



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

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Meeting Minutes

September 11, 2009

9:00 a.m.

2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room

1700 West Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007

**Council Members, Liaisons, and Participants Present**

Lynn Adler (telephonic), Dana Campbell Saylor, Bill Engler, George Evanoff (Vice Chair), Joyce Finkelstein (Chair), Bernadine Hoffman, Simone Kelsh (telephonic), Noreen Nickerson-Cruz, Joe Woods, Jill Harrison, Beth Kohler Lazare, Alan Oppenheim, P.J. Schoenstene, and Melanie Starns.

**Council Members missing**

Kati Bates, Michael Davidson, Marilyn Johnson, and Barry Spiker.

**Council Staff Present**

Cathy De Lisa, Shawn Trobia, and Claire Parriott.

**Guests Present**

Jane Grace, Brooke Olguin and Mary Wiley.

**Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions & Approval of Minutes**

Council Chair Joyce Finkelstein called the meeting to order at 9:08 a.m., and began with a moment of silence in remembrance of the events of September 11, 2001. Council Chair Finkelstein then announced Doyle Meredith's resignation from the Council and acknowledged him for his work on behalf of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. A welcome and introduction period followed. Minutes from the July 10, 2009 meeting were reviewed. *Bill Engler made a motion to approve the minutes as written and George Evanoff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Chair Report**

Council Chair Joyce Finkelstein thanked the Council staff for their hard work in support of the Sunset Review process noting that as requested, a response to a request for information was drafted and submitted to Representative Nancy Barto, Chair of the House Health and Human Services Committee of Reference. A copy of the response is located in the Council Office.

Ms. Finkelstein also welcomed new members Joe Woods and Dana Campbell-Saylor to the Advisory Council on Aging.

**Deputy Executive Director's Report**

Deputy Executive Director, Cathy De Lisa reported that the final impact to the Council on Aging and the Office on Aging resulting from 2010 budget actions is still unknown at this time. Governor Brewer's line item veto on HB 2006 eliminated additional cuts as proposed to DES. Ms. De Lisa reminded the group that the Office on Aging and the Council will sustain a percentage of any cuts to DES/Division of Aging and Adult Services.

Ms. De Lisa reported that National Falls Day is September 22, 2009 and the Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust has produced a short video, featuring two members of the Falls Prevention Steering Committee. Plans are underway to post the video to the DHS You Tube account.

As part of the Office on Aging's updates, Shawn Trobia shared information related to the Mature Workforce Initiative reminding the Council that the Executive Summary for the Mature Workforce Initiative included a recommendation to develop training and technical assistance for employers and job-seekers. Ms. Trobia informed the Council that Maricopa and Pima Community Colleges have partnered with the Governor's Office on Aging and established three desired outcomes for the Initiative: to develop uniform training for the recertifying employers, to establish employer training for any employer in the state including the certified employers, and to provide training opportunities for job seekers. Ms. Trobia expects the curriculum will be out September 2010.

### **Committee Reports & Voting on Committee Motions**

The committee chairs reported on any actions taken by their committees since the last GACA meeting.

Executive Committee – Council Chair Joyce Finkelstein reported that no motions came out of the Executive Committee and asked that Council members mark their calendars for the next Council meetings which will be held on November 5-6, 2009. Ms. Finkelstein reminded the Council that the November 6<sup>th</sup> meeting will include a presentation on the open meeting laws and that the Annual Planning Meeting is scheduled for December 3-4, 2009. Finkelstein finished her report with an update regarding the 2010 Conference stating Council staff is looking into the possibility of a partnership with the Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium.

Legislative and Policy Coordinating Committee – Bill Engler, Chair, informed the Council that no motions came out of the Legislative and Policy Coordinating Committee. Mr. Engler reported the Committee heard from Deputy Executive Director Cathy De Lisa regarding the Sunset review process and recent 2010 budget actions and had an informative presentation by Eileen Colleran, Federal Policy Advisor at ADOT on what Arizona is doing with the economic recovery funds. In regards to the Sunset Review, *Engler moved that the Council authorize the Executive Committee and staff to act on behalf of the Council to meet the requirements of the sunset review process. George Evanoff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

Mature Workforce Committee –Joyce Finkelstein, Committee Chair reported to the Council on the activities of the Mature Workforce Committee. In the last committee meeting members:

- Heard from George Thorne on Jobing.com's most recent Career Expo, and the new education section on Jobing.com,
- Received an update on the Center For Workforce Transition from Jan Davie,
- Heard an update on the Mature Worker Website, hosted by Jobing.com, which has continued to have strong numbers of visitors, 25,000 of which were in the last month,

- Learned that the number of organizations applying for the Mature Worker Friendly Certified Employer designation in 2009 was 19 organizations.

In addition, the committee reviewed several blogs that have been posted on Jobing.com in Phoenix, which is partnering with the Council and hosts the AZ Mature Worker Website. A sign-up sheet was passed around and filled up for commitments to writing future blogs. No motions came out of the committee. Shawn Trobia, Council staff, informed the committee that representatives from the State University of New York at Buffalo contacted her for information about the Mature Worker Initiative. The university representatives met with her to go over the history of the Initiative, as well as with Southwest Job Network, GateWay Community College, Mature Worker Connection/PCOA and the Pima County One Stop which features a 50+ worker program & focus.

Social Health and Alzheimer's Committee –Bernie Hoffman, Acting Committee Chair, reported that the committee was active and well attended. David Besst, DES/Division on Aging and Adult Services, updated the committee on the status of caregiver resources by providing a handout and outlining the grant application work in support of caregivers recently completed by his division. Diana Toussaint provided a brief update on the use of stimulus funds specific to nutrition for Arizona seniors. She indicated Area Agencies are helping identify greatest need and innovative use of funds. Ms. Toussaint stated Arizona is being audited by the federal government as one of the 16 states receiving stimulus funding chosen for auditing. Ms. Hoffman announced that two motions came out of the Social, Health & Alzheimer's Committee (SHAC).

*Ms. Hoffman moved that the Council approve the two-sided document, Fast Facts about Hearing Loss and Older Adults and Fast Resources about Hearing Loss, for copying and distribution throughout the state of Arizona. The Council staff will confirm the accuracy of contact information for the list of resources, and adjust format of resources for uniformity, if needed prior to distribution. Bill Engler seconded the motion. Following a lively discussion, Ms. Hoffman amended the motion and moved that the Council approve the concept of the Fast Facts about Hearing Loss and Older Adults and Fast Resources about Hearing Loss, for copying and distribution throughout the state of Arizona. The Council staff will confirm the accuracy of contact information for the list of resources, and adjust format of resources for uniformity, if needed prior to distribution. Bill Engler seconded the motion. The motion passed with one voiced opposition.*

*Ms. Hoffman moved that the Council approve the implementation of the Oral Health Three-Year Work Plan to guide SHAC in its efforts in promoting oral health among older adults. Noreen Nickerson-Cruz seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Break – A 15 minute break was taken by the Council.**

### **Liaison Reports**

**Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)** – P. J. Schoenstene presented a handout of the current enrollment information on the State's comprehensive long-term care program, Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCSS) per county as of 9/1/09. Ms. Schoenstene stated that while the program increase is less than 1,000, the acute enrollment is well over one million. A copy of the handout is available through the Council office.

**Department of Health Services (DHS)** - Alan Oppenheim informed the Council that the online complaint system is projected to be up and running within thirty days. In regard to H1N1, Mr. Oppenheim indicated a quality interdisciplinary team is coordinating efforts that include getting vaccines for the targeted populations to the state in mid October and ensuring up-to-date information is posted at the DHS website with links to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). According to Mr. Oppenheim, the department has a budget and licensing has been authorized to collect funding through increased fees. That information, as well as information about the seasonal flu, is posted on the DHS website: [www.azdhs.gov](http://www.azdhs.gov).

**Department of Economic Security (DES)** – Melanie Starns reported that DES/Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) does not have a budget due to the line item veto by the Governor to the legislation that included huge cuts to DES for which they are grateful to the Governor. Ms. Starns reports the Division continues to be extremely cautious in spending and preparing for cuts as part of the “new normal,” and that the Division is looking at core mission in lieu of less funding dollars. Ms. Starns stated she is happy to report that APS is still meeting its 100% investigation goal and she is proud of the staff and the work they continue to do to protect Arizona’s seniors.

**Office of the Attorney General (AG)** – Joyce Finkelstein, on behalf of Pam Stevenson, highlighted the Senior Anti-Crime University brochures provided at the meeting. According to the materials, the free classes, being offered in partnership with local police forces, focus on helping seniors avoid scams, prevent fraud and stay safe; the first program is scheduled on September 29, 2009 at Friendship Village in Tempe with others scheduled around the state in the months ahead. A copy of the brochure is available through the Council Office.

**Area Agencies on Aging (AAA)**– Jill Harrison reported to the Council that the Area Agencies on Aging have been dealing with strategies for the current year and mid year budgets. At the local level, there have been reduction in units served and home-based, independent living services clients have exercised their right to file grievances. Ms. Harrison reported that the Area Agencies are working on development of the needs assessment for the July 1, 2010 Area Plan, and that mandated emergency management planning with provider network involvement has proven essential in lieu of the potential impact to staffing at provider agencies resulting from the H1N1. Ms. Harrison stated that during difficult times, creativity can result in positives and pointed to the partnering of divisions at WACOG, the development of a new home care provider and a new senior center in Yuma County as examples. Ms. Harrison informed the Council that the Area Agencies on Aging fully support GACA and will be providing a letter of support in the near future.

**Lunch – A 30 minute lunch break was taken by the Council.**

**Guest Presentation: Interagency Council on Long Term Care Annual Report Presentation and Public Input**

Melanie Starns, DES/DAAS, and Mary Wiley, DHS, presented the Interagency Council on Long-Term Care draft Annual Report for 2009. The Interagency Council was created by legislation in 2001; the purpose of the Council is “to help the state achieve a coordinated long-term care services delivery system.” The Council is required to “define this state’s long-term care obligations by coordinating applicable state and federal mandates that relate to long-term care services.” Current Interagency Council projects include:

- Az Links: Arizona’s Aging and Disability Resource Center

- The Direct Care workforce Development Project (DCW)
- The eleventh objective of Executive Order 2007-01 on Ensuring Quality in Long Term

A copy of the Interagency Council on Long-Term Care draft Annual Report for 2009 is available through the Council office.

### **Updates, New Business, & Announcements**

George Evanoff informed the Council that he had recently attended a University of Arizona College of Pharmacy meeting on the training and expanding role of pharmacists. Some pharmacies will now offer vaccinations and medical reviews in addition to filling prescriptions.

### **Call to the Public**

No comment/input received from the public.

### **Action Items**

GACA staff will keep the Council updated on the sunset review process.

### **Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned by Council Chair Joyce Finkelstein at 1:00 p.m.*

### **Next Meeting**

**The next meeting of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging will be November 6, 2009 in the Executive Tower, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room. These meetings are open to the public.**