

Minutes

Executive Committee Governor's Commission on Senior Services

August 13, 2004
Keizer, OR

Members: Dolores Hubert; Tim Malone; Don Butsch; Eunice Dutton; Dolores Raymond; Mary Harvey; and Bob Lawrence.

Staff: Jane-ellen Weidanz and Sherry Whitehead

Executive Committee Training

Reviewed the Executive Committee's roles and responsibilities for chairing committees.

Call Meeting to Order

Approved June 2004 Minutes.

Announcements

Jefferson County Brokerage will start their "Transportation for Seniors" program on September 4, 2004.

We used to be a member of the United Seniors of Oregon. However, we are not currently involved with their efforts. We will take this invitation for membership to the full Commission for discussion.

The Oregon State Bar, Elder Law section, proposed legislation last session to revamp the power of attorney statute. This session an interim workgroup under the auspices of the judiciary committed has prepared a new version of HB 2280. This issue is to be taken to the Legislative Advocacy Committee for review and possible action.

Planning Days Review

It was determined that our next Planning Days session needs to include more preparation around developing issues, for example; we need to set the scope, lower the number of issues brought to the table, and have each member turn in their ideas by June (before Planning Days) so that all members have time to review and digest before making a decision on their top priorities.

Effective Use Of Staff Time

Discussed the estimated time staff spends on various tasks. Kim Hector, Cathy Cooper's new assistant, will be helping us with some of the administrative duties. The conversation flowed into how we should track the issues this legislative session, what worked last session, what did not work, and determination of critical issues. The Legislative process is not the only thing we need to think about in regards to staff time.

Action Item:	Assigned To:	Deadline:
Set up an appointment for Dolores Hubert and Tim Malone with James Toews and Cathy Cooper regarding the need for additional staff for the Governor's Commission on Senior Services.	Jane-ellen	9/7/04
GCSS Issues, Goals and Strategies 2004-2006		
Jane-ellen and Sherry will start to break down the Committee's strategies developed at Planning Days into detailed action steps. This exercise should bring us closer to our final Committee work plans.		
Action Item:	Assigned To:	Deadline:
Break down issue strategies into action steps for the work plans.	Jane-ellen & Sherry	8/26/04
Elder Justice Coalition		
The Elder Justice Coalition is a national membership organization dedicated to eliminating elder abuse, neglect, and exploitation in America. They are currently working on legislation at the federal level S 333 and HR 2490. Discussed if the Commission should join or just endorse the legislation.		
MOTION: The Commission will join the Elder Justice Coalition. (Eunice Dutton) <i>Passed</i>		
MOTION: Send a letter to the congressional delegation (CC: Elder Justice Coalition with intent) supporting S 333 and HR 2490 asking for additional targeted funding for the local District Attorney's office. (Don Butsh) <i>Passed</i>		
Action Item:	Assigned To:	Deadline:
Send letter to the congressional delegation supporting S 333 and HR 2490.	Jane-ellen	9/10/04
Parking Lot Issues		
Reviewed and assigned current parking lot issues to committees for discussion.		
MOTION: Send a letter to Erinn Kelley-Siel regarding the Governor's Commission on Senior Services desire to meet with her on a quarterly basis. (Mary Harvey) <i>Passed</i>		

Capitol Coordinator Process

In preparation for the legislative session we will be developing a brochure for Legislators regarding the Commission's issues. The brochures will be delivered to the identified Senators and Representatives before we go into session (Commission Members will personally deliver the brochures to their district).

Action Item:	Assigned To:	Deadline:
Update the GCSS brochure.	Jane-ellen	9/15/04
Each Committee needs to give a list of priority issues for the brochure (Brainstorm).	Committees	9/10
Update the Legislator Contact Matrix.	Jane-ellen	10/5/04
Bring copies of the new thank you card and stationary to the next Executive meeting.	Jane-ellen	9/10/04

Premiums For OHP Clients

We discussed and reviewed the recommendations from the Oregon Health Access Coalition. DHS needs to work on options if they don't get down to 24,000 clients from current 50,000 clients in OHP Standard. This issue will be taken to the Abuse, Health and LTC Committee. Premiums help fund OHP Standard, which does not receive any General Funds.

Federal Issues

Discussed the Commission's support on the increase of the federal Medicaid match rate for all states including Oregon.

MOTION: Send a letter to Senator Wyden and Smith endorsing the increase in the federal Medicaid match rate for all states including Oregon. (Don Butsch) Passed

Ronald Reagan Breakthrough Act of 2004, S 2533

Discussed the Ronald Reagan Breakthrough Act of 2004, S 2533, which has 63 co-sponsors. It will be marked up by the Senate Finance Committee, where Senator Gordon Smith is a member. A letter to Senator Smith, asking him to urge Senator Grassley to mark up the bill and get it moving would be helpful. If the bill does not get marked up and moving shortly, it will have to start over in Jan. 2005. That's too long to wait for such important legislation. The companion House bill is HR 4595. A letter to our Oregon House delegation, to ask them to move on it would also be helpful. This issue will be taken to the Health, Abuse and LTC committee for discussion.

SPD Policy Option Package

Discussed SPD's Policy Option Package 2005-07, #15 that would increase administrative funding for Area Agencies on Aging to maintain local services. This issue is will be discussed by the Legislative Advocacy Committee for a decision.

The New Front Door Update

The "New Front Door" pilot project is moving forward. They discussed funding it through grants. The purpose of this concept is to develop a community resource center offering individual needs assessment and connecting these individuals with the resources to properly care for their needs.

Action Item:	Assigned To:	Deadline:
Work on the schedule conflict between the Governor's Commission on Senior Services and the New Front Door Meeting.	Jane-ellen	

GCSS Annual Celebration

We discussed the Intergenerational Nomination packages that were sent out and drafted a program for the Celebration.

Recruitment

Reviewed applications received by potential new GCSS members.

Governor's Commission on Senior Services Web Content

Reviewed pages that are on the GCSS Website. Determined areas that need updated information.

Liaison Assignments

Reviewed liaison assignments. Assigned Commission members to organizations that were previously held by outgoing Commission Members.

Research Trip

Developed agenda for the research trip being held in Portland on September 10, 2004.