

Minutes

Legislative Committee Governor's Commission on Senior Services April 27, 2007 Department of Human Services

Attendees: Robert Lawrence (Chair), Chris Flammang (Vice-Chair), Peggie Beck, John Brenne, Charles Kurtz, Lucy Morgan, Barbara Nelson, Kelly Wessels

Excused/Absent: Eunice Dutton (E), Dolores Raymond (E),
Guests: Patty Brost, Marilyn Hinds, Kay Kirkbride
Staff: Marc Overbeck and Wendy Russell

Called Meeting to Order 8:30

Review Agenda: No Changes were made to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes: Motion to accept as distributed. Charles/Lucy. Passed.

Announcements: Lucy asked that agendas show the affiliation of presenters (i.e. what organizations they are from.)

Robert, James Toews, and Mary Shortall recently were on an OPB radio show discussing various topics of interest to seniors.

Kay Kirkbride, Charles Kurtz & Robert appeared on public access television in Portland and discussed GCSS and its various projects, including the caregiving trainings that Kay leads.

Barbara Nelson appeared on a public access television show in Yamhill county representing GCSS.

Charles Kurtz spoke about his testimony at Ways & Means.

Community Mental Health Coalition

Jane-ellen Weidanz

Jane-ellen represents all 57 hospitals in Oregon and the health systems attached to them. 55 of the hospitals in Oregon are non-profit. She talked of bills that the Oregon Hospital association is sponsoring. She mentioned HB3269, which would require ambulatory surgical centers to be accredited.

The community mental health coalition has a robust plan to invest in mental health across the state. At this point less than 25% of those in need are receiving mental health

services. Jane-ellen passed out some handouts from the coalition which included information regarding mental health residential services.

SB881 & SB723 are the two bills, which were introduced on behalf of the coalition. These bills are meant to redesign the current mental health system. They would be a significant investment to help with the current unmet need, according to Jane-ellen.

The focus of the coalition is to talk to in a united voice on this mental health issue. Jane-ellen asked for the endorsement of GCSS and for GCSS to join the coalition.

Activity for May

Bob passed out a newspaper commentary regarding the manufactured home park bill that the Commission testified on. The commentary was printed in the Oregonian, and noted the Commission's objection to one provision of the bill, in which they were joined by other advocates and many local governments.

Commission members have testified on over two dozen bills. Almost all bills that members have testified in favor of have passed through the committee in which they were being heard.

The GCSS priority legislation paper was reviewed by the Committee.

Members would like Nancy Talbot, who is the manager of the Presumptive Medical Disability Determination Team (PMDDT), to come talk about PMDDT.

Marc and Robert explained the legislative priorities handout that was distributed to members of the committee.

John Helm spoke about how things are going in the Capitol building.

Adjourn: 9:50