

Minutes

Governor's Commission on Senior Services

May 28, 2004

Keizer, Oregon

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

Guests: Ruth Shepherd

Staff: Jane-ellen Weidanz and Sherry Whitehead

Absent: Estill Dietz; Bob White; Harvey Roth; Ham Jackson; Barbara Brewer-Nelson; and Elaine Barrett

Called Meeting to Order

Approved April Minutes.

Announcements

Catherine, Staff to Senator Gordon Smith, contacted Dolores Hubert regarding the Commissions letter in support of the 2-1-1 program funding legislation.

June 15, 2004 is the Health Care Policy Summit at Portland State University, Portland, Oregon.

Oregon has received federal approval for a plan to increase Medicaid reimbursement to nursing facilities by levying an industry-supported provider tax.

OMAP lost the Spry court case and will have to stop co-payments for OHP Standard clients on June 19, 2004.

A gentleman from Canby donated \$ 4.2 million from his estate to the Canby Senior Center though he had only been there a few times.

June 28-30, 2004 is the "Summer Institute 2004", Oregon Geriatric Education Center at the Oregon Health and Science University

Correspondence

Jane-ellen reviewed incoming and outgoing mail.

Executive Committee Update

The Executive Committee met at Highlooker Lodge in Warm Springs, Oregon for "Honor Seniors Days." The following topics were addressed: The Whitehouse Conference on Aging; Loss of GCSS members due to term expiration; The removal of the "Cognitive Corner" on the place mats for the Senior Centers; and Mariana's testimony on the Commission's revenue priorities for tax reform.

General Issues Update

Eunice gave an update regarding the ARC 72-hour Disaster Preparedness Kits which are in the process of being delivered, the identity theft poster, the Financial Abuse Coalition, transportation programs in Non-Metro areas in Oregon, and End of Life Committee.

MOTION: We approve the revised Financial Abuse Public Education Campaign plan. (Mary Lawrence) **Passed**

Mental Health & Addictions Committee Update

John gave an update regarding OMHAS proposed operation definitions for evidence-based practices; the networking and certifying a suicide prevention hotline grant program, legislative process proposal, and an OMHAS update.

MOTION: Send a letter to Bob Nikkel, OMHAS, urging statistical reporting for the elderly separate from that of children. (Helen Liere) **Passed**

MOTION: Table previous motion. (Helen Liere) **Passed.** (Don Butsch & Bob Lawrence) **Nay**

Legislative Update

Helen gave an update regarding the budget resolutions that would have resulted in significant cuts to social service programs, the Interim Committees on Revenue, the New Front Door proposal, and intergenerational advocacy. The meeting resulted in the following motions:

MOTION: Send a letter to Senators Wyden and Smith thanking them for their continuing work on protecting Medicaid. (Helen Liere) **Passed**

MOTION: Send a letter to the Congressional Delegation asking that additional funds be made available for public education efforts regarding Medicare Modernization Act at the local level. (Helen Liere) **Passed**

Health and Long Term Care Update

Mary gave an update regarding OHP Standard cuts to ostomy supplies, the Medicare prescription drug discount card, Planning Days, the Service Priority Level Workgroup, OMAP, RCF Rules Workgroup, and the Wellness Committee. The meeting resulted in the following motion:

MOTION: Send a letter to the Legislature regarding the needs for OHP Standard to cover the cost of ostomy supplies. (Mary Lawrence) **Passed**

Senior Medicare Patrol Project (GayLynn Pack & Marcy McCrumb, SPD)

We discussed the Senior Medicare Patrol Project's history, successes, achievements, and future plans. The purposes for the SMPP is to help consumers identify Medicare fraud, waste and abuse, identify billing errors, and how to report suspected fraud.

Planning Days

In preparation for Planning Days, we reviewed our statutory requirements as GCSS, the agenda, process (home work), developing work plans, sample criteria forms, frequently asked questions, menu, and directions.

Liaison Reports

Dolores Hubert gave an update on the Service Priority Level Workgroup. We discussed the Timed Up and Go Test (TUG) that has been proposed to measure functional ability when determining Service Priority eligibility and cognition changes.

Mariana gave an update on the Governor's Mental Health Task Force. They are reviewing mental health services within the criminal justice system, an integrated system of care, the establishment of a unified mental health incentive, and the belief that people come first and system comes last. Their next meeting is June 17, 2004.

Eunice gave an update regarding the Medicaid Long-Term Care Quality and Reimbursement Advisory Council (MLTCQRAC). The committee has been discussing budget issues with SPD, Protective Services (case loads and staffing), and quality control with Residential Care Facilities.

Linda gave us an update regarding the May 4, 2004 meeting of the RCF Rules Workgroup. We discussed two of the six proposals made by the workgroup. 1) The minimum direct care staffing for a Class II facility went from 1.75 to 2.00 caregiver hours per resident per day. 2) When the direct caregiver's primary duties include tasks such as housekeeping, meal preparations or laundry, a minimum number of hours will be added (this will be determined later).

Tim gave an update on the Elder Suicide Prevention Advisory Committee. There are six scheduled forums being held in Oregon

MOTION: Send information to the local Senior Advisory Chairs concerning the dates of the Elder Suicide Prevention Forums asking them to attend. (Mariana Bornholdt) *Passed*

SPD Update (James Toews)

James, Gary Weeks, and Erinn Kelley-Siel just returned from the National Governors' Association's forum on long-term care in Chicago. Most states were represented. All are alarmed that Medicaid and Medicare are not sustainable at the current level and the Federal Government is not acting fast enough. The consensus is that states need to take more responsibility. They discussed long-term care financing including incentives such as tax credits, reverse mortgages, LTC insurance, and prevention campaigning.

Staff Update

Jane-ellen gave an update regarding the “Cool Tools” training, the Meeting Law training, the number GCSS members that are leaving, and the new GCSS logo. The following handouts were distributed:

- Alabama Department of Senior Services. “State of Alabama Senior Citizens Hall of Fame,” WWW.adss.state.al.us/hof/index.htm
- Kansas Senior Press Services, Releases from March 17, 2004. “Senses for Seniors”
- “Ready or Not Planning Guide for Retirement,” from Manpower Institute.
- Nutrition Program Standards for Meal Sites
- Oregon’s Legal Guide for Grandparents and Other Relatives Raising Children 2004
- ORS-413 2003 Legislative Session Medicaid Statues for Seniors and People with Disabilities.

Action Item:	Assigned To:	Deadline:
Review ORS 410, ORS 412, and ORS 413.	Jack Ewing	8/27/04

Transportation Presentation (Martin Loring, ODOT, Elaine Wells, Ride Connection Tri-Met & Debbie Wertz, SPD)

They gave a variety of updates regarding transportation issues including the loss of drivers’ licenses among seniors and current public transportation resources.