



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

Council Meeting Minutes
July 9, 2010
9:00 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.
Arizona Department of Administration
Room 300
100 North 15th Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Council Members, Liaisons, and Participants Present

Kati Bates, Charles Brown, George Evanoff (Chair), Joyce Finkelstein, Bernadine Hoffman, Simone Kelsh (telephonic), Noreen Nickerson-Cruz (Secretary), Barry Spiker, Joe Woods (Vice Chair), Larry Woods, Ramona Rusinak, P.J. Schoenstene, Melanie Starns, and Pam Stevenson

Council Members Absent

Dana Campbell Saylor, Neva Crogan-Pomilla, Marilyn Johnson and Karen Zanzucchi

Council Staff Present

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

Guests Signing In

Virginia Brant, Christine Bryson-Lazo, Dr. William Crist, Susan Cypert, Mary Jean Eggleston, Dr. Mindy Fain, Dr. Jane Mohler, Nancy Gilliam, Kimberly Koerner, Karen Richards, Jack Roberts, Eden Rolland, Sigrid Whitman, Lisa Wynn

Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions & Housekeeping

Council Chair George Evanoff called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. A welcome and introduction period followed. Council Chair George Evanoff thanked Council Member Bernadine Hoffman for supplying breakfast refreshments and wished Marilyn Johnson, Simone Kelsh and Elsa Gaynor happy birthdays.

Review and Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the May 6, 2010 meeting were reviewed. Council Member Joyce Finkelstein made a motion to approve the minutes as written, and Charles Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Council Chair Report, Discussion and Action

Council Chair George Evanoff Provided an overview of the Executive Committee report.

Deputy Executive Director's Updates

Deputy Executive Director Cathy De Lisa thanked the DES/Division of Aging and Adult Services for the work that has been done on the GACA FY 2011 budget. Efforts are underway to maintain the current budget total with approximately 25% in State funding. Ms. De Lisa

reported the Aging 2020 group of state agency leads will meet on July 15, 2010 to discuss the Aging 2020 plan, review what strategies are working, what challenges are presented due to the current economic climate. The Governor's Office on Aging continues to explore ways to support the Statewide Taskforce being formed to address the Alzheimer's priorities found in the State Plan on Aging 2011-2013. Speaking requests completed on behalf of the Council or the Office on Aging since the last Council meeting included a presentation by Shawn Trobia to the Mesa - Arizona Workforce Connection on June 18th, a presentation to the Glendale Committee on Aging by Cathy De Lisa on May 13th and Ms. De Lisa represented the Governor at the Verde View volunteer recognition event in Camp Verde on June 2nd.

Deputy Executive Director Cathy De Lisa thanked the staff for all efforts in organizing and planning the July Council meetings.

Staff Member Shawn Trobia reported to the Council that the Ad Hoc Committee met with the Governor's Commission on Service and Volunteerism about four weeks ago. The Commission was interested in any assistance and guidance the Council could provide as they work on AmeriCorps outreach across Arizona on increased volunteer opportunities available for seniors. The Commission was appreciative of the work of the Council and invited the Council back anytime to share more information. Council Member Joyce Finkelstein suggested a report as the group progresses and Larry Woods stated he would like to join the Ad Hoc Committee due to his experience with volunteer coordination.

Barry Spiker inquired about receipt of information he had emailed related to early detection of Alzheimer's disease and Deputy Executive Director Cathy De Lisa thanked him for sending it and stated the information mirrored information linked in a recent *Legislative Update* e-newsletter.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Council Chair George Evanoff reported that the Executive Committee met and discussed Committee agendas and projects and progress being made toward a potential Vote & Vax program in alignment with the November elections. Council Chair George Evanoff provided an overview of actions taken since the last Council meetings related to a potential Vote & Vax type program in Arizona for this fall's election. According to Council Chair Evanoff, the Governor's staff members are organizing the meeting that could include an array of potential partners such as the University of Arizona School of Pharmacy, the State Association of Pharmacists, Director of DHS and Office Chief of Immunizations, the Arizona Medical Association, the Arizona Osteopathic Medical Association, the Arizona Nursing Association, and President of the Election Officers of Arizona. *Council Member Larry Woods made a motion that the Council support and go on record in support of the Vote and Vax program. Council Member Bernadine Hoffman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

Council Chair George Evanoff reported to the Council that he did review the State Plan on Aging as provided to the Council by GACA staff and would ask for its acceptance. *Council Member Simone Kelsh moved to approve the 2010 State Plan on Aging, and Council Member Joyce Finkelstein seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

Legislative & Policy Coordinating Committee (LPCC) –Committee Chair Charles Brown stated that the Committee reviewed and approved the minutes of the May LPCC meeting. Updates were provided on:

1. Feedback received from the letters of invitation sent by Council Chair to potential partners for LPCC; responses received from the East Valley Committee on Aging and the Arizona Education Association (Retirees).
2. Input/suggestions received by the Council staff on older driver safety programs (local, regional and national programs) that LPCC may wish to investigate as we consider the potential for legislation. Banner Institute Memory Disorders Clinic, Driveable Solutions, AAA, American Medical Association, AARP.
3. Resources provided in the latest Legislative Update including analyses of proposed ballot measures. Also circulated in the Committee – the list of all candidates for offices as posted on the Secretary of State’s website. Ideas for future Legislative Update content were provided from LPCC members.

The Committee heard a presentation by Dr. Roy Yaari, Associate Director of the Banner Alzheimer’s Institute Memory Disorders Clinic who helped outline, from a medical professional’s standpoint, the difficulty in determining when an older driver is no longer safe to drive and helping the driver and the family deal with loss of independence. His presentation provided a framework for consideration when researching other state’s legislation and considering all aspects of this transit-related issue.

An update on Operation Sunset – an effort to monitor and investigate complaints related to payday loans – was provided by Pam Stevenson of the Attorney General’s office.

Suggestions received for future presentations included the Corporation Commission and advocacy (vs. lobbying) training. The members in attendance suggested having legislators and staff present priorities for the 2011 Regular Session just prior to the start of the session in January. *No further recommendations or action taken.*

Mature Workforce Committee (MWC) – Committee Chair Larry Woods reported that the Committee heard a presentation from Marcy Karin, Director, Work-Life Policy Unit of the Civil Justice Clinic at Sandra O-Connor College of Law, Arizona State University, on workplace flexibility and the *States as Employers-of-Choice Project*. The Mature Worker Website continues to be well visited and has added a new *Resources* section for both employers and employees. The 2010 Mature Worker Friendly Employer Certification has received 22 applications and extended the closing date has moved from July 16th, to July 23rd. Committee Chair Larry Woods encouraged all Council Members to continue to talk to local employers using the talking points given to them at the last meeting. Committee Chair Woods also reported that the Training & Education and Outreach & Public Awareness Sub Committees have sunset. Mr. Woods also reported that the next Committee meeting will focus on increasing the number of Certification trainings done annually. *No recommendations or action taken.*

Social, Health & Alzheimer’s Committee (SHAC) – Committee Chair Bernadine Hoffman reported the Committee approved the minutes of the May SHAC meeting and amended the March 4, 2010 minutes for a technical correction.

Updates were provided on:

- DOVES Program – domestic violence program for those 50 years of age and older; offering support groups, emergency and transitional housing through Area Agency on Aging, Region One by Alice Ghareib.
- Arizona Alzheimer’s Consortium 2010 Conference afternoon sessions, the Alzheimer’s Priority Plan feedback received from participants, and plans for establishing a statewide

Task Force in the late fall to determine and implement the action steps for the goals found in the State Plan on Aging. SHAC members were encouraged to consider potential partners and participants for the Task Force prior to the next SHAC meeting.

- Oral Health Sub-Committee – the group provided the draft oral health fact sheet, discussed the updating of the Reduced Fee and AHCCCS Dental Clinic list (that will be provided as a resource to the fact sheet) and thanked Ginger Froncek of the Arizona Dental Foundation for efforts to conduct outreach to 36 medical, nursing, dental and dental hygienists programs in the state to find out what they are doing, what they have done in the past and how they might assist older and special needs adults. Information collected will be shared with the Oral Health Sub-Committee to help better determine what educational training is available, what is needed and how older and special needs adults can be better served.
- Input was received from the Committee members on components of training for caregivers and the Arizona Caregiver Coalition was cited as a potential partner to the Oral Health Sub-Committee.

Announcements: David Besst introduced Elizabeth Harris, a contractor who will be working on the public awareness campaign and creation of a statewide toll free hotline for caregivers.

Next Steps: The Oral Health Sub-Committee will meet prior to the September 23rd SHAC meeting. Deborah Schaus will provide an update on the Alzheimer's Priority Plan's Task Force development. *No recommendations or action taken.*

Liaison Reports

Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) – Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) – P.J. Schoenstene, AHCCCS Liaison, provided the Council Members with the most current Arizona Long-Term Care System (ALTCS) enrollment figures. Currently, there are about 50,000 enrollees in long-term care, including the developmentally disabled and Native American populations. A copy of the handout is available for review through the Council on Aging office. The ALTCS Request for Proposals will be out in February and the State will ask for bids from providers statewide. Public meetings will be held and the dates and times given to the Council staff. Public comments and proposals will also be taken on the AHCCCS website.

AHCCCS is winding down their annual operational and financial reviews of long-term and acute care providers. The Pima Health System is the next to be reviewed.

Department of Economic Security/Division of Aging and Adult Services (DES/DAAS) – Melanie Starns, DES/DAAS Liaison, informed the Council that DAAS recently completed year end and got contracts out - approximately 200 contracts with only six (6) contract specialists by July 1st. The State Plan and Area Plans were due at the same time as new contracts. The State Plan on Aging was approved by the Governor's Office with small changes and submitted to the federal government. The Plan is posted on DAAS website as a draft and will be official once approved by the federal government. Ms. Starns does not anticipate any issues to be raised regarding the Plan. The Area Plans were due May 1, 2010 and all are done and contracts issued thanks to quick resolutions by both Area Agencies and DAAS staff.

DAAS is currently very busy with grant applications. DAAS is planning to apply for three aging-related grants that are all due in August. One grant focuses on outreach to individuals eligible for Medicare low income subsidies, another involves the Senior Medicare Patrol (to combat fraud and waste in Medicare). The third is for furthering the aging and disability resource center

concept (related to Options Counseling). The grants possibilities (they are competitive) range from \$300,000 to \$725,000 over one to two years. The Department was fortunate that the voters passed Proposition 100 in May, as it meant that DES did not have to reduce its budget by an additional \$50 million at this time.

Ms. Starns reported that DAAS with the start of the new fiscal year the merger with other programs (that happened in October 2009) such as Community Action, Domestic Violence, and the Homeless Coordination Office (to name a few) is complete and the division is moving forward as one cohesive entity. Focuses for the upcoming year include strengthening program performance measures, improved contract monitoring, and increased focus on data analysis. Ms. Starns also noted that AZ Serves, Governor Brewer's faith based initiative that was announced in the State of the State address will hold its first meeting on July 30, 2010. The Council has five particular areas of focus including promoting programs aimed at elder independence and grandparents raising grandchildren.

Finally, at the federal level, after almost eight years the Elder Justice Act has been passed but no money was appropriated with its passage. The Elder Justice Act is aimed at protecting and upholding the rights of seniors by beefing up the long-term care ombudsman program and adult protective services nationally.

Department of Health Services (DHS) – Ramona Rusinak, DHS Liaison, provided updates from the Department of Health. The Division of Licensing Services Complaint Form is now available to be electronically submitted 24/7 on the website. Fast Facts for Aging in Arizona 2010 focused on 65 and older also 50 - 64 with disease, risk factors; intended to help programs and agencies to help identify areas of risks; lead and invest in health programs for older adults.

DHS has received American Recovery & Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funds to further develop chronic disease self management programs for older adults with the focus moving from individual programs to state and local health departments/agencies and the Area Agencies on Aging.

Grants have helped establish the Arizona Living Well Institute helping agencies move forward quickly via standardized forms, webinars, etc., and enhanced fitness will be offered to Area Agencies to further evidence-based programs through Administration on Aging funding.

Arizona Attorney General's Office (AG) – Pam Stevenson, AG Liaison, provided updates from the Attorney General's Office. The Senior Anti-Crime University (SACU) program has been very successful with 14 completed and more planned for fall 2010. The next SACU will be September 16, 2010 in Tucson at the Tucson Medical Center in partnership with the Pima Council on Aging and Senior Medicare Patrol. Senior Sleuths is still going strong; almost 100 volunteers have applied since the program's inception. Recent lottery scams reported include checks forged from reputable, larger companies using cashiers checks as first payment and asking recipient to deposit check or wire money. Some of the scams suggest calling a number to learn how to avoid tax consequences. If suspicious e-mails are received, residents can utilize the <http://www.ic3.gov/> website for internet reporting purposes.

The AG has officially launched Operation Sunset for monitoring and investigation purposes related to the sunset of the payday loan industry. Ms. Stevenson distributed an Operation Sunset informational flyer with contact information. A copy of the Operation Sunset informational flyer is available for review through the Council on Aging office.

Council Chair George Evanoff recessed the meeting until 12:45 pm or immediately following the special presentation.

Presentation – An Update on Arizona’s Health Sciences Centers

Dr. William Crist, Vice President for Health Affairs at the University of Arizona, provided a spirited presentation entitled “An Update on Arizona’s Health Sciences Centers”. Arizona’s state universities, Arizona State, Northern Arizona and the University of Arizona, have teamed together with healthcare leaders such as T-Gen and The Healthcare Transformation Institute to transform Arizona into a clinical and research leader with the Phoenix Biomedical Campus. The campus will focus on treating global health issues such as heart disease/stroke, diabetes, cancer, neurological diseases such as Alzheimer’s and Parkinson’s and pediatrics/geriatrics. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation is available for review through the Council on Aging office.

The meeting was re-convened at 12:37 pm.

Announcements

- Ramona Rusinak, DHS Liaison, announced that DHS will be holding lay leader training for self management in Tucson at a date and time to be determined. If you know of any providers who are interested, please contact Ramona.
- P.J. Schoenstene, AHCCCS Liaison, announced that AHCCCS added a fraud prevention resource to their website intended to make providers aware of how to prevent Medicaid fraud and abuse. Examples of Medicaid fraud and abuse could be upcoding, unbundling, or member fraud.

Next Steps

- Council Chairman George Evanoff asked that a report from the Ad Hoc committee working with the Governor’s Office on Volunteerism be added to the agenda of the next meeting.
- Council Chairman George Evanoff also requested that Council Members begin making notes in Committee about future Council activities/priorities to be discussed at the annual planning session.

Call to the Public

No public comment received.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Council Chair George Evanoff at 1:13 p.m.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging is scheduled for September 24, 2010. Location to be determined and announced by public meeting notice posted at the GACA website, www.azgovernor.gov/gaca .