

Volunteer Leads

- Wendy Palmer
- Jacqueline Kreinik



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Goal

- Launch September newsletter.

Talbot Spy Interview Schedule

Quarter	Topic	Presenter	Date
Q1	Fraud & Scams	Lee Newcomb	February 11
Q2	Senior Resource Fair	Jen	April 15 at 4:00 PM
Q3	Senior Task Force	Jenna & Nancy Andrew	September 8 at 11:00 AM
Q4	Shore Neurocognitive Health or Jane Bateman Mom Prom (Alz Assn)	TBD	TBD

Future 2027 Topics

- Nursing Home Sub-Committee
- Home Care Licensing
- Additional aging-related issues

Website Updates

- Add Amy Keller's photo.

D. Nursing Home Sub-Committee

Leads: Jen & Kate

Short-Term Goals

- Complete web-based resource guide.
- Lag time with state's website that lists audit results, how useful is our info if not current? Who should be aware of the lag time and accuracy of reports- elected officials?
- Next focus is to determine cadence of publishing results and what we can do to provide better info to community, explain definition of terms used by state in audit findings (i.e. "Immediate Jeopardy"). Will reach out to State Ombudsman-Karrie Craig to understand info better. Eventually Talbot Spy interview or Star Dem article
- New ombudsman: Jontae Holliday, finishing training, funding for full-time now through Md State Ombudsman (county still funding 50% of salary)



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- Deb Nicholson back after extended time off, funding to increase to full-time through state funding
- Deb will do most of Kent, some Caroline, and still most of The Pines (since Jontae new). Jontae will do Talbot and some Caroline.
- Rachel will invite Jontae to join COA and possibly Nursing Home subcommittee

Next Meeting

- First Tuesday of each month
- 8:30 A.M.

E. Senior Supply Drive

Leads: Carrie & Wendy

- In need of Medium and Large Depends. Wendy will include Amazon link in newsletter.
- February 2027 planning update.

F. Talbot County Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

- Updates- received one bid that will not be pursued, Clay reached out to company in Frederick Co. that has been vetted to ask them to submit an RFP

6. New Business

- Kathleen Dormody: Partners In Care has ceased services on Eastern Shore, what can be done? Kathleen would like thoughts/ideas
- Kent County HomePorts has applied for Rural Health Transformation funding to expand transportation, but this is just for Kent residents

Karla Wieland-Cherry (guest speaker)

- Discussion regarding a proposed reading program partnership between seniors and Talbot County Public Schools
- Reading scores improving in Talbot Schools. Looking for Sr volunteers for intergenerational engagement. Coordinator is Katie Fox at Talbot Co. Public Schools.
- Volunteers can contact Karla if interested dkcherry4@aol.com

Sevan Topjian (guest)

- Developer who has purchased the building next to Brooklett's Place



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- He is in a 90-120 day study window currently to decide what the building will become. Senior housing is a possibility.
- Contact info: sevan@brooklandhomes.biz

8. Adjournment: 9:46am

Next Commission Meeting

September 9, 2026

8:30 A.M.

Brookletts Place – Talbot Senior Center

Vision

Enhance the quality of life for all seniors in Talbot County.

Mission

The Commission on Aging advises the Talbot County Council on issues affecting older adults and advocates for positive change that supports Talbot County seniors.