



## GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

### Meeting Minutes

May 6, 2011

10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Executive Tower, Second Floor Conference Room  
1700 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, Arizona 85007

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

Charles Brown, George Evanoff (Chair), Joyce Finkelstein, Bernadine Hoffman, Anne Morrison, Allison Perrin, Elizabeth Rohn-Nelson, Nancy Stump, Joe Woods (Vice Chair), C.T. Wright, Karen Zanzucchi, Debra Boehlke, Loretta Crimi, Kara Dassel, Nancy Gilliam, Rohno Geppert (on behalf of the Alan Oppenheim), Steven Killian, P. J. Schoenstene, and Melanie Starns.

#### **Council Members Absent**

Kati Bates, Marilyn Johnson, Noreen Nickerson-Cruz.

#### **Council Staff Present**

Cathy De Lisa, Elsa Gaynor.

#### **Guests Present and Signing In**

#### **Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions**

Council Chair George Evanoff called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A welcome and introduction of new members Elizabeth Rohn-Nelson, Nancy Stump, and C.T. Wright followed.

#### **Review and Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the March 4, 2011 meeting were reviewed. *Council Member Joyce Finkelstein made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Charles Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

#### **Council Chair Report**

Council Chair George Evanoff started his report by asking Council members to engage in the work of at least two committees. He stated that while the Council's orientation manual indicates Council members are expected to select one committee, participation in two Council committees is needed at this time based on the number of Council initiatives and the need to prepare individual members for leadership roles. Council Chair Evanoff requested that all cell phones be placed in a quiet or silent mode during meetings to avoid distractions. He also reminded members that the Council By-Laws state that all decisions and/or recommendations are made by vote of the Council and members cannot lobby or make recommendations to the Governor, legislature, state agencies, or the public on behalf of the Council, unless prior approved by vote of the Council. He stated that he was sharing these reminders due to recent occurrences and thanked members for their attention and cooperation.

### **Deputy Executive Director's Updates**

Deputy Executive Director Cathy De Lisa reported that the Council on Aging orientation manual had been updated, copies provided to the new members, and correlated inserts were available for the other members to take with them. Ms. De Lisa reminded Council members of the June 3<sup>rd</sup> Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium conference at the Rio Vista Community Center in Peoria, Arizona and stated Steven Killian, Assistant Policy Advisor and liaison to the Council on Aging will be providing part of the opening remarks. She encouraged those planning to attend to register promptly as seating is limited. According to Ms. De Lisa, Council staffing remains at one full-time equivalent, but permission to post the Administrative Assistant III position was received and she would forward a copy of the posting to Council members once approved and posted. Ms. De Lisa thanked those who submit proposed materials and helpful information for any of the three website that the office administers and reminded members that staff manages four email addresses as well. In order to confirm a quorum for the July 2011 meeting dates, Ms. De Lisa asked for a show of hands of those able to attend on July 14-15 vs. July 7-8 and stated she would confirm the meeting dates with everyone after contacting absent Council members. Ms. De Lisa stated that office intern, Jena Grady is making progress on the Aging 2020 updates for 2009-2010, and that while it is a slow process, the end result will be a more user-friendly reporting format for the website. She stated she was pleased that Jena had decided to extend her internship and work on the older driver safety campaign for the Council following the Aging 2020 project. Ms. De Lisa invited those in attendance to stay after the meeting to honor Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) participant Elsa Gaynor who will be leaving the office at the completion of her training program on June 30, 2011.

In conjunction with Ms. De Lisa's updates, Steven Killian, Assistant Policy Advisor to Governor Brewer provided an overview of the legislative session and highlighted legislation of interest to seniors the budget and establishment of the Arizona Commerce Authority. Based on remaining questions surrounding the probate/fiduciary reform bills, Mr. Killian offered to provide a probate attorney or judge at the Council's next meeting to discuss the bills in greater detail. Mr. Killian thanked the Council on behalf of the Governor for their work and dedication to aging Arizonans.

### **Committee Reports**

**Executive Committee** – Council Chair George Evanoff shared observations on the April 15<sup>th</sup> Senior Action Day event held in Willcox, Arizona. According to Council Chair Evanoff, the barrier of distance in rural areas and the challenge of legislative participation during the session were two observations he made that needed to be considered in future planning. He stated that the Executive Committee

**Legislative & Policy Coordinating Committee (LPCC)** – Committee Chair Charles Brown reported that the LPCC meeting included a review of the Senior Action Day event in Willcox, Arizona on April 15<sup>th</sup>. While not well attended, Mr. Brown stated that he felt it did result in discussion and input to the Council members in attendance and thanked all those who assisted in putting the event together. Mr. Brown reported that the committee heard an overview of the research Council member Joyce Finkelstein had conducted related to older driver safety. According to Mr. Brown, the statistics shared confirmed the need to help older drivers sharpen their skills and recognize their changing abilities and adapt their driving practices appropriately. A comparison of state-by-state driver license renewal laws including requirements for older drivers was provided by

Ms. Finkelstein. Following the discussion, the group debated further research that was needed and potential projects resulting from the research. Mr. Brown stated the legislative overview included a demonstration by Cathy De Lisa on how LPCC members could access information related to all legislation tracked by the Council during the past session and intern, Jena Grady sharing an overview of signed legislation affecting older Arizonans.

**Mature Workforce Committee (MWC)** – Council Chair George Evanoff reported that the group had an update from Rota Venners of the Chandler Chamber of Commerce related to the Alfred P. Sloan When Work Works award program that recognizes employers who embrace workplace flexibility. Joel Millman, Co-Chair of the MWC 2011 Priorities Sub-Committee provided an overview of the survey that will be distributed to staff at the comprehensive One-Stop centers in Arizona next week. The survey will gather input into the services and information needed to help further develop resources targeted for mature workers (age 50+) and employers. Council Chair Evanoff announced that George Thorne, Jobing.com staff member would be working with the Committee and provide updates at the July MWC meeting and that Roger Forrester had agreed to Co-Chair a future MWC Sub-Committee focused on marketing.

**Social, Health & Alzheimer's Committee (SHAC)** – Committee Chair Anne Morrison reported that the Committee received an update on resources, services and equipment available through the Arizona Commission for the Deaf and the Hard of Hearing from Michele Michaels. A written report was shared from Debby Elliott at Area Agency on Aging, Region One on behalf of the Arizona Fall Prevention Coalition. The Fall Prevention Coalition is creating a speaker-in-a-box and table-in-a-box for their speaker's bureau and exhibits. Cathy Griner of the Alzheimer's Association Desert Southwest Chapter provided an update on the Alzheimer's Task Force and the four Work Teams stemming from the Task Force as well as the June 3<sup>rd</sup> Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium community event. David Besst provided updates on the national respite conference November 1 – 4, 2011 and the caregiver summit and invited the Oral Health Sub-Committee to participate in a meeting with the Area Agencies on Aging this month related to oral health caregiver training. The Oral Health Sub-Committee has developed a grid to help better explain the target populations and the strategies for meeting the three goals of the group. The Sub-Committee is focused on recruiting and expanding participation and collecting data to support their goals and objectives. An informal discussion on the potential for establishing an Outreach Sub-Committee occurred during the breakout and that discussion included ideas on how the Council's initiatives might be promoted throughout the state.

**Ad Hoc Committee** – Nothing to report.

### **Liaison Reports**

**Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)** – PJ Schoenstene, AHCCCS Liaison provided the group with a handout announcing the award of contracts for the Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS). According to Ms. Schoenstene, a total of nine managed care companies submitted offers to serve either a portion or all of the State's ALTCS population, resulting in a competitive process that drives down program costs. A minimum of three applications were received for each county. Bids were scored and awards made accordingly. Ms. Schoenstene pointed out that while many members in several counties will be enrolled in new health plans, AHCCCS has an established track record in coordinating closely with outgoing and incoming contractors to ensure continuity of care and a safe and successful transition for those

individuals moving to a new health plan. Impacted members will receive notification within the week (May 9- May 13, 2011) of the health plan that has been chosen to serve their region and more information is provided at the AHCCCS website: <http://www.azahcccs.gov/> . A copy of the AHCCCS handout is available for review through the Council on Aging office.

**Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging (AZ4A)** – Kara Dassel, AZ4A liaison, provided an overview for the Council. The AZ4A website has been “live” for a month; visitors can use the “Contact Us” form to submit events or request information. Area Agency Directors from Regions I, IV, and VII attended the n4a policy briefing in Washington, D.C. in April and met with staff from Senator McCain and Senator Kyl’s offices as well as Representative Franks and Representative Quayle’s offices and urged maintenance of funding for the Older American’s Act, Social Service Block Grants, Americorps and the Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. The Association is working to identify best practices in nutrition meal programs, participating in the Arizona Caregiver Coalition Board, monitoring budgetary issues, and hiring for the State Coordinator position. A copy of the AZ4A report is available for review through the Council on Aging office.

**Department of Economic Security/Division of Aging and Adult Services (DES/DAAS)** – Melanie Starns, DES/DAAS liaison, provided a brief legislative overview of key pieces for DES during the recent legislation session. According to Ms. Starns: 1) Adult Protective Services (APS) was very involved in the court workgroup established to address probate legislation. 2) A.R.S. Title XIII, Chapter 224 striker established that a false APS report is now a Class 1 misdemeanor and person reporting is held criminally liable. 3) Senate Bill 1082 allows programs through DAAS to use the fingerprint clearance card process and allows providers to work directly with Department of Public Safety (DPS). Ms. Starns stated that no budget reduction resulted for 2011-2012 as \$5 million in social service block grant funding was used as backfill for state funds. Changes at the federal level include the transfer of the State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP) from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid (CMS) to the Administration on Aging (AoA), the transfer of the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) to AoA, a slight bump in Older Americans Act funding under the President’s FY2011 budget and 50% cut to Community Service Block Grants (CSBG) with the remaining 50% competitively awarded. Under the Low-Income Home Emergency Assistance Program (LIHEAP), the proposed reduction would result in funding at 2008 levels; a major concern is that appropriations are based on 1981 population/census statistics in addition to the warm weather state disparity that affects Arizona. Other updates shared by Ms. Starns include the hiring of Jennifer Cain as the Health & Wellness Coordinator (replaces and expands former nutrition position), the hiring of a new Legal Services coordinator, work with numerous contract amendments for FY 2011-2012, preparations to pilot the APS mobile office in June, Requests for Proposals (RFP) for the data system, and moving offices from the second floor to the third floor to consolidate programs and bring the APS hotline and staff to the 1789 W. Jefferson building resulting in improved service quality <http://www.azahcccs.gov/> and cost savings. Ms. Starns also announced that she has been appointed to the National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD) Board.

**Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS)** – Rohno Geppert, Acting DHS Liaison, reported that the online complaint system for Licensing Services is starting to pick up momentum and proving a useful tool for the agency, consumers and various stakeholders. The online licensing application system with the Office of Assisted Living Licensing is through the pilot phase with over 200 applications received and the next office to be developed within the online system is the Office

of Long-Term Care Licensing. Due to the mission critical status of employees and self-funding, ADHS has been able to stay on top of surveys and complaint investigations. The Office of Behavioral Health Licensing is expanding to Tucson which will improve responsiveness to complaints in the southern tier of the state. The Office of Special Licensing/Group Homes for the Developmentally Disabled Licensing Unit has been expanded from a team of three to a team of five which allows the department to be more responsive to complaints statewide. The Department of Health Services has representation on and will be very involved with the new Task Force Against Senior Abuse (TASA) newly formed by the Arizona Attorney General's office.

**Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT)** – Loretta Crimi, ADOT Liaison reported that the special needs transportation application process went well this year, and they will be sending recommendations on awards to the federal government. Part of the process includes regional coordination plans, and applicants are asked to attend the regional coordination plan meetings to learn what is needed and to avoid duplication of services. Mobility management awards are intended to coordinate vehicles and services, and ADOT has seven managers throughout the state who are working together with the department to help organize and coordinate transportation services in each region and develop a statewide team.

**Arizona Attorney General's Office (AG)** – Debra Boehlke, AG Liaison, reported the Attorney General's has introduced the Taskforce Against Senior Abuse or TASA that will address any type of senior abuse issue. A dedicated phone line has been established for this purpose: 602-542-2124 or 1-800-352-8431. Debra has provided twenty presentations in April which include training to law enforcement on crimes of elder abuse. An elder abuse pledge program – "I will prevent Elder Abuse" has been established; it encourages professionals, caregivers and anyone working with seniors to commit and pledge to fight elder abuse. The pledge program will be highlighted at the World Elder Abuse Day event on June 15, 2011 sponsored by Area Agency on Aging, region One. According to Ms. Boehlke, the office is working to prosecute more cases and heighten awareness of the problem. The Medicaid Fraud Unit is addressing concerns of both residents on Medicaid and those who are not in licensed facilities.

### **Announcements**

Council member Allison Perrin announced that the Arizona Geriatrics Society is holding a conference on August 3, 2011 specific to older driver safety concerns entitled "TO DRIVE OR NOT TO DRIVE? That IS the Question" at the Crowne Plaza, I-17 and Peoria Avenue in Phoenix, Arizona.

### **Call to the Public**

No public comment received.

### **Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned by Council Chair George Evanoff at 12:06 p.m.*

### **Next Meeting**

**The next meeting of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging is scheduled for July 15, 2011. Location to be determined and announced by public meeting notice posted at the GACA website, [www.azgovernor.gov/gaca](http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca) .**