

Minutes

Governor's Commission on Senior Services

March 26, 2004

Keizer, Oregon

Members: Dolores Hubert, Chair; Mariana Bornholdt; Don Butsch; Estill Dietz; Elton Greeley; Mary Harvey; Mary Lawrence; Dolores Raymond; Remona Simpson; Jack Ewing; Bob White; Maria Smith; Harvey Roth; Eunice Dutton; Helen Liere; Ham Jackson; Bob Lawrence; Adeline Sampang; Barbara Brewer-Nelson; and Elaine Barrett

Guests: Ruth Shepard and James Toews

Staff: Sherry Whitehead

Excused: John Brenne; Tim Malone; and Linda Miller;

Called Meeting to Order

Approved February 2004 Minutes as amended.

Announcements

May 14, 2004 is Honor Seniors Day at Warm Springs, OR. The theme this year is, "Under The Big Top."

The Older Adult Consumer Mental Health Alliance membership fee is \$100.00

Mariana recommended that the Commission purchase "50 Ways to Love Your Country: How to Find Your Political Voice and Become a Catalyst for Change." The fifty personal stories in this book demonstrate the power of the individual, with tips and resources to turn inspiration into action.

MOTION: Pay membership fee to Older Adult Consumer Mental Health Alliance from the Sunshine fund. (Mariana Bornholdt) *Passed*

MOTION: Purchase two copies of "50 Ways to Love Your Country" for circulation among the committee members. (Mariana Bornholdt) *Passed*

Action items:	Assigned to:	Deadline:
Pay membership fee to Older Adult Consumer Mental Health Alliance	Dolores Hubert	04/20/04
Purchase two copies of "50 Ways to Love Your Country"	Sherry	04/15/04

Executive Committee Report

Dolores Hubert gave an update on the Executive Committee's work preparing for Planning Days.

Legislative Advocacy Committee Update

Helen Liere gave us an update on the DHS Rebalance, the Special Session on Tax Reform, the Advocacy Plan Subcommittee update, and an update on the “New Front Door” Concept. The meeting resulted in the following motions:

MOTION: That we express our concerns by contacting Human Service Members in their areas regarding our previous recommendation to maintain services to the 50,000 in OHP standard versus restoring priority levels 12 and 13 affected only 1,200 people. (Helen Liere) *Failed*

MOTION: That the Governor’s Commission on Senior Services adopt the Advocacy Plan. (Helen Liere) *Passed*

Mental Health & Addictions Committee Update

Bob White gave us an update on the committee’s request for drafting a proclamation declaring May as Mental Health Month, an update on the Elder Suicide Prevention Workgroup, OMHAS, PAMAC, and Dolores Hubert’s testimony to the Governor’s Mental Health Task Force. The meeting resulted in the following motion:

MOTION: That we send a letter to the Governor with a “draft” proclamation requesting that he declare May as Mental Health Month. (Bob White) *Passed*

Health & Long Term Care Committee Update

Mary Lawrence gave an update on the impact of disappropriation on health and long term care services, clients in assisted living facilities, GCSS support for HSRI proposal, current DHS ALF disclosure forms and the Elder Abuse Task Force.

General Issues Committee Update

Eunice gave an update on emergency meals and nutrition, emergency preparedness-resources for seniors and people with disabilities, ARC Disaster Kits, Financial Abuse Public Education Update, Governor’s Elder Abuse Task Force Public Meeting Notice, and transportation. The following motion was a result of that meeting:

MOTION: Send out List of Emergency Resources to AAAs and Senior Centers as it has been amended. Amendments will be made from annual updates. (Eunice Dutton) *Passed*

Liaison Reports

Eunice Dutton gave us an update on Medicaid Long-Term Care Quality and Reimbursement Advisory Council (MLTCQRAC) including the nursing home rate structure.

Mary Harvey gave us an update on Certificate of Need Administrative Rule Committee. This committee is being asked to advise on appropriate revisions for relocation and replacement of long term care beds.

Mariana Bornholdt gave us an update on the March 19, 2004 Long Term Care Advisory Committee meeting. The State Long Term Care Ombudsman is concerned about representation on the Governor's Elder Abuse Task Force. Someone from GCSS should be on this Task Force.

Estill Deitz gave us an update on the January 8, 2004 Home Care Commission meeting. They are continuing to work with the Registry Committee. The insurance manager from SEIU related that health care benefits will go into effect on April 1, 2004. Update on Workers Comp. Coverage and a Budget update from Cathy Cooper.

Estill Deitz gave us an update on the March 17, 2004 Elders in Action meeting.

SPD Update (James Toews)

James recapped the DHS Rebalance of the budget. The Emergency Board funded Service Priority Levels 12 and 13. We now need CMS approval. Services for the OHP standard population (50,000) will be eliminated. This population consists of adults who are below the poverty line but who don't qualify for conventional Medicaid. However, we are working with the federal government to get approval for provider taxes to reinstate some services for some people in this population.

Office of Home and Community Supports, SPD "Hot Issues" (Mary Lee Fay)

Last session SPD received a budget note regarding Service Priority Level rules to look at how we determine eligibility for Medicaid long-term care services. Mary Lee also spoke about the Home Care Worker Contract and implementation.

