

Minutes	Executive Committee Governor's Commission on Senior Services September 2, 2005 Keizer, OR
Members:	Dolores Hubert (Chair), Eunice Dutton (VC), Don Butsch, Estill Deitz, and Barbara Nelson
Guests:	Cathy Cooper, Christina Jaramillo, James Toews
Staff:	Morgen Brodie, Wendy Leedle, Becky Murphy, and Marc Overbeck
Excused	Elaine Barrett and Dolores Raymond
<i>Call Meeting to Order</i>	
Approved the July 2005 Minutes. <i>Passed.</i> (Don Butsch/Estill Deitz)	
The agenda was reviewed and approved; however, Don requested time under the MMA Update to request information and train-the-trainer training for GCSS members.	
Announcements	
None.	
Correspondence (Marc Overbeck)	
<u>Outgoing:</u> (1) Letter to the Governor asking him to allow HB 2389 to become law without his signature. (2) Letter to the Governor encouraging his signature on SB 781. (3) Letter to Bryan Johnston with input on qualities needed in the next DHS director. (4) Letter to PERS in support of only using the last four digits of the SSN to reduce the possibility of identity theft. <u>Incoming:</u> A response from PERS about the new process of only using the last four characters of the SSN on checks and statements.	
Post-Session Discussion of GCSS Legislative Agenda (Don Butsch & Marc Overbeck)	
Marc reviewed the draft booklet of accomplishments/bills for the 2005 legislative session. He suggested GCSS distribute this publication in final format to the Commission members, advocates, legislators, and others at the annual celebration. Also, it would be put on the website as a record of important issues. Marc requested the Executive Committee members review the draft and E-mail him any comments, changes, and additions to the distribution list. Also it was suggested a "thank you" letter be sent with each legislator's copy.	
The Oregon Health Forum recently called a couple of times. Last week's call was about a schedule for future meetings; however, yesterday's call was for GCSS' comment on Bob White's incarceration and Marc referred the reporter to the public relations representative for DHS. (The Oregon Health Forum publishes a monthly newsletter.)	
Marc indicated he believes the Mental Health bill signed by the Governor was a great GCSS accomplishment, having been worked on for several years. Dolores pointed out that Mariana	

Bornholdt and Tim Malone should be recognized for their hard work.

Marc met with Sandra Moreland and Lee Girard regarding the next committee meeting and the mental health portion of the State Plan.

OMHAS planning guidelines on the budget for mental health include a request to designate FTE and dollar amount spent on older adult mental health services. GCSS needs to work with Angela Kimball to coordinate strategies.

Marc reported on NAMI's Conference Agenda. He believed the afternoon work sessions would be beneficial to GCSS. The cost is \$65. He and Morgen encouraged a couple of members to attend.

The Mental Health Committee needs to look at NAMI regarding older adults' mental health issues.

The article on Oregon's high rate of suicide in seniors was discussed. It was mentioned that Representative Whisnant did his graduate research on depression and suicide in seniors. Suggestion: Possibly invite him as a speaker for the Mental Health Committee. Another suggestion made was to have Denise Dion be involved in the Mental Health arena.

The work of the Adult Services Advisory Committee and PAMAC was mentioned.

The publication of accomplishments should be included on the next agenda. It was also noted this could be used to look at new objectives and the next steps for the Legislative Advocacy Committee.

Members spoke about a special recognition of Mariana for the 25th GCSS Celebration, for her work on behalf of older adults' mental health.

Chair's Discussion Items (Dolores Hubert)

Eunice reported the Budget Committee (Charles, Eunice, Dolores, Elaine, and Bob) met to look at the GCSS allotment and proposed spending with Morgen, Marc, and Jane-ellen. GCSS expenditures are part of the SPD Administrative Service and Supplies Budget. GCSS wants to be able to manage its expenses. Staff will create a spreadsheet for future meetings to enable the Commission to monitor and adjust as needed over the biennium. Planning and expenditures were discussed for all events (e.g. Planning Days, the Annual Celebration, research trips, Older Americans Month, etc.). Also discussed were holding a certain number of meetings around the state costs versus Salem meetings.

MOTION: Establish a Financial Officer of GCSS appointed, by the chair, to be part of the GCSS Executive Committee. The Financial Officer, on behalf of GCSS, would monitor the budget, working with SPD staff, and would bring recommendations to the Executive Committee and the full Commission. Passed. (Eunice Dutton/Estill Deitz)

Eunice mentioned adding the position to the bylaws.

Morgen reported the SPD Administrative Budget will experience cuts, and that DHS is losing about 200 staff positions. She offered it was a good idea for GCSS to be accountable for its spending.

Marc distributed a sheet reflecting spending totals by category for 1997-2005.

Eunice reported the review of the Orientation Manual has been completed and the revisions are ready to be made. Staff will take these and work to incorporate into a proposed draft for October.

The Governor's office is trying to pull together an event in Portland for signing SB 106.

Cindy Hannum will work with stakeholders and Corrections on rules and procedures related to the bill.

Dolores reported she will submit an agenda to Marc before she leaves for vacation.

MMA Update (Christina Jaramillo)

Christina reported that trainings have been ongoing.

- * They're recruiting volunteers for outreach from Lewis & Clark (students), Vocational Rehabilitation, AmeriCorp, and the medical community.
- * GCSS members feel the whole MMA process is frustrating; and the need to get involved early in the process. Whether there are health issues now or not, seniors need to sign up as a backup and to avoid penalty to sign up after deadline.
- * The Senior Medical Patrol training already includes warnings of scams. MMA training needs that component too.
- * Christina reported several hundred calls are received every week regarding low subsidy and program information. The general public can call Medicaid or SHIBA.
- * Don mentioned ads on TV regarding federal prescriptions which states "go sign up" but not much more. Christina mentioned AARP was placing an ad in Parade magazine.
- * Don brought up a need for information and train-the-trainer training for GCSS members. There is a real gaping need of people who are not dual eligible. Don proposes to train GCSS members to help their communities. Christina stated she needed Jane-ellen's approval.

ACTION ITEM: Staff to check with Jane-ellen about train-the-trainer training soon.

* Claudia Grimm with SHIBA has responsibility to educate Medicare recipients. There was a suggestion to invite Claudia to the Commission meeting in September.

Annual Celebration Discussion

Eunice reported the annual celebration plans are changing because of budget constraints. The celebration will be lunch on October 27th with staff finalizing plans. The GCSS committee meetings will be shortened and the lunch will begin by 12:30 p.m.

Legislative Committee Report (Don Butsch)

Don talked about possible committee activities for the off-year of the Legislature; he noted the committee can track Federal legislation, E-Board issues, and that it is never too early to plan for the next session.

Other suggestions included: community issues, people filing for positions, DHS issue papers, meeting own legislators, discussing new strategies, and attending candidate/election fairs.

Mental Health Committee Report (Barbara Nelson)

No report.

It was believed that the mental health bill passed was one of our biggest successes. Senior Peer counselors are needed regarding mental health issues. Barbara cited a need for the Commission to be more proactive.

General Issues Committee Report (Eunice Dutton)

A disk with the End of Life and Financial Abuse guides has been sent to AARP for printing.

ACTION ITEM: Staff to send a reminder to the AAAs and AARP about receiving the guides.

Parade Magazine has an article about a general whose identity was stolen. Eunice asked about the brochures which dealt with ID Theft being sent to the AAA offices, possibly using money from the Senior Forum Fund to pay for 3,000 copies, with a cover letter stating that people should feel free to copy.

ACTION ITEM: Staff will cost out several options for the brochure on ID theft.

Eunice also mentioned the Umpqua Community College's (UCC) Conference in Aging.

Loren Brown contacted Eunice regarding the Financial Abuse Coalition, wanting GCSS to help sponsor it again (last year we had a grant from Washington Mutual Bank). Eunice will take it up with the Financial Abuse Coalition.

Health, Abuse and Long Term Care Committee Report (Estill Deitz)

Estill reported there has been a problem with not enough time for the committee: the subcommittees meet, and there is not always enough time for their reports, especially if a speaker has been invited to the Committee. The plan is to discuss structural issues with Kay and the rest of the committee.

The Committee heard from multiple guest speakers; one speaker was the inventor of *IdentiMed*, a new method of medication administration. Estill says he personally recommends it highly, even if GCSS cannot promote a product.

Another guest speaker was Sharon Johnston, who spoke about the *Maximizing Brief Encounters* curriculum. She runs a “meals on wheels” program, designed for volunteers to help identify problematic warning signs. Estill mentioned they had tried a program in Multnomah County but employees reported they did not have enough time in their contacts for it to be effective.

Marc reported on Marilyn’s subcommittee, APS, which is developing plans for a program of *Everyday Heroes* to showcase people who have intervened on elder abuse. The AAAs have been contacted to explore a partnership.

Marc hasn’t received the dates as yet for the broadcast presentation by Charles.

ACTION ITEM: Staff will obtain a tape of the broadcast to view.

Discussion with SPD (James Toews/Cathy Cooper)

Budget:

- General Assistance (GA) and Employment Initiative (EI) have been cut from the budget.
- Caseload numbers still show reductions, so more staff are being cut, making a 12% reduction in the field structure from last biennium. When the cuts from the previous biennium are added in, this will represent a 30% reduction in field positions.

- Cathy noted the allotment for GCSS is out of the Services & Supplies Budget of SPD, which was required to take a 3% reduction. All items are under review, but SPD is committed to fund the critical activities of Commission. Dolores mentioned the budget history and the GCSS budget committee’s intent to be proactive in planning for spending over the biennium.

DHS Director Search:

The initial screening panel met to look at 140 applicants and hopes to reduce the list to four or five candidates to interview.

Disaster Planning:

After Katrina, it may be time to revisit long-term disaster planning (possibly in the event of an earthquake or other public health issue in Oregon). GCSS may want to check with individual communities and counties for what plans are in place, and bring back to the Commission for next steps.

AARP Report:

AARP is profiling five states nationwide in long-term care and Oregon is one of them. James will be making sure all facts reported are accurate.

Chair Appointment and Transition:

The Committee decided to send a letter to the Governor regarding the need for transition time and the appointment, reporting on the group’s accomplishments. James and Cathy both felt that the Commission has set and met extraordinary goals with bills and advocacy at the legislature. The leadership and members were commended for all their work. Marc reported that the accomplishments and guides will eventually be put on the GCSS website.

Staff Update

Jeff and Wendy have been added to the team, and space configuration will be changed to accommodate them and they will be in the office by the end of next week.

CMS will not release, until the end of the month, which states will receive Real Choice grants. Bob Clabby will inform GCSS.

Marc referred to the handouts that relate to HB 3108. This bill directed DHS to propose changes to OHP. Four areas were identified: vision, dental, pharmacy, and hospital services. The Medicaid Advisory Committee will be meeting on Sept 8th (8:45 a.m., in Room 50 of the State Capitol) to hear public input. Marc suggested a couple members of GCSS attend. (Dolores Raymond has attended meetings about dental services, and Mike Volpe of PDAC has attended the vision and pharmacy meetings.) Eunice and Estill volunteered to give testimony for GCSS. Marc will draft talking points and make handouts.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Action Item:	Assigned To:	Deadline:
E-mail Marc any corrections of the accomplishments’ draft and any suggestions for distribution.	Executive Committee	9/21/05
Finalize accomplishments’ draft. Add a cover letter of thanks for the legislators.	Marc	10/15/05
Distribution of accomplishments.	Wendy/Becky	10/15/05
Publish accomplishments to the website.	Marc	10/15/05
Certificates – for Mariana, etc.	Morgen	10/27/05

Cost out ID theft brochures.	Marc/Becky	10/27/05
Obtain video tape of Charles' broadcast for GCSS to view.	Marc	9/22/05
Request Train-the-Trainer training for GCSS members on MMA from Jane-ellen.	Marc	9/22/05
Cards to Mariana, and two others		9/22/05
Another letter to AARP and AAA Offices regarding End of Life and Financial Abuse guides.	Marc	9/07/05
Letter to the Governor stating how cohesive the group is and accomplishments and the need for transition time; please appoint a new chair.	Marc	9/05/05
Give testimony at the Medicaid Advisory Committee on 9/8/05 at 8:45 a.m.	Eunice and Estill	9/08/05