

Minutes

Governor's Commission on Senior Services

February 27, 2004

Keizer, Oregon

Members: Dolores Hubert, Chair; Mariana Bornholdt; John Brenne; Don Butsch; Estill Dietz; Elton Greeley; Mary Harvey; Mary Lawrence; Tim Malone; Linda Miller; Dolores Raymond; Remona Simpson; Jack Ewing; Bob White; and Maria Smith.

Guests: Bob Lawrence, Adeline Sampang, Brabara Brewer-Nelson, Cathy Cooper, and Cindy Hannum.

Staff: Jane-ellen Weidanz and Sherry L. Whitehead

Excused: Harvey Roth, Eunice Dutton, Helen Liere, and Ham Jackson.

Called Meeting to Order

Approved January 2004 Minutes with revisions.

Announcements

The Governor has asked Jean Thorne, DHS Director, to lead the Public Employees' Benefit Board (PEBB). As of March 1, 2004 she will no longer be the Director of DHS. Gary Weeks will be the DHS Director again.

The dissolution of the North Coast AAA was January 30, 2004. Mid Willamette Valley Senior Services is administering the programs during the interim while SPD goes through the designation process.

Jane-ellen reviewed correspondence.

MOTION: That we send a letter of appreciation to Jean Thorne for all of the work she has done with DHS. (Don Butsch) *Passed*

MOTION: That we send a welcome letter to Gary Weeks for his return as Director of DHS. (Don Butsch) *Passed*

MOTION: Eliminate Observer Report. (Estill Dietz) *Passed*

Action items:

Assigned to:

Deadline:

Draft a letter to Jean Thorne.

Jane-ellen

03/05/04

Draft a letter to Gary Weeks.

Jane-ellen

03/05/04

Executive Committee Report

Ellie Spangler has resigned due to her work duties.

There are four applications in the appointment process for the Governor's Commission on Senior Services: Elaine Barrett, Lane County; Barbara Brewer-Nelson, Yamhill County; Robert Lawrence, Clackamas County; and Adelina Sampang, Marion County. The Governor's office will only allow members to fill two full terms (6 years).

The committee wants to review a list of responses from the 2003 correspondence to determine the impact of our efforts. This list will aid in future strategizing.

Discussed revising the Commission's motion regarding sending a letter to the Governor requesting a meeting to discuss our concerns on senior mental health issues. We decided to send the letter to Erin Kelly-Siel at the Governor's Office.

We are using Rick Ludeman, Carta Nova Consulting, to maximizing the impact and effectiveness of the Commission. He will work with the Executive Committee to help revise the strategic planning process using key success factors.

MOTION: That we send a letter to Erin Kelly-Siel with the Governor's office regarding our concerns on senior mental health issues. (Mariana Bornholdt) *Passed*

Action items:	Assigned to:	Deadline:
Send letter to Erin Kelly-Siel.	Jane-ellen	03/05/04

Liaison Training Discussion

Mariana and Dolores Hubert developed a liaison orientation and training. We will do the training at an upcoming meeting.

Mental Health & Addictions Committee

The Committee focused on ideas for the legislative concept on mental health issues. The concept will be finalized next month. Lynda Crandall gave an update regarding the statewide suicide prevention workgroup, and other SPD projects.

Legislative Committee Update

Dolores Raymond gave us an update on Implementation of 211, Greenspan recommendation to cut future social security benefits, the Presidents FY05 housing budget, advocacy enhancement, tax reform, Revenue Subcommittee, the New Front Door concept; Mandated State Commission, and restoring clients in levels 12 & 13 vs. maintaining OHP Plus benefits. The meeting resulted in the following recommendations:

MOTION: That we send a letter to the Congressional Delegation on S.1630 and H.R. 3111 supporting funding for 211 implementation and recommend that all the commission members call the toll free number (888) PASS-211. (Dolores Raymond) *Passed*

MOTION: That we send a letter to the Congressional Delegation not to cut Social Security benefits rather to repeal the tax cuts that were passed in 2003. (Dolores Raymond) *Passed*

MOTION: That we send a letter to the Congressional Delegation asking them not to cut the Section 8 Housing program. (Dolores Raymond) <i>Passed</i>
MOTION: That the Commission assigns Jane-ellen to represent GCSS at the Advocacy Enhancement Regional meeting and forums. (Dolores Raymond) <i>Passed</i>
MOTION: That the Full Commission co-sponsor and attend the November 2004 Summit with O4AD and other advocacy groups. (Dolores Raymond) <i>Passed</i>
MOTION: That we send a letter to the AAA Advisory Councils suggesting that they attend the Joint Interim Committee on Tax Reform’s local meetings. (Dolores Raymond) <i>Passed</i>
MOTION: That we send a letter to James Toews and Barry Donenfeld with our comments about the New Front Door concept including our primary concern about funding. (Dolores Raymond) <i>Nay Vote: Estill Dietz. Passed</i>
MOTION: That the Commission send a letter to the Advocacy Coalition, the Governor, and DHS that the Commission recommends restoration of funds to OHP so that dental, prescription, and mental health services are maintained vs. implementation of restoration of levels 12 & 13. (Dolores Raymond) <i>Passed</i>
Health and Long Term Care Committee Update
Mary Lawrence gave an update on the Wellness Committee, the implementation of the prescription drug bulk purchasing program and the discussion of the New Front Door concept.
General Issues Committee
Elton Greeley gave us an update on Disaster Preparedness, the Funeral Consumer Alliance of Oregon, OPI client fee schedule, the ID theft project, and the Financial Abuse Meeting. The meeting resulted in the following motions:
MOTION: Approval of the 2004-revised OPI fee schedule. (Elton Greeley) <i>Passed</i>
MOTION: Table the ID Theft brochure and proceed with the poster. (Elton Greeley) <i>Passed</i>
Review Pending Projects
Jane-ellen reviewed Commission pending projects. The review resulted in the following motions:
MOTION: If we are unable to use GCSS funds to pay for the membership fee for the Older Adult Mental Health Consumer Alliance then we want to use our money from the “Sunshine Fund”. (Mariana Bornholdt) <i>Passed. The “Sunshine Fund” is a pool of donations from individual Commission members.</i>
MOTION: Table action item; “Write letter to the Alzheimer Association regarding the donation for the Liz McKinney fund.” (Mariana Bornholdt) <i>Passed</i>

MOTION: Remove action item; “Send a letter of feeding assistants rules to Tommy Thompson”. (Don Butsch) *Passed*

SPD Update (Cathy Cooper)

Cathy provided an update on the staff changes at DHS. She also discussed the impacts of Measure 30 failing. DHS is looking at department wide caseload standards prioritized as follows; Adult Protective Services, Eligibility Staff, and Food Stamp Personnel.

Action Items:	Assigned To:	Deadline:
Get Revenue Legislation website address for Dolores Raymond.	Jane-ellen	03/03/04
Send a letter to Gary Weeks, Governor, and Legislature in regards to the negative outcome of reduced staffing on caseloads.	Jane-ellen	03/26/04
Forward information on national caseload standards for people working with seniors to Jane-ellen.	Bob White	03/25/04

Office of Licensing and Quality Assurance (Cindy Hannum, SPD)

Cindy Hannum provided an update on issues around licensing and quality of care in Long Term Care Facilities. Discussed advocating for increased standards, facility investigation time lines, and long term care rates tied to direct care.

Member Submitted Items

Mariana will be meeting with Congresswoman Hooley on March 6, 2004 at the Salem Keizer Senior Center. Developed issues for Mariana to discuss with the Congresswoman. Mariana also provided handouts on a variety of issues.

MOTION: Support Mariana taking the mental health legislative recommendations to Congresswoman Hooley. (Mary Lawrence) *Passed*

Action Items:	Assigned To:	Deadline:
Provide Mariana information regarding President Bush’s Section 8 housing, FY05 Budget, for her to discuss with Rep. Hooley.	Jane-ellen	03/03/04
Get Medicare Equity Bill Number for Mariana.	Bob White	03/03/04