



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

LEGISLATIVE & POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE (LPCC)

MEETING MINUTES

January 12, 2012

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.

Arizona Capitol Complex  
First Floor Conference Room  
1700 West Washington Street  
Phoenix, AZ 85007

**Committee Members, Liaisons, and Participants Present**

Charles Brown (Chairman), George Evanoff, (Council Chairman), Bernadine Hoffman, Marilyn Johnson, Joe Woods, Susan Archer, Christine Bryson-Lazo, Tammy Frazee, Debera Kopp, Randy Maskell, Don Ritchie, and Cindy Saverino.

**Committee Members Absent**

Kati Bates, Elizabeth Rohn-Nelson, and Nancy Stump.

**Council Staff Present**

Cathy De Lisa and Kim Jennings.

**Guests Present and Signing In**

None signing in.

**Welcome, Introduction, Review & Approval of Committee Minutes**

Committee Chairman Charles Brown called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. A welcome and introduction period followed. Minutes from the November 3, 2011 meeting were reviewed. *Bernadine Hoffman made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; George Evanoff seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

**Legislative Priorities for 2012; Discussion related to legislation affecting older adults**

Council Chairman George Evanoff opened the discussion by stating that legislators attending the seven Senior Action Days had been invited to provide their legislative priorities impacting older Arizonans to the Committee. Council Chairman Evanoff thanked those in attendance – Representative Peggy Judd, Representative John Kavanagh, Representative Steve Farley, Senator Linda Lopez and Elizabeth Navran, Staff Attorney/Policy Advisor, House Democratic Caucus and provided an opportunity for each to speak. Representative Judd stated she would be introducing legislation related to: sharing federal warning information with vulnerable/aging adults at time of disaster/emergencies and disaster fund transparency; cost of flood insurance and flood zones in rural areas; guardianship of grandkids and extending the stipend to meet basic needs for extended time; and Interagency Council work on the availability of nutritious foods in the battle against obesity. Elizabeth Navran stated Representative Farley was establishing a senior caucus with the intent to develop bipartisan support of older adult concerns and was introducing legislation to put money back into the long-term are trust fund, to address financial

abuse of elders, and establish a caregiver registry. Representative Farley stated he hoped the senior caucus would become permanent like the children's caucus. Senator Lopez stated she wouldn't be sponsoring a number of bills but would continue to work on issues of concern to seniors such as availability of home and community services, programs such as the Kinship Center in Tucson and extension of the stipend for grandparents raising grandkids. Representative Kavanagh stated that as the Chairman of the Appropriations Committee he sees revenue projections more positive; not cuts or fund sweeps and testimony from major agencies, he indicated, will help determine where funding may be allocated in areas such as education, AHCCCS, prisons, etc. He stated he had an open door policy and that phone calls or visits with individual or collective input are appreciated. According to Representative Kavanagh, the recovery will be a slow but steady process and could take five – six years. A discussion related to the expiration of the 1 cent sales tax ensued and whether an initiative from the voters or approval by 2/3 vote in both chambers would be required to extend the tax.

Council Chairman Evanoff then invited members of the LPCC group to share their legislative priorities. Staff from the Division of Aging and Adult Services at DES stated they do not have legislation this session; AHCA staff indicated nothing to report. A written statement received from PAFCO was circulated. A copy of the 2012 PAFCO Legislative Policy Statement is available through the Council on Aging office.

### **Senior Action Day Wrap Up Report**

Deputy Executive Director Cathy De Lisa reported that a draft grid of input collected from the Senior Action Days had been updated then distributed copies of that document. During a review of the document, Ms. De Lisa highlighted the top four areas of concern according to seniors around the state: health (including oral health), independent living or community living (with supportive services), legal and financial concerns, and transportation. Ms. De Lisa stated that more work was needed on the complete report and once it was finished, it would be distributed. Council Chairman George Evanoff once again thanked the legislators who attended the Council's seven Senior Action Days and took time to attend the LPCC meeting. A copy of the Senior Action Day draft grid is available through the Council on Aging office.

### **Report Back on Discussion Related to Older Driver Safety Report**

Council Chairman George Evanoff reported he would be gathering stakeholders together again to try and collect input on the Older Driver Safety report then consider what action(s) the Council might take.

### **Discussion of Potential Legislation Tracking**

Committee Chairman Charles Brown invited LPCC members to share ideas on legislation to track this session. Members discussed tracking bills shared at the meeting through the Council's tracking list provided in the *Legislative Update*. Deputy Director Cathy De Lisa distributed an initial list of legislation the Council staff had selected for tracking and asked those in attendance to send any additional information on legislation to the Council staff. A copy of the Council's new legislation report dated 1.12.2012 is available through the Council on Aging office.

### **Announcements**

Susan Archer announced the Arizona Coalition for Assisted Living meets the last Tuesday of the month and Representative Crandall is working with them. A flyer provided by Ms. Archer is available through the Council on Aging office.

Christine Bryson-Lazo announced that the Northern Arizona Seniors in Action Coalition had formed a special committee to follow up on discussion from the Prescott Senior Action Day; a round table discussion is planned in the spring.

**Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned by Committee Chairman Charles Brown at 11:13 a.m.*

**Next Meeting**

**The next meeting of the Legislative & Policy Coordinating Committee of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging is scheduled for March 8, 2012; location to be confirmed and announced by public meeting notice posted at the GACA website: [www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/](http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/). These meetings are open to the public.**