



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

Annual Planning Meeting Minutes

November 6, 2014

10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Arizona State Capitol Executive Tower

Third Floor Conference Room

1700 West Washington Street

Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Governor's Advisory Council on Aging (GACA) Members, Liaisons, and Participants Present

Becky Brimhall-Lepire (Council Chair), Charles Brown (Council Secretary), George Evanoff, Patsy Gillis, Joy Grainger, Diane Joens, Deborah Lavinsky (Council Vice Chair), Teresa Lopez, Allison Perrin, Melinda Preston, Trudy Schuett, Tonya Watson, C.T. Wright, Tom Chenal, Elisa Davis, Cydney DeModica, Jay Dunkleberger, Kristin Fray, Ronald Moore, Babak Nayeri and Cynthia Saverino

Council Members Absent

Doyle Meredith and Lisa O'Neill

Council Staff Present

Cathy De Lisa, Kim Jennings and Carolyn Sigler

Guests Present and Signing In

Christine Bryson-Lazo, Shawn Trobia, Don Ritchie, Elizabeth Harris and Kathy Chandler

Welcome, Introductions, Housekeeping Items

Council Chair Becky Brimhall-Lepire called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. An extended welcome and introduction period followed with Chair Brimhall-Lepire asking everyone to talk about what they hoped to accomplish during the annual planning meeting.

Review & Approval of September 12, 2014, Minutes

Minutes from the September 12, 2014, GACA meeting were reviewed. *Joy Grainger made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; C. T. Wright seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

Purpose of the Meeting

- **Council's Purpose, Mission, Responsibilities & Member Commitments for 2015**
Council Chair Brimhall-Lepire explained the purpose and mission of the GACA as well as the responsibilities of its members referencing the GACA statutes, current bylaws and proposed amendments. There was discussion on member appointments and re-appointments

by the Governor's Office of Boards and Commissions. According to the Council Chair, the previously approved recommendations from the Ad Hoc Committee will be the blueprint for member commitments for 2015.

- Structure of the Council (per statute)

Council Member George Evanoff reviewed key portions of the current bylaws and there was discussion of proposed changes to the bylaws as well as discussion of the statutes pertaining to the approved recommendations.

Copies of the statutes, bylaws and proposed amendments are available through the Council on Aging office.

Council Liaison Reports on Agency's Planning & Priorities for 2015

Arizona Department of Economic Security (DES) Division of Aging & Adult Services (DAAS) – Cindy Saverino, Independent Living Supports Administrator representing Melanie Starns reported:

- The Department is requesting additional funding to add 12 Adult Protective Services (APS) investigators and five hotline workers and their support staff in order to meet increased caseloads.
- The Department received \$3 million in additional funding for 2014 and has hired 32 new APS employees.
- DAAS has hired a Training Manager who is currently focused on APS caseworker training.
- Refugee Resettlement Program has restructured the unit to align with components of the Affordable Care Act (ACA) as refugees are now eligible to receive medical care upon admission to Arizona.
- A new option for emergency shelter sites in Tucson is now a hotel.
- Domestic Violence services have a more person-centered focus for victims of domestic violence.
- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is a part of the new data system.
- Transition of new Department of Child Safety to be finalized by the end of the year.
- DAAS is preparing for new leadership with new priorities with transition of administration.

A copy of the DES document provided by Ms. Saverino is available for review through the Council on Aging office.

Arizona Area Agencies on Aging (AZ4A) – Elisa Davis, Director, Area Agency on Aging Region IV, reported:

- The priorities for the Arizona Area Agencies on Aging include efforts to recoup a portion of the \$8 million AZ4A indicates has been lost in previous funding years.
- The importance of funding to senior services in order to address the state-wide waiting list for services.
- AZ4A requests GACA support for the DES funding package and a bill for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) support.

A copy of Ms. Davis' presentation and the talking points sheet are both available through the Council on Aging office.

Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) – Jay Dunkleberger reported:

- The AHCCCS Olmstead Work Plan by the Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS) Advisory Council has been updated as of October 2014.
- Currently 60-70% of ALTCS clients are served in their own homes.
- AHCCCS continues to participate in Aging 2020 and the Arizona Alzheimer's Task Force strategic initiatives.

A copy of Mr. Dunkleberger's handout is available through the Council on Aging office.

Attorney General's Office (AG) – Tom Chenal reported:

- The Attorney General's Task Force Against Senior Abuse (TASA) unit has 35 groups or agencies participating.
- The majority of TASA cases involve consumer fraud, including caregiver fraud, phone solicitation scams and Medicare fraud.
- TASA now has a full-time investigator, full-time prosecutor and a legislative aide.
- The Attorney General's office is working with the Legislature on a number of bills, including amending statute to include "elder" as part of the vulnerable community as well as caregiver industry regulation.

Arizona Department of Insurance (DOI) – Andrew Carlson was not present.

Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) – Cydney Demodica reported:

- The State Highway Safety Plan is completed and available on the ADOT website.
- Transportation options are critical to aging-in-place and keeping older Arizonans safe. Alternatives are crucial for seniors in rural areas.
- ADOT is seeing an increase in motorcycle accidents involving older riders but have been unsuccessful to date in passing a mandatory helmet law for all ages.

Arizona Indian Council on Aging (AICOA) – Ronald Moore reported that he had been re-elected for another term as President of the Arizona Indian Council on Aging and stressed his commitment to advocacy for Native American seniors.

Arizona Department of Veterans' Services (ADVS) – Kristin Fray, Admissions Coordinator, Arizona State Veterans' Home reported:

- The Veterans' Services Division provides a network of Veterans Benefits Counselors (VBC's) who give information and assistance to veterans, their dependents and survivors in matters pertaining to federal and state benefits earned by honorable service in the armed forces of the United States. Veteran Benefits Counselors are available at 17 offices and travel to all fifteen counties of the state.
- The Arizona Department of Veterans' Services Fiduciary Division provides fiduciary services to veterans, spouses and minor children of veterans in the most efficient and cost effective manner possible.
- At this time, the Arizona Department of Veterans' Services operates a 200-bed skilled-nursing facility in Phoenix and a 120-bed facility in Tucson. These homes are open to all honorably discharged veterans and spouses of veterans. A future home is planned in Yuma,

AZ. Funding for this home is planned through the State of Arizona, as well as a VA Grant. The goal is to complete this home by 2018.

- The Arizona Department of Veterans' Services currently operates the Southern Arizona Veterans' Cemetery in Sierra Vista. Future plans include the Arizona State Veterans' Memorial Cemetery at Marana (breaking ground November 8) and the Northern Arizona Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Camp Navajo.

Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) – Babak Nayeri reported that the ADHS healthy aging priorities for 2015 are:

- Alzheimer's Disease and related disorders
- Fall Prevention
- Chronic Disease Self-Management education

According to Dr. Nayeri, Alzheimer's Disease is the 4th leading cause of death in persons 65 and older in Arizona and the 3rd leading cause of death in women aged 65 and older in Arizona. Dr. Nayeri encouraged the Council to support advocacy efforts to build awareness around the healthy aging priorities.

A copy of the Arizona Department of Health Services 2014-2018 Arizona Healthy Aging Plan is available through the Council on Aging office.

20-minute break to prepare for a working lunch

Council Chair Brimhall-Lepire called for a break at 11:48 a.m. and reconvened the meeting at 12:26 p.m.

Recognition Ideas

Executive Director Cathy De Lisa led a discussion on potential recognition ideas presented to her by both current and former members; ideas included presenting awards for legislation that champions older Arizonans. The group discussed the need for bipartisan recognition, alignment with GACA objectives and goals and the possibility of recognizing legislation that was unsuccessful but brought attention to a specific issue.

The discussion also included the possibility of recognizing council members who help guide Open Meeting Law adherence, compliance with Robert's Rules and/or help the Council in achieving measurable outcomes.

Council Chair Brimhall-Lepire then recognized outgoing Council Member George Evanoff with a certificate of appreciation for his willingness to extend his service to the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging and contribute to the work of the Ad Hoc Committee on Review & Revitalization and Public Relations during the past year.

Senior Action Days 2015 Planning Discussions

Council Chair Brimhall-Lepire asked members to discuss what worked at the 2013 Senior Action Days and share ideas for venues, dates and times around the first two weeks of October 2015.

Discussion included a timeframe of 90 minutes to 2 hours for each event, utilizing space at Senior Centers and holding the events around meal times to take advantage of existing transportation. Kristin Fray offered assistance in setting up Skype if desired to possibly help increase participation in rural areas of the state.

Other ideas included enhanced outreach to legislators, mayors, city council members, stakeholders and the public early in the process to ensure maximum participation at each Senior Action Day. Council members discussed follow-up with personal calls, notes and Outlook calendar requests.

Special Presentation

Kathy Chandler, Executive Director/Mobility Manager at Northwest Valley Connect, presented an overview of the new organization and the services being provided by the office, which opened in April 2014. According to Ms. Chandler, Northwest Valley Connect tries to fill in the transportation gaps in services provided by Dial-A-Ride, volunteers, taxis and circulators in the community. Northwest Valley Connect is currently the only 'one call, one click' service in the Phoenix area.

A copy of the presentation provided by Ms. Chandler is available through the Council on Aging office.

15-minute break

Council Chair Brimhall-Lepire reconvened the Council at 1:47 p.m.

Discussion of 2014 Accomplishments & Key Items for Council's Annual Report

Executive Director Cathy De Lisa asked the members to review a list and share any additional ideas on GACA 2014 accomplishments.

In addition to those listed on the handout, Council Chair Becky Brimhall-Lepire mentioned providing welcoming remarks at the National Indian Council on Aging Conference on behalf of Governor Brewer, endorsement of request for funding from Adult Protective Services (APS) and an endorsement of the Maricopa County Association of Governments (MAG) Arizona Age-Friendly Network Community Initiative.

A copy of the handout is available through the Council on Aging office.

Planning for Friday

Tonya Watson, Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Review & Revitalization and Public Relations, discussed the work of the committee that resulted in recommendations that were unanimously approved by the Council at the September meeting. According to Ms. Watson, the success of the revitalization of the Council will depend on:

1. Change of culture
2. Focus on measurable results and accountability
3. Commitment to making a difference in the lives of older Arizonans

Ms. Watson provided an updated version of the tool developed by the Ad Hoc Committee that included potential action and requested all Council Members review the action plan before Friday's meeting and come back prepared to offer suggestions.

A copy of the action plan tool distributed by the Ad Hoc Committee Chair is available for review through the Council on Aging office.

Suggested Panels, Speakers, Presentations, Ideas for Partnerships in 2015 per Approved Recommendations

Council Members, Liaisons and Staff discussed ideas that include:

1. How AICOA can work with GACA
2. Partnerships in planning Senior Action Days
3. Presentation on the “sandwich generation,” Alzheimer’s Prevention Initiative, transportation, legislation, AZ4A (each region), TASA fraud/criminal penalties proposed, updates on AZ Healthy Aging, conferences with rural community challenges around health and diet, medical tourism along the Arizona/Mexico border, updates from the College of Pharmacy at University of Arizona and long term care insurance. Staff reported receiving a suggestion to learn more about the Prescott Police Department’s system that assists family members who wander.

Discussion of Day 2 and Review of Day 1

Council Chair Brimhall-Lepire led a review of the day’s discussion then reviewed the agenda for Friday’s meeting. The Council Chair reminded members that action would be taken on the plan developed at tomorrow’s meeting and asked that members submit their Committee and Leadership Selection forms to staff.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned by Council Chair Brimhall-Lepire at 2:51 p.m.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Governor’s Advisory Council on Aging is scheduled for January 9, 2015; time and location to be determined and announced by public meeting notice posted at the GACA website: www.azgovernor.gov/gaca. These meetings are open to the public.