



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

Meeting Minutes

March 4, 2011

9:00 a.m. – 1:30 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, Marilyn Johnson, Anne Morrison, Noreen Nickerson-Cruz (Secretary), Joe Woods (Vice Chair), Karen Zanzucchi, Kara Dassel, Nancy Gilliam, Ramona Rusinak, Melanie Starns, and Pam Stevenson.

Council Members Absent

Kati Bates, Allison Crissman Perrin, Elizabeth Rohn-Nelson.

Council Staff Present

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

Guests Present and Signing In

Carol Rogers

Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions

Council Chair George Evanoff called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. then recessed for a period up to one half hour or until Council member, Anne Morrison arrived from Tucson. Mr. Evanoff called the meeting back into session at 9:06 a.m. A welcome and introduction period followed.

Review and Approval of Minutes

Minutes from the January 7, 2011 meeting were reviewed. *Council Member Joyce Finkelstein made a motion to approve the minutes as presented; Bernadine Hoffman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

Council Chair Report

2011 Senior Action Day Trial Run – Council Chair George Evanoff stated a Senior Action Day trial run event was planned for April 15th in Wilcox, Arizona at the United Methodist Church. Council member Charles Brown will be the Meeting Chair for the event and is working with the Area Agency on Aging (SEAGO - SouthEastern Arizona Governments Organization) to secure sponsorship of snacks and Valley Television to record the event. The Senior Action Day event is planned from 9 – 11 am, and Council Chair George Evanoff stated both he and Council member Joyce Finkelstein will attend. According to Council Chair Evanoff, the meeting agenda will include a brief history and structure of the Council, input from Legislators, dialogue with seniors and a chance for Legislators to respond to what they've heard. Letters of invitation will be sent to Legislators in the four-county district.

Council Chair Evanoff then provided the recommendation brought forth from the Executive Committee that the Council offer nonfinancial support of the West Valley Mini Conference on June 3, 2011. *Charles Brown made a motion to accept the recommendation that the Council offer nonfinancial support of the West Valley Mini Conference on June 3, 2011. Bernadine Hoffman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

Deputy Executive Director's Updates

Deputy Executive Director Cathy De Lisa reported to the Committee that two new members have been added to the Council: Anne Morrison of Tucson, Arizona and Elizabeth Rohn-Nelson of Sun City, Arizona. Ms. Rohn-Nelson has filled the position formerly held by Mr. Larry Woods, and Ms. De Lisa and the Council expressed appreciation to him for his service. With the changes in staffing, the Council's orientation manual is still undergoing revisions and updates and would be shared and distributed as soon as completed according to Ms. De Lisa who thanked the members for their patience. In order to help with meeting facilitation and planning, Ms. De Lisa suggested Council members share cell phone numbers with staff and then provided her own number for Council members and liaisons' reference and use. Ms. De Lisa provided an update on staffing and stated interviews are being conducted for the Program and Project Specialist II position and that she is hopeful that the position will be filled by the May Council meetings. An update on the planning for the Arizona Alzheimer's Task Force was provided; the first meeting of the group will be on March 18th and following that meeting, steps to implement strategies of the Alzheimer's Priority Plan now contained in the 2011-2014 State Plan on Aging will begin through four Work Teams. Members of the public will be encouraged to join the effort through the Work Teams. Ms. De Lisa stated more information regarding the West Valley Mini Conference on June 3, 2011 would be shared and distributed as soon as it was available.

Committee Reports

Executive Committee – Council Chair George Evanoff stated his report for the Committee was covered earlier.

Legislative & Policy Coordinating Committee (LPCC) – Committee Chair Charles Brown reported that the Committee had a presentation from Jerry Hartley, Arizona State Coordinator, AARP Driver Safety Program regarding their defensive driving training for those 50 years of age and older. The driver safety program provides a review of driving skills and techniques as well as strategies and tips to help a driver adjust to normal age-related physical changes that may affect driving ability; some insurance companies provide a discount to those persons who complete the eight hour course which is now offered in person or online. An update from Arizona Department of Transportation liaison, Loretta Crimi was provided on the application and review process for awarding of vehicles under the special needs program funding. Jena Grady, Intern for the Governor's Office on Aging was introduced and she provided an overview of the legislation that has been tracked and reported as the Short List web report linked in the *Legislative Update*. A copy of the Short List web report and Ms. Grady's overview was provided to the LPCC members and copies placed on the sign-in table at the Council meeting. Committee Chair Charles Brown thanked Jena for her report and the staff for their work.

Mature Workforce Committee (MWC) – Council Chair George Evanoff reported that Jutta Ulrich, Direct Care Workforce Specialist provided an update and overview of the history and progression of the Arizona Direct Care Workforce Initiative for the Committee. Joel Millman, Sub-Committee Co-Chair provided an update on the work of the Sub-Committee since the last MWC meeting in January and led a review and discussion of the draft survey and draft work

plan developed by the Sub-Committee. Council Chair Evanoff then provided the motion brought forth from the Mature Workforce Committee; *Charles Brown made a motion to accept the report from the Sub-Committee and support their moving forward in conducting the survey and moving through the work plan; Bernadine Hoffman seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

Social, Health & Alzheimer's Committee (SHAC) – Committee Chair Bernadine Hoffman reported the Committee approved the minutes of the January 6, 2011 SHAC meeting and the Oral Health Sub-Committee minutes from the February 3, 2011 meeting.

Dr. Robert Birdwell Co-Chair of the Oral Health Sub-Committee provided an overview of the Sub-Committee efforts and asked for input from the Committee to help the Sub-Committee move forward. Discussion included the need to refine short-term and long-term goals in lieu of changes since Three-Year Oral Health Work Plan was developed.

Cathy De Lisa provided an update on behalf of Debby Elliott of the Area Agency on Aging, Region One that outlined accomplishments of the Arizona Fall Prevention Coalition during the past year. Cathy Griner announced the Alzheimer's Task Force would be meeting on March 18th and following that meeting, members of SHAC and the greater public would be encouraged and invited to participate in one of the four Work Teams that will develop recommendations for the State Plan. Cathy Griner provided information on the June 3, 2011 West Valley community conference that will be announced by email. The event is a continuing collaboration between the Arizona Alzheimer's Consortium, the Alzheimer's Association Desert Southwest Chapter, and the Governor's Office on Aging. David Besst provided an overview of recent activities of the Arizona Caregiver Coalition (ACC). Planning is underway for the November 2011 preconference, two-day national conference lifespan respite conference, and a grantee's meeting. Call for papers and sponsorship information was provided as well as information on how SHAC members can choose to participate and assist. The Committee discussed ways SHAC members could help support the Oral Health initiative, the ACC development of the respite care network and the possibility of forming a SHAC Sub-Committee on Outreach as a long-term goal.

Ad Hoc Committee – Nothing to report.

Council Chair George Evanoff recessed the group for a 10-minute break at 9:50 a.m. The meeting was called back to order by the Chair at 10:00 a.m.

Update

A presentation was provided to the Council by Dr. Mindy Fain, MD, Chief of Geriatrics, General Medicine and Palliative Medicine and Co-Director of the Arizona Center on Aging at the University of Arizona, College of Medicine. Highlights of the update included information on the Arizona Center on Aging and Health Science College support of aging issues through education, clinical care, training, and senior mentor program to prepare the workforce and ensure everyone (social work, nursing, pharmacy, public health and medical students as well as scientists) has geriatric education and experience. Some of the new models of care include home-based primary care, telehealth home care, hospital at home programs, geriatric hospitals (units within hospitals) NICHE - Nursing Intensive Care for Hospitalized Elders, and emergency rooms with triage systems for better care of elders. Center on Aging Co-Director, Dr. Janko Nikolich-Zugich, is looking at developing vaccines with older adults in mind. Other areas of research include immunology of aging, biology of aging translation, geri metrics, activity

monitors that measure activity performed and electronic equipment that measures temperature of skin to anticipate skin breakdown.

Liaison Reports

Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging (AZ4A) – Kara Dassel, AZ4A liaison, provided an overview for the Council of recent activities.

The AZ4A February quarterly meeting included a discussion with the Attorney General's staff on elder abuse issues the Area Agencies see in their respective communities and re-initiation of the Elder Abuse Task Force. Goals of the Task Force include program development, education and prevention; a representative from Az4A will be included.

Directors met with the Director of the Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System – AHCCCS and are helping revise Community First Choice Program to allow members to still maintain role as managing entity (hiring and firing of attendant care workers) but local agencies would serve as fiscal agent and keeper of employee records. AZ4A representative to serve on Development and Implementation Council; Directors to serve on provider review panel

Area Agency on Aging Directors are meeting in March to discuss a system to conduct a national search on best practices in nutrition programs and will be traveling to visit other centralized kitchen programs throughout the country and looking for potential partnerships – Head Start meals, charter schools, etc.

Ms. Dassel provided the AZ4A brochure and announced the following events:

- 14th Annual Pinal-Gila Elder Abuse Conference, Thursday, March 17, 2011 at Apache Gold Casino, San Carlos, Arizona.
- 36th Annual Pinal-Gila Senior Craft & Wellness Fair on Saturday, March 26, 2011 at the Central Arizona College Signal Peak Campus.

A copy of the AZ4A brochure and the event flyers are 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, reported that new DES Director, Clarence H. Carter, starts on Monday, March 7th. Senate Bill 1082 DES Fingerprinting; Finger Imaging – passed out of the House Health & Human Services Committee. The bill requires applicants for assistance to have finger imaging and allows programs through DAAS to use the fingerprint clearance card process and allows providers to work directly with Department of Public Safety (DPS). Department is close to filling a health & wellness coordinator position; wellness is a priority focus for the U.S. Department for Health & Human Services (HHS) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). The Elder Justice Act was passed by Congress but no funding attached. We are awaiting the final budget for federal fiscal year 2011 and 2012, as there are many changes in the President's budget that will affect DAAS.

Arizona Department of Health Services (DHS) – Ramona Rusinak, DHS Liaison, reported the budget is unknown at this time. DHS Division of Licensing is becoming self funded. As shared previously with the Council, online complaint submittals (regarding licensed levels of care) are now available through the DHS website: www.azdhs.gov/als/. 100 complaints from online are

registered on a monthly basis with additional complaints filed via phone calls and letters. The Division of Licensing needs to hire for the Long-Term Care Manager position.

The Arizona Living Well Institute is up and running and has partnerships with local tobacco, behavioral health and chronic conditions programs in Local Health Departments. The Arizona Living Well Symposium will be held on April 8th at the Desert Botanical Garden. June Simmons, CEO of Partners in Care, in San Fernando, CA will be a featured speaker. A grant from the Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust is providing online, self-managed courses for those in their 50's and 60's.

Arizona Attorney General's Office (AG) –Pam Stevenson, AG Liaison, reported the Attorney General's Office is focusing on community outreach and education related to seniors and has re-established the Elder Abuse Task Force. Information regarding the "Why Should I Care About Elder Abuse" poster contest will be forthcoming and a part of the June 15th International Elder Abuse Awareness Day activities.

Announcements

No announcements.

Call to the Public

No public comment received.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Council Chair George Evanoff at 11:00 am.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging is scheduled for May 6, 2011. Location to be determined and announced by public meeting notice posted at the GACA website, www.azgovernor.gov/gaca .