



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

LEGISLATIVE & POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE (LPCC)

Meeting Minutes

May 5, 2011

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Second Floor Conference Room

1700 West Washington Street

Phoenix, AZ 85007

Committee Members, Liaisons, and Participants Present

Charles Brown, (Chair) George Evanoff, Joyce Finkelstein, Bernadine Hoffman, Allison Perrin, Nancy Stump, Joe Woods, C.T. Wright, Debra Boehlke, Christine Bryson-Lazo, Brittany Carter, Loretta Crimi, Lynn Larson Don Ritchie, Sandra McKeehen, and Shawn Trobia.

Committee Members Absent

Kati Bates, Marilyn Johnson, Noreen Nickerson-Cruz.

Council Staff Present

Cathy De Lisa, Elsa Gaynor, and Jena Grady, Intern.

Guests Present

None signed in

Call to Order, Welcome, Review and Approval of Minutes

Committee Chair Charles Brown called the meeting to order at 10:09 a.m. A welcome and introduction period followed. Minutes from the March 3, 2011 meeting were reviewed. *Joyce Finkelstein made a motion to approve the minutes as presented, and Joe Woods seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

Follow-Up to 3.3.2011 LPCC meeting

Deputy Executive Director Cathy De Lisa reported Council member Joyce Finkelstein had agreed to do research on older driver safety and would be presenting information at the meeting. Ms. De Lisa also reported that Committee recommendations for future presentations involving older driver safety from the Motor Vehicle Division (MVD) and rehabilitation programs offered by occupational therapist would be researched and arranged by staff for future meetings.

Senior Action Day Report Back

Committee Chair Charles Brown provided an overview of the Senior Action Day event in Willcox, Arizona. While attendance was less than desired, he stated he felt the discussion and input to the Council was helpful. Council Chair George Evanoff reported that getting attendance in rural areas with significant distances between towns and getting legislators out to the event during the session were two barriers he had identified that would be considered during future planning. Concerns heard from constituents in attendance included access to services such as medical, dental, and vision care in conjunction with the need for transportation options. Mr.

Brown indicated he had called all invited state legislators, visited senior centers, city halls, and the chamber of commerce in the four-county area. He stated he appreciated the support of the Willcox United Methodist Church, Kathleen Heard and SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization (SEAGO), Valley Telecom Group and Council Chair George Evanoff and Council member Joyce Finkelstein who participated in the event. Council Chair George Evanoff reported that the Executive Committee would work on plans for events later in the fall, and that he hoped to engage new Council member, Nancy Stump, in the process. Christine Bryson-Lazo was asked to keep the space reservation she had made for an event in Prescott next fall.

LPCC Research related to Older Driver Safety Program Campaign

Council member Joyce Finkelstein provided an overview of the research she had conducted on older driver safety. According to information shared, older drivers have higher rates of fatal crashes, based on miles driven, than any other group and are less likely to survive an injury. Statistics shared by Ms. Finkelstein pointed to 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. A copy of the comparison chart is available for review through the Council on Aging office.

Discussion of Strategies/Action Steps to Build Campaign

Following the overview and discussion of Ms. Finkelstein's research, the group debated what additional research was needed as well as potential projects resulting from the proposed search. Following a lengthy discussion, committee members suggested further research to help build policy recommendations and further research to help develop a fact sheet of resources for the older driver and their family and friends as separate goals. Since lack of transportation options is frequently the reason an older drivers refuses to give up the keys, it was suggested that the fact sheet or resource sheet would include volunteer programs that offer transportation throughout the state. Loretta Crimi offered to assist with compilation of the volunteer transportation program information as well as other resources. Additional recommendations from the Committee included requesting input from the highway patrol on any concerns they have for older drivers based on their experiences and researching potential impact related to MVD privatization.

Legislative Overview & Update

Deputy Director Cathy De Lisa provided a demonstration on how to find and review the Council's tracking list reports, as provided in the *Legislative Update* issues found on the Council on Aging's website. In addition, she highlighted ways to find specific bill information at the Arizona State Legislature's website. Jena Grady, intern at the Governor's Office on Aging, provided an overview of highlighted legislation found on the Council on Aging's *Short List* during the last legislation session. A copy of Ms. Grady's overview is available for review through the Council on Aging office.

Announcements

- Debra Boehlke of the Attorney General's office announced a 2011 Citizen Safety Forum and Expo in Glendale, Arizona on May 21st and in Mesa on June 11th and that flyers were available for those interested. A copy of the flyer is available for review through the Council on Aging office.
- Lynn Larson announced that cuts in the 2011 state budget for DES impacting Area Agencies would be covered by Social Service Block Grant funding; \$6 million to be received by Area Agencies through this category.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Committee Chair Charles Brown at 11:32 a.m.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Legislative & Policy Coordinating Committee of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging is scheduled for July 14, 2011; location to be determined and announced by public meeting notice posted at the GACA website, www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/.