



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

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Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2009

9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Executive Tower

Second Floor Conference Room

1700 West Washington

Phoenix, AZ 85007

Council Members, Liaisons, and Participants Present

Lynn Adler (telephonic), Kati Bates, Dana Campbell Saylor, Bill Engler, George Evanoff (Vice Chair), Joyce Finkelstein (Chair), Bernadine Hoffman (telephonic), Marilyn Johnson, Simone Kelsh, Barry Spiker, Joe Woods, Jill Harrison, Alan Oppenheim, Ramona Rusinak, Melanie Starns, and Pam Stevenson

Council Members Not Present

Michael Davidson and Noreen Nickerson-Cruz

Council Staff Present

Cathy De Lisa, Elsa Gaynor, Shawn Trobia, and Claire Parriott

Guests Present

None.

Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions & Approval of Minutes

Council Chair Joyce Finkelstein called the meeting to order at 9:04 a.m. A welcome and introduction period followed. Minutes from the September 11, 2009 meeting were reviewed. *Bill Engler made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Simone Kelsh seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

Chair Report

Council Chair Joyce Finkelstein asked Deputy Executive Director Cathy De Lisa to provide an update on the action item listed in the September 11, 2009 minutes. Ms. De Lisa stated that the initial date for the hearing was given as October 14, 2009 but she was later informed by legislative staff that the hearing was changed to Monday, November 9, 2009. According to Ms. De Lisa, the Senate Healthcare and Medical Liability Reform and House of Representatives Health and Human Services Committee of Reference hearing agenda is posted for the public on the Arizona State Legislature's website.

Deputy Executive Director's Report

Sunset Review - Deputy Executive Director Cathy De Lisa reported that based on direction from legislative staff who indicated there is a full agenda of agencies or councils under review by the Committee of Reference (COR) on November 9th, no formal presentation was planned or required. In addition, Ms. De Lisa shared that any recommendation from COR would be heard that day and depending on the outcome of the recommendation, the Council would then need to consider next steps for the 49th Legislature 2nd Regular Session. Ms. De Lisa also reported that after communicating with legislative staff, the Co-Chairs of the Committee of Reference as well as Governor's staff, she had not heard any major concerns regarding the renewal of the Council but feels the final impact of the 2010 budget is still an unknown factor in the Council's sunset review process.

Governor's Office on Aging Updates - Ms. De Lisa invited Executive Assistant Claire Parriott to provide an explanation of the blue packet provided to the Council members. Ms. Parriott gave an overview of the materials contained therein provided as an update to the travel section of the Council member orientation manuals.

Ms. De Lisa provided an update on the Fall Prevention Coalition stating efforts are underway to ensure completion of grant deliverables by the end of the grant cycle as well as sustainability of the coalition beyond the grant. In addition, Ms. De Lisa announced the next Aging 2020 meeting has been scheduled for December 8, 2009.

In preparation for the Council's December 3-4, 2009 Annual Planning Meeting, Ms. De Lisa circulated a Meeting Registration Form and Draft Meeting Itinerary to all Council members and liaisons. A Council Member Committee Selection & Interest in Leadership Position form was distributed to Council members who were asked by Ms. De Lisa to return the registration form and committee selection form to the Council office by November 20th either by mail or email once electronic copies are received.

A copy of the handouts is available through the Council office.

Ms. De Lisa requested that any input for the Council's December 3-4, 2009 Planning Meeting agenda be submitted to her by November 24th for planning and preparation purposes.

Committee Reports & Voting on Committee Motions

The committee chairs reported on actions taken by their committees since the last Governor's Advisory Council on Aging meeting.

Executive Committee – Council Chair Joyce Finkelstein reported that the Executive Committee had no further information to report other than what Ms. De Lisa had shared in her report and that the Committee had no actions taken. Ms. Finkelstein commented that the Governor's Office on Aging and the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging continue to be highly thought of as evidenced by potential projects that have been presented to the Office on Aging for discussion and vetting including recent contact from the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism and the College of Public Health at University of Arizona.

Legislative and Policy Coordinating Committee (LPCC)– Bill Engler, Chair, informed the Council that the Committee has not met since September 10, 2009; no information to report and no actions taken.

Mature Workforce Committee (MWC) –Joyce Finkelstein, Committee Chair reported to the Council on the activities of the Mature Workforce Committee stating that at the last committee meeting, members:

- Heard a presentation by Nora Hannah, Chief Consortium Officer of the newly established Experience Matters Consortium which is funded by the Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust, Atlantic Philanthropies and the Arizona Community Foundation. Experience Matters Consortium is a start-up non-profit whose goal is to bring all of the agencies and organizations that work with 50+ workers together to help them with strategic planning, volunteer work connections, and other administrative tasks.
- Roger Forrester, Program Administrator, Mature Worker Connection/Pima Council on Aging updated the committee on the activities of the career center for mature workers in Pima County. The Mature Worker Connection's goal is to connect job seekers with employers. A new program called *Seniors for Seasons* has begun to connect job seekers with retailers needing temporary seasonal help. They are also working with local organizations to try and link civic engagement with employment and co-locating employment services with volunteer services to help volunteers move into paid employment.
- Peter Polk spoke to the committee about the Mature Worker Friendly Employer Certification training for 2009 and provided a snapshot of the three-hour training. According to Peter, fourteen employers have been trained. Committee Chair Joyce Finkelstein presented a Certificate of Appreciation to Peter Polk for his work on behalf of Mature Workers and Mature Worker Friendly Employers in Arizona.
- *NOTE: At this time in her committee report, Ms. Finkelstein presented Melanie Starns with a Certificate of Appreciation, as recognition of her assistance in co-training the employers in 2009.*
- The Mature Worker Website, hosted by Jobing.com, received almost 25,000 hits in October and over 75,000 page views. According to Ms. Finkelstein, these statistics indicate that people are coming to and staying on the website, with the viewing of several pages.
- The blogs being posted on Jobing.com-Phoenix, on behalf of the Mature Worker Website, is going very well. A sign-up sheet for January through March of 2010 was passed around for volunteers to sign up and bloggers are now scheduled through the end of March. The goal is to have at least two blogs per month.
- The committee brainstormed ideas and issues to be considered by the Council, for committee activities in 2010.

No motions came out of the committee.

Social Health and Alzheimer's Committee (SHAC) – Acting Committee Chair George Evanoff reported to the Council that Council staff had carefully vetted and addressed all the concerns raised at the last Council meeting regarding the two-sided document, *Fast Facts about Hearing Loss and Older Adults and Fast Resources about Hearing Loss*. The revised handout was reviewed by the Social, Health and Alzheimer's Committee and a motion was carried forward from SHAC to the Council requesting approval. Copies of the revised handout, as provided, were distributed for review, and Mr. Evanoff announced the document is ready for the Council's approval.

George Evanoff made a motion that the Council approve the two-sided document, Fast Facts about Hearing Loss and Older Adults and Fast Resources about Hearing Loss, for electronic distribution. The motion was seconded by Bill Engler. The motion passed unanimously.

Liaison Reports

Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) – P. J. Schoenstene announced to the Council that Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) Director, Anthony Rodgers has resigned and that Tom Betlach, former Deputy Director is moving into this position as Director. Ms. Schoenstene then presented to the Council an updated Arizona Long Term Care System state map and fact sheet entitled *ALTCS Enrollment by County as of November 1, 2009*. According to Ms. Schoenstene, between November 2008 and November 2009, ALTCS grew by 1,000 elderly and physically disabled members, 1,350 developmentally disabled members and AHCCCS' overall enrollment increased by 200,000. A copy of the handout is available through the Council office.

Department of Economic Security (DES) – Melanie Starns reported to the Council that due to the budget, DES/Division of Aging and Adult Services (DAAS) has been making changes structurally; the Office of Community Partnerships and Innovative Practices has disbanded but the staff and programs are now a part of DAAS. Due to recent staff changes, aging services' managerial roles have also been combined, with the Right and Benefits Unit merging with the Independent Living Supports Unit. The new unit is headed by Cindy Saverino. Ms. Starns also commented positively on her recent experience speaking at a closing session of the November 5th Caregiver Conference “Together We Care” that had 400 people in attendance.

AZ Department of Health Services (ADHS) – Ramona Rusinak reported that ADHS was asked to create a proposal for a 15% reduction to the Department's budget and the impact of that 15% reduction in state funding. The Department 15% Budget Reduction document is posted on the ADHS website: <http://www.azdhs.gov/>. Ms. Rusinak stated that at ADHS she is the Healthy Aging Liaison for the promotion of chronic disease management and evidence-based physical activity programs that focus on balance, strengthening, and cardiovascular health to combat decline in health and disability as older adults age. The ADHS website, www.arizonalivingwell.com, provides information for individuals and agencies related to evidence based programs. Ms. Rusinak stated she recently made a site visit to one of the three federally funded Arizona Living Well project sites to observe an EnhanceFitness class and was able to view firsthand the success the program participants had achieved.

Alan Oppenheim, Deputy Assistant Director of ADHS Division of Licensing reported on the licensure fee increases and the public comment process. The new fee structure includes child care providers, health care and hospital facilities as well as assisted living and skilled nursing care. Mr. Oppenheim stated that quality of care may or may not be impacted by the fee increases but anyone concerned about quality of care in a licensed facility should file a complaint with the ADHS licensing division. Following the report on licensing fees, a lively discussion on the prioritization of populations to receive the H1N1 took place. Mr. Oppenheim and Ms. Rusinak reminded those in attendance that updates and information related to the H1N1 and the seasonal flu can be found on the ADHS website.

Office of the Attorney General (AG) – Pam Stevenson updated the Council on the status of Senior Anti-Crime University, a part of the Senior Sleuths Program. She stated the AG's office

has now completed three presentations and continues to receive many requests for the presentation and from seniors who wish to become Senior Sleuths. Ms. Stevenson informed the Council that four Senior Anti-Crime Universities are planned this year and six more dates and locations have been set in 2010. Future presentations will be detailed on the Senior Anti-Crime University updated handouts and the AG's website once confirmed. Council member Bernadine Hoffman stated she went to one of the Phoenix area Senior Anti-Crime University sessions and thought it was very well done, well attended and well worth the effort. Ms. Hoffman thanked Ms. Stevenson and the Attorney General's Office for their efforts.

Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) – Jill Harrison reported to the Council on the activities of the Area Agencies on Aging. Ms. Harrison stated she was asked to share a concern related to a trend developing in Region III that includes Coconino, Yavapai, Apache, and Navajo counties. According to the Northern Arizona Council of Governments (NACOG) Director, that region is experiencing a phasing out of home care programs due to lack of state money. According to Ms. Harrison, each county area is different so the exact reasons may vary but the trend is a huge wakeup call for all Area Agencies. On a positive note, she stated she wished to share that the Area Agencies have demonstrated resilience and creativity as evidenced by the three projects they are working on:

1. Food Co-ops resulting in a 30% cost reduction for food centers
2. Partnerships with local 4H Clubs
3. Using American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds to create congregate meals to deliver and using one time grant money to upgrade and purchase new equipment

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

Guest Presentation: Open Meeting Law

Elizabeth Hill, Assistant Ombudsman – Public Access from the State of Arizona Ombudsman – Citizens' Aide Office, gave a condensed presentation on Open Meeting Law to the Council. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation and handouts are available through the Council office.

Updates, New Business, & Announcements

Ms. De Lisa reminded Council members to please get the registration forms for the December Planning Meeting back to her by November 20, 2009. Ms. Finkelstein reminded the Council members that if they would like to bring snacks to share during that time, to please feel free to do so.

Call to the Public

No comment/input received from the public.

Action Items

GACA Staff will email the Meeting Registration Form, Draft Meeting Itinerary, and Council Member Committee Selection & Interest in Leadership Position form to all Council members.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Council Chair Joyce Finkelstein at 1:15 p.m.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging will be a Planning Meeting on December 3 - 4, 2009 at the Department of Health Services Laboratory.

The next Governor's Advisory Council on Aging meeting will be at a location and date in January 2010 to be announced. These meetings are open to the public.