

Minutes

Governor's Commission on Senior Services

December 8, 2006

Department of Human Services

Members: John Helm (Chair), Eunice Dutton (Vice-Chair), Elaine Barrett, Peggie Beck, John Brenne, Denise Dion, Chris Flammang, Chuck Frazier, Marilyn Hinds, Kay Kirkbride, Charles Kurtz, Robert Lawrence, Barbara Nelson, Dolores Raymond, Kathleen Schonau, Remona Simpson, Joan Staley, and Kelly Wessels

Guests: Patty Brost, Dolores Hubert, Lucy Morgan, and Marjorie Reuling

Excused:

Staff:

Morgen Brodie, Becky Murphy, Marc Overbeck, and Wendy Russell

Called Meeting to Order 10:10

Introductions were made.

Approval of October Minutes - Corrections to be made: Kay was present, and the Health care reform not a forum on how to heal themselves.

MOTION: Accept minutes as corrected. Passed, (Eunice Dutton/John Brenne)

Review Agenda: The agenda should read 10:45 not 1:45.

Announcements

Eunice reported on her tour of the new low income senior housing, Edelweiss in Mt. Angel. Everything is state of the art. It is centrally located downtown across from city hall and the senior center. She was very impressed.

Robert spoke about how Congress tried to close session before voting on the reduction of payments to doctors under the Medicare insurance policy and to also reduce funds to the children's health plan. They will not be able to close the session until these two issues are resolved.

Marc passed on a message from Jack Ewing who provided a book recommendation----Craig Unger's House of Saud is a must read.

Kelly reported on a new project she is hosting in her area after the first of the year. It is a forum regarding older adult suicide. There will be a follow up session in July. This is an opportunity for those interested to learn more about at risk behavior in older adults. **Kelly will send out actual locations by email.**

Dolores spoke of a magazine she subscribes to and highly recommends called the American Prophet magazine.

Kath asked for the Commission's help in locating different innovative housing especially for low income seniors and people with disabilities--- for examples and ideas to take back to her church. Her church is looking to develop and build one next to them. Eunice will get the information about the contractor from Edelweiss.

Marilyn's address and phone number will be changing, she will be moving to Philomath.

Staff Updates

Morgen gave an update on what Connie Saldana, SPD's Emergency Preparedness person, is working on and how members can be involved.

Morgen reported on the Talking Books and Braille Service offered by the state library and how they are really trying to reach out to the community.

The Advocacy Unit will be moving on Monday to Church Street but hope to be back up and in communication by Monday afternoon.

Marc asked that members who are planning to attend the lunch presentations on Thursday to please sign up since not all are interested. The January speaker is on mental health and they hope to have Kari Lyons. There will be a speaker focusing on care giving in March. The lunch speaker for the Friday meetings will be a speaker of interest to the whole commission.

Wendy gave an update on reimbursement checks; they will be mailed from the unit instead of directly from travel reimbursement.

Public Comment

None.

Future of Long-Term Care Committee

600 of the finished reports from GCSS have been printed. It is also available on the website in a PDF format for those who wish to access it online. So far the Governor, Dr. Goldberg, James Toews, Cathy Cooper and members of the Commission are the only ones with hard copies. Members may ask for copies to disburse to their communities. The individual hosts of the 2006 forums will decide whether they want to call each participant who wanted to stay involved or send them a copy of the report with a cover letter thanking them for their input.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee - Eunice reported that the Committee met with James and Cathy and the Governor's recommended budget was discussed. James also talked about the 2nd draft of the Future of Long Term Care Report which would include some of the Commission's recommendations. It should be ready by February 2007. GCSS has been asked to help SPD when they go in front of the Legislative Ways and Means Committee regarding the Future of Long Term Care.

Eunice also informed members that an interim draft of revised bylaws for the Commission was sent out and Chuck Frazier would like any member comments returned by the 20th of December to be included in the draft that will be available for the January meeting.

The Executive Committee asked for a member volunteer to be on the PAMAC committee for mental health.

Action on GCSS Prospective Members - **Motion to recommend appointment of the following prospective GCSS members: Marjorie Reuling, Lucy Morgan, and Patty Brost.** Passed. (Robert Lawrence/Joan Staley)

Caregivers Committee - Remona reported on the presentation Kay made on Caregiving. She also talked about the information Barbara researched regarding possible tax credit/deductions. Some kind of rebate might be advantageous to caregivers and the group discussed whether GCSS should back some sort of legislation.

Elder Abuse Committee - The Committee feels that Marilyn should remain liaison for Everyday Heroes. The End of Life publication will be sent separately from the Financial Abuse publication that has already been received from AARP.

Mental Health Committee – Denise reported that Rebecca Curtis is now the older adult services coordinator of Enhanced Care Services team. Focused on three priorities: State Hospital Master Plan, SB 781, and suicide prevention plan. Kari Lyons will be coming in January. Charles and Denise reviewed the county plan summaries but would like complete copies to review in response to SB 781. The Committee wants to advocate SB 781 funding.

Legislative Committee – Robert reported the need for developing partnerships. Will have AARP priorities December 12th - family caregiving, property tax relief, nursing home staffing ratio, managed care, consumer protection, affordable housing. Information from Oregon Health Care Association, Human Services Coalition, and Advocacy Coalition will be forthcoming.

Liaison Reports

Considerations of Housing Position Paper.

Consideration on liaison assignments---the Executive Committee will take action in January.

Member Submitted Items

None.

Adjourn: 3:04

Action Item:	Assigned To:	Deadline:
Correct minutes. Post to the website.	Staff	1/07
Email dates and locations of Older Adult Suicide Forums to commissioners.	Kelly	?
Give input regarding innovative low-income housing to Kath.	Members	1/07
Complete action items for the committees.	Staff	1/07
Consideration on liaison assignments.	Executive Committee	1/07

