

Minutes

General Issues Committee

Governor's Commission on Senior Services

March 25, 2004

Keizer, Oregon

Attendees: Eunice Dutton, Chair; Elton Greeley, Vice Chair; Mariana Bornholdt; Helen Liere; Bob Lawrence; Barbara Brewer-Nelson; Harvey Roth; Elaine Barrett; Dolores Raymond; Remona Simpson; Maria Smith; and Dolores Hubert

Guests: Joan Smith

Staff: Sherry L. Whitehead

Excused: John Brenne & Don Butsch

Called Meeting to Order

Approved February 2004 Minutes.

Announcements

The Long Term Care Advisory Council and Josephine County Senior Advisory Council thanks the Commission for bringing forward the issue of disaster preparedness for residents of long term care facilities.

Emergency Meals and Nutrition

Joan Smith, Loaves and Fishes (Meals on Wheels Program in the Portland/Metro area) deliver 2,500 meals to homebound seniors daily. They also supply meals for seniors to save for emergencies, however, because the majority of the individuals receiving services are only getting one meal a day, the emergency meals are usually eaten within the week or picked at over time making them useless in the event of an emergency. She works with different meal sites to orchestrate food delivery in all conditions to all of the areas of need. Through the media, radio, and local news stations, Loaves and Fishes, has been able to find volunteers to deliver meals during adverse weather conditions. Joan has also been looking at samples of meals with a shelf life that are nutritionally sound and do not need to be cooked.

Emergency Preparedness-Resources for Seniors and People with Disabilities

We reviewed a draft of the Emergency Resources for Seniors and People with Disabilities that Helen Liere developed. The purpose of this list is to increase the ability of local communities to plan to meet the needs of seniors and people with disabilities during emergencies. The list is to be distributed to the AAAs and Senior Centers.

MOTION: Send out List of Emergency Resources to AAAs and Senior Centers as amended. Amendments will be made with annual updates. (Helen Liere) *Passed*

Action items:	Assigned to:	Deadline:
Review a draft of emergency resources for seniors and people with disabilities with Commission for suggestions.	Helen Liere	3/26/04
Contact Jim Carlson and the Emergency Managers from Columbia, Clark, Clackamas, Multnomah, and Washington County to determine their level of preparedness for disasters.	Helen Liere	4/1/04
Get list of County Emergency Agencies from Ken Murphy.	Sherry	4/13/04
Send List of Resources to AAAs and Senior Centers.	Staff	4/22/04

ARC Disaster Kits

We discussed the Red Cross (ARC) 72-hour Senior Friendly Disaster Kit. The previous kit was too difficult to open because of the packaging. We had requested some changes to the kit. The changes that need to be made came with a cost. After discussing this issue with Renee Nelms, ARC, she started the process of researching and developing a grant for the new kit. However, our project has been put on hold because ARC needs to use all of their resources to build up their funds. Low funding has recently depleted their resources. The forecast for the distribution of the new kits is July 2004 with Clackamas County as the target.

Public Education Campaign Update

Eunice gave an update on the Campaign's purpose and next steps. Jan Margosian, Attorney General's Office, is going to be working with local TV Stations to assist in the educational campaign of financial abuse. The kick off date for the "Statewide Financial Abuse Public Education Campaign" is February 14, 2005.

Action Item:	Assigned To:	Deadline:
Contact Brad Berry, Deputy District Attorney Yamhill County, regarding the financial abuse bill that was passed in last legislative session. Report back at April 22, 2004 Committee Meeting.	Barbara Bewer-Nelson	04/22/04

Governor's Elder Abuse Task Force Public Meeting Notice

The next meeting of the Task Force is Monday, March 29, 2004, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., 900 Court Street NE, Salem, OR 97301, Conference Room 350.

Transportation

We discussed issues regarding seniors needing alternative transportation when they lose their license because of impairment. Information is supposed to be sent to these individuals regarding their options for alternative transportation. However, we have not seen much of this happening. We feel this is something that we should watch closely.

End of Life Subcommittee

The End of Life Subcommittee meeting has been postponed until Jane-ellen can be with us at the next meeting (April 2004).

Next Meeting

- Finalize ID Theft Poster
- Transportation Report
- End of Life Committee Update
- Barbara Brewer-Nelson will report back on Brad Barry's response to bill that was passed in the last legislative session.
- Helen Liere will report back on Jim Carlson's response