

**Florida Association of Social Services Executives  
Special Business Meeting  
10:42 a.m. –11:30 a.m.  
Wednesday, June 23, 2005  
Tampa, Florida**

Present:

Marilyn Wesley	Escambia Co.	Evelyn Bethell	Pinellas Co.
Jean Rags	Hernando Co.	Clark Scott	Pinellas Co.
Fred Murry	Broward Co.	Barry Williams	Collier Co.
Pauline Tracey	Sarasota Co.	Candice Franco	Collier Co
Tom Joyner	Duval – City of Jacksonville	David Medley	Seminole Co.
Susan MacLean	St. John's Co.	Jean Fleming	Pinellas Co.
Dave Rogoff	Hillsborough Co.	Royetta Runyon	Pasco Co.
Evelyn Rusciollelli	Marion Co.	Vikki Carpenter	Charlotte Co.
Bruce Dangremond	Hillsborough Co.	Louis LaTorre	Monroe Co.
Susan Myers	Alachua Co.	Steve Ferrante	Aging Affiliate
Bonnie Hinson	Alachua Co.		
Fletcher Smith	Lake Co.		
Vicki Kilroy	Osceola Co		
Mary Foy	Highlands Co.		

**Welcome & Introductions:** Request for everyone to please sign in.

**Purpose & History:** Special meeting to further discuss the merger of FACSSE and the Aging Affiliate. Meeting called to order by F. Murry. Fred stated that he and Steve Ferrante, President Aging Affiliate had a conversation with M. Wesley regarding the proposed merger of the two organizations. Fred stated that he had received a few questions from the membership and asked Steve to help answer them and discuss any concerns.

**Question:** Does the aging affiliate really want to join? **Answer;** Steve e-mailed his Aging membership after speaking with Fred to receive feedback, which was positive along with some things they would like to see such as: rotating presidents, standing aging item on all agendas, sub committee to focus on aging, aging remain a legislative priority, workshop and or training consideration given to aging and long-term care, that someone be a representative that keeps in touch with the Florida Council on Aging to maintain a connection, that the results of this meeting be presented to the membership at a date certain to respond with direction to move forward or note, although that was not expected. Steve noted that there may be problems and challenges with the regard to the memberships interest and interest from people being officers, stating that there have been few meetings over the last 5 years.

Discussion continued on issues of health care, aging and social services and that we all come together since we are involved in human services and together we are stronger working together so we do not become divided. Fred informed the group that during the FACSSE business meeting of June 22, 2005 the membership voted in favor of moving forward and that a committee be created to begin working on the issues related to the merger. Fred stated that if there was a problem with him stepping up as President that he would step aside for the benefit of the merger.

M. Wesley encouraged the establishment of the workgroup, noting that it must be committed to addressing all the issues over a 9-12 month time period that is not rushed.

Fred informed Steve that he could take the consensus of the FACSSE membership to move forward back to his organization. Steve stated that they only have 4 active members. Discussion on recommending a total of 5 members on the committee, Barry Williams, 2 from the Aging Affiliate and Susan Myers & Vikki Carpenter, the committee will select the chair. Fred requested that the committee reviewed the issues of concern and need and prepare a report with a timeline for the December 2005 meeting.

D. Rogoff clarified that during the FACSSE June 22, 2005 meeting the motion was made to move forward with the merge, not to discuss should we or should we not merge. The Committee is charged with the mechanics of the merger. Fred asked for a motion to approve the committee members as noted, D. Rogoff first, E. Bethell second, motion approved.

S. Ferrante noted the there have been changes in social services which as created a need for a more blended services. Discussion continued on the importance of establishing a committee to address other issues such as health, transportation, etc... and how these changes affect FAC's mission and policy and how FACSEE and Aging can enlighten FAC on changes related to health & human services. Fred suggested that the Executive Board discuss how we can envelop other areas that can be incorporated in our organization. The Executive Board will speak with Carol Bracy at FAC.

No other business, meeting adjourned 11:30 a.m.

**Florida Association Social Services Executives  
FY 06 Budget**

<b>Item</b>	
FACSSE Lunch	\$ 1,000
Conference Expenses	\$ 2,000
Conference Registration	\$ 400
Postage	\$ 100
Printing	\$ 100
Miscellaneous	\$ 100
Audio Visual/Breakfast Conference	\$ 1,500
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 5,200</b>

## **Florida Association of County Social Services Executives/Aging Affiliate Merger Discussions**

**Present: Susan Myers, Stephen Ferrante, Vikki Carpenter, Sylvia Thompson-Gilbert, Barry Williams, and Beth Ryder**

All went around to introduce each other and describe their responsibilities regarding their participation in the FACSSE/Aging Affiliate workgroup.

The group discussed a new name to reflect the incorporation of Aging Services. Steven suggested the name Human Services, which also is reflected by FAC. There was discussion on perhaps not prioritizing changing the name, because of the concern the membership might have towards this move. Discussion also centered around bringing the name of Health and Human Services forward and discussing this issue with Health Department representatives to get their feedback. Vikki offered to check with Bill Little, Health and Human Services Director of Sarasota County to obtain feedback. Other recommended names discussed were Community Services, Human Services, and Health and Human Services.

In discussing by-law changes, Steven indicated that the Aging Affiliate does not currently have by-laws. The by-laws are on the FACSSE website and Barry will email link for all the members and asked that each read the by-laws thoroughly before the next meeting. The link is [http://www.facsse.org/pdf/bylaws/FACSSE Bylaws 06 2002rev5.pdf](http://www.facsse.org/pdf/bylaws/FACSSE%20Bylaws%2006%202002rev5.pdf).

There was discussion of Officers to be elected in this newly merged group. By-laws of FACSSE stipulate that Officers are elected for every two years in the even year at the annual meeting in June. The next annual meeting that meets these criteria is June 06. By-laws also stipulate that the nomination committee is appointed in the fall conference prior to the annual meeting of the even year this would be the November meeting in Martin County. Steven suggested a By-law change in the FACSSE by-laws that stipulate one of the executive committee be someone who also had representation in a county aging services program.

Also an issue was raised at the June meeting were representatives whose services reflected just social, human, and community services versus aging services or children's services. If we become a human services affiliate does that dilute the aging issues. There was discussion of why the aging affiliate formed initially due to feeling that they weren't getting the representation from FACSSE the services required.

Further discussion on membership was that it should focus on the local government and specific issues should have task forces developed from the group. Currently in the membership list each county has one vote and the voting member is in bold in the membership directory. Steven indicated that if a merger went forward and both counties had two department directors one for human services and one for aging services up to a maximum of two should be considered for voting and membership purposes. It was suggested to propose to the membership a recommendation to allow for more than one

membership within a particular county. This could be accomplished by each department representative paying additional dues to establish being a voting member. The membership should decide whether to allow for this, but also the total number of memberships available to each county. It was recommended by the group that no more than two be allowed.

Discussion of financial issues revealed that the aging affiliate is coming with cash. Steven reported that they have not been consistent with collecting dues, but the group did decide to collect a flat fee and have done so for the last couple of years. The FACSSE current dues structure was considered and the aging affiliate indicated that the last time dues were collected they had about 10 counties who had paid. The current aging affiliate treasury is about \$8,000. Steven indicated that he would like to poll the current aging affiliate membership to see how they would wish to restrict these funds if they became part of a merged association. He suggested that perhaps 50% of this balance be restricted and used for senior issues, but he will ask the membership and report next meeting.

Discussion on current standing meeting agenda items was had. Stephen indicated that he wanted to promote a standing meeting agenda item on aging issues. He also indicated that aging issues be represented in workshop topics.

Regarding legislative issues, Beth indicated that in the past a survey from the Florida Association of Counties was circulated amongst FACSSE members to solicit their input. Steven provided to the group recommended legislative action for the upcoming year and made a point that this should be done on an annual basis with a protocol developed. The suggestion was made to establish a legislative subcommittee of FACSSE to pursue this on a regular basis perhaps in conjunction with the membership survey FAC puts out every year.

Regarding a time line to complete the merger, the group decided a working arrangement would be to propose an amendment to the bylaws no later than April '06. The nominating committee would be established November '05 and would consider appointees that reflect the above suggestion of including an aging affiliate in the executive committee. The new slate of officers would be determined at the next annual meeting June '06.

Beth indicated that she will check on what these changes will be required from our 501© (3) status and with the FAC.

Barry indicated he would arrange the call number for our next meeting and send to participants.

The next meetings for the group are October 13, 2005 from 3PM to 4:30PM and November 10, 2005 from 3PM to 4:30PM.