

Minutes

General Issues Committee Governor's Commission on Senior Services August 26, 2004 Keizer, Oregon

Attendees: Eunice Dutton, Chair; Remona Simpson, Vice Chair; Helen Liere, Barbara Brewer-Nelson; Dolores Raymond; John Brenne; Elton Greeley; Bob Lawrence; Maria Smith, Ham Jackson; Harvey Roth; Don Butsch; and Dolores Hubert

Guests: Marilyn Hinds and Joan Staley

Staff: Jane-ellen Weidanz, Sherry Whitehead and Kim Hector

Excused: Elaine Barrett and Mariana Bornholdt

Called Meeting to Order

Approved May 2004 Minutes.

Announcements

Three hundred and fifty of the American Red Cross 72-hours disaster kits were delivered to seniors in Clackamas County on August 23, 2004. Another 150 kits will be going out to NE Portland in 60 days.

Discussed the Department of Homeland Security website at <http://www.ready.gov>. The website contains information on how to prepare for the unexpected, such as assembling a supply kit and developing a family communications plan for both a natural or man-made emergency.

Discussed "Family Pathfinders," a Texas community based partnership of volunteer teams from faith-based organizations, non-profit/civic groups and businesses helping families along the path to self-sufficiency.

The OSU Extension service will be using vans to travel around to train seniors to use computers. Warm Springs will be one of the sites.

Disaster Preparedness

Discussed sending letters to Oregon cities and counties to bring to their attention the Commission's ongoing concerns that local disaster plans do not adequately address the needs of seniors. It was suggested that we send the information to each Tribe's Tribal Safety Coordinator as well. We also discussed working with local senior advisory councils to encourage their participation with disaster planning in their communities.

MOTION: Send a letter to county commissions and the Oregon League of Cities regarding the Commission’s concerns on disaster preparedness for seniors and people with disabilities. John Brenne will also follow up with the League. (Helen Liere) *Passed*

MOTION: Send a letter to the Senior Advisory Council Chairs, with the GCSS resource list and follow up at the November O4AD Quarterly meeting. (Don Butsch) *Passed*

Action Item:	Assigned To:	Deadline:
Contact Ric Acevedo, DHS Tribal Liaison Coordinator, and ask him for the contact information.	Jane-ellen	9/17/04
Send a letter to county commissions, Oregon League of Cities, and DHS Tribal Liaisons regarding Commission’s concerns on disaster preparedness.	Jane-ellen	9/17/04
Send a letter to the Senior Advisory Council Chairs regarding the GCSS resource list.	Jane-ellen	9/17/04

End-of-Life Resource Guide

Discussed the feedback from the local communities. We will address some of the concerns and suggestion. We will ask Janay Haas, SPD Legal Services Developer, to review the final draft. Dolores and Eunice have the final review. The Executive Committee will discuss how many copies to print based on staff’s research into costs.

Action Item:	Assigned To:	Deadline:
Have Janay Haas look at the End-of-Life Resource Guide draft before it is finalized.	Janay Haas	9/17/04
Once Janay has reviewed, make changes and bring final copy with printing quotes to the Executive Committee for approval.	Jane-ellen	9/17/04

ID Theft Poster

Jane-ellen received feedback that the poster was not clear about who was the criminal and who was the victim. Brainstormed other ideas. Final Decision: Rework the poster to have an elderly woman’s purse with someone else reaching into the purse.

Financial Abuse Coalition

Eunice and Jane-ellen provided an update on Coalition Activities. The planned activities include:

1. A kick-off event on Monday, February 14, 2005 with the Governor signing a proclamation, with advocates visiting and delivering information to legislators
2. We will be holding local events on financial abuse: We will be sending local planning tools to AAAs, SACs, Senior Centers and Meal Sites. Jan Margosian is willing to travel to local communities through out the state to do trainings during the week starting February 14th.
3. Senior Expo will be held Saturday, February 19th and Sunday, February 20th. Sponsors have come through to pay for the booth and the materials to hand out at the booth. The Coalition will be able to help select speakers and will get media about the issue. Commission members will be asked to staff the booth in shifts.
4. The Coalition is also developing a booklet about financial abuse issues to be handed out in local communities and the Senior Expo. The booklet will be translated into Spanish and Russian. They are also developing a magnet with key contact information.

Work plan

The work plan subcommittee will include; Eunice Dutton, Dolores Hubert, Barbara Nelson and Dolores Raymond.

Next Meeting

- Prioritize legislative issues
- Finalize work plan
- Discuss November presentation to the SACs re: disaster preparedness