



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

SOCIAL, HEALTH & ALZHEIMER'S COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES January 8, 2009

Council Members, Liaisons & Committee Participants Present

Doyle Meredith (Chair), Lynn Adler, Kati Bates, Bill Engler, Bernadine Hoffman, Linda Anderson, Karla Averill, Michelle Barth, Phillip Cardona, Jay Crosby, Susan Cypert, Gwen Dean, Victoria Furst, Conni Ingallina, Michele Michaels, Julie Ngiriye, Karen Richards, Rosanne Schleifer, Carmen Segoviano, Melanie Starns, Diana Toussaint

Council Members Not Present

George Evanoff, Joyce Finkelstein, Bernadette Polley

Staff Present

Cathy De Lisa, Shawn Trobia

Guests Present

Dr. Jerry Caniglia, Rohno Geppert, Bill Schafer, C J O'Connor, Carolyn Richel, Lucille Smith, Christy Neal, Jay Griffin and Karla Martin.

Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions & Approval of Minutes

Committee Chair Doyle Meredith called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m., and a welcome and introduction period followed. During introductions, Committee Chair Doyle Meredith reminded all in attendance to sign in on the rosters provided in order to be listed in attendance at the meeting. Michele Michaels, Hearing Loss Sub-Committee Co-Chair introduced Bill Schafer, recently appointed Commissioner of the Arizona Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing as well as Karla Martin, Registered Professional Reporter thanking her for volunteering to provide a demonstration of the Communication Access Realtime Translation – CART service at this meeting.

Minutes from the November 6, 2008 meeting were reviewed. *Bill Engler made a motion to approve the minutes as written, and Bernadine Hoffman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

Updates

Falls Prevention Coalition

On behalf of Valerie Fifield, Special Projects Director, Governor's Office on Aging, Deputy Director Cathy De Lisa provided a brief overview of the one page Falls Prevention Coalition Update provided by Valerie. Highlighted were the mission statement and vision statement development by the Falls Prevention Steering Committee and plans for a full coalition meeting

on March 12th. Ms. De Lisa encouraged members to follow up with Ms. Fifield at the Governor's Office on Aging should they have questions and to let her know of any affordable meeting space for the coalition meetings that could include up to 100 people. A copy of the Falls Prevention Coalition Update handout is available through the Council Office.

Breakout Discussion by Sub-Committees

The Oral Health Sub-Committee and Hearing Loss Sub-Committee met in their individual groups for approximately one hour.

Report out on SHAC Projects

Hearing Loss

Michele Michaels, Hearing Loss Sub-Committee Co-Chair reported that the group feels education is their priority and focus, and they plan to start with education of people with hearing loss, caregivers, family members, professionals, senior centers, assisted living and other aging services and advocates letting them know what's out there, how to use assistive technology, the costs, and to inform the consumer of regulation regarding hearing aid dispensers. Ms. Michaels indicated the Hearing Loss Sub-Committee hopes to meet on the afternoon of February 5, 2009 pending confirmation of arrangements with the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging staff. Proposed agenda for that meeting includes brainstorming on existing organizations with whom the Hearing Loss Sub Committee might collaborate on hearing loss education and discussing best methods of educational outreach to seniors. Prior to the next Social, Health and Alzheimer's Committee meeting, Ms. Michaels stated she plans to develop a hearing loss packet of information to share with all members of the committee.

Oral Health

Deputy Director Cathy De Lisa reported that as follow up to the last Oral Health Sub-Committee meeting, the group was pleased to have Jay Crosby, Washington State resident provide an overview of the "Oral Health for Caregivers" student manual developed and funded through the Washington Dental Service Foundation. Ms. De Lisa stated the sub-committee also reviewed the oral hygiene section of the "Principles of Caregiving" manual which was developed through the Arizona Direct Care Curriculum Project as a training program for Arizona caregivers, personal attendants and direct support professionals. According to Ms. De Lisa, discussions in the breakout session resulted in the group considering a three-prong approach focusing on education, prevention and intervention in their efforts to improve dental care for seniors and that the sub-committee plans to develop both short-term and long-term goals through work plan development facilitated by C J O'Connor. Ms. De Lisa reported the group proposed a work group consisting of Dr. Jerry Caniglia, Chief Dental Consultant with the Office of Oral Health, Jay Crosby, and Dr. Robert Birdwell, Dental Director at AHCCCS be established to develop a fact sheet as the first step in educating the greater community on the importance of dental care for older Arizonans and for the Sub-Committee to work with the Hearing Loss Sub-Committee in distribution of the fact sheet. Ms. De Lisa stated the Oral Health Sub-Committee has proposed February 5 or February 12, 2009 for their next meeting and final arrangements will be announced pending coordination with the Hearing Loss Sub-Committee Co-Chairs.

Other Updates, New Business, & Announcements

- Committee Chair, Doyle Meredith reminded the group of the next Social, Health and Alzheimer's committee meeting on March 5, 2009.
- Melanie Starns announced her new position as Assistant Director for DES, Division of Aging and Adult Services and stated Cathy De Lisa will be the Acting Executive Director of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging until an appointment is made.
- Committee Chair, Doyle Meredith acknowledged Melanie Starns for her work on behalf of the Governor's Office on Aging and the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging

Action Items

- Meetings of the Sub-Committees of the Social, Health & Alzheimer's Committee will be coordinated and scheduled in February 2009 by staff of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Committee Chair Doyle Meredith at 4:15 p.m.

Next Meeting:

The next Social, Health & Alzheimer's Committee meeting will be March 5, 2009 at 2:30 p.m. in the State Executive Tower, Second Floor Conference Room. These meetings are open to the public.