



## GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

**Meeting Minutes**  
**November 6, 2015**  
**8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**  
**Arizona State Capitol Executive Tower**  
**Third Floor Conference Room**  
**1700 West Washington Street**  
**Phoenix, Arizona 85007**

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

Becky Brimhall-Lepire (Chair), Charles Brown, Andrew Compton, Patsy Gillis, Deborah Hankerd, Deborah Lavinsky, Teresa Ramirez Lopez, Doyle Meredith, Lisa O'Neill, Allison Perrin, Melinda Preston, Trudy Schuett, Tonya Watson, C.T. Wright, Cydney DeModica, Kristin Fray, Olivia Guerrero, Jay Dunkleberger and Cindy Saverino

### **Council Members Absent**

Diane Joens

### **Council Staff Present**

Cathy De Lisa and Lizette Cordero

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

Christine Bryson-Lazo, Edith Thomas, Laurai Atcitty and Anne Morrison

### **Welcome, Introduction, Housekeeping Items**

Governor's Advisory Council on Aging (GACA) Chair Becky Brimhall-Lepire called the meeting to order at 8:35 a.m. with a welcome and introductions.

### **Review & Approval of September 10, 2015 Minutes**

GACA Chair Becky Brimhall-Lepire called for a review of the September 10, 2015 draft meeting minutes. *C.T. Wright made a motion to approve the draft minutes; Doyle Meredith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **Purpose of the Annual Planning Meeting**

*Council's Purpose, Mission and Responsibilities* - GACA Chair, Becky-Brimhall-Lepire reviewed these items with the members as outlined in statute and included in the GACA By-Laws.

*Member Commitment for 2016* - Ms. Brimhall-Lepire reminded GACA members not completing their Member Committee Selection Form for 2016 to share their intent with staff.

*Structure of the Council* - Ms. Brimhall-Lepire reviewed the structure of GACA with the group noting the By-Laws.

A copy of the current By-Laws used during the review is available through the Governor's Advisory on Aging office.

### **Council Liaison Reports on Agency's Planning & Priorities for 2016**

*Area Agencies on Aging/AZ4A* – Ms. Guerrero discussed 2016 top three priorities:

- State Funding – Support Department of Economic Security (DES) Director Jeffries DES Budget for the Division of Aging & Adult's fund increase for Home & Community Based Services.
- 2016 Aging Summit, Aging in Arizona – Support through sponsorship (in-kind support and assist in seeking financial sponsorships). A sponsorship packet was provided to the group.
- Older American Act (OAA) Reauthorization – Support the Federal Reauthorization of the Older Americans Act – Senate has passed, waiting approval of the House of Representatives. Ms. Guerrero provided the n4a fact sheet on reauthorization of the Older Americans Act.

Copies of the handouts provided by Ms. Guerrero are available through the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging office.

*Arizona Department of Economic Security* – Cindy Saverino reported the following priorities for 2016:

- Redefining Aging Policy- adapting a broader, more integrated perspective- Need to think outside the box. Rethinking who is "old".
- Behavioral health issues and older adults- providing education and awareness to the AAAs and providers.
- Building a sound, viable dementia capable system.
- Elder Justice Act – strengthen relationships between partners.
- AAA HCBS waitlists.
- Moving Veterans-directed HCBS forward in Phoenix.
- Falls prevention
- APS Optimization – continue to address APS open cases over 6 months old; improve performance and facilitate efficiencies during the investigative process through the Four Disciplines of Execution and other lean initiatives
- APS Five Year Strategic Plan – to be finalized March 31, 2016
- DAAS is in the process of developing a Continuous Quality Improvement Administration to ensure fidelity of current practices and create a culture to support the development of future enhancements. The priorities will be to improve data collection to foster data driven and evidence-based decision making; provide professionals with the appropriate tools, training, and resources to strive for excellence; generate program development and process improvements to adopt best practices and to enhance efficiency; and support a learning culture.

*Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS)* – Babak Nayeri was not in attendance.

*Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT)* – Cydney Demodica reported on initiatives for 2016:

- State highway safety plan
- Age related subcommittee
- Direct reporting of at risk-drivers by law enforcement to the Medical Review Program
- Roll out of the federally-compliant travel ID; anticipated launch in April or May 2016
- Links to other websites and resources at the ADOT website
- Future meeting planned to discuss transportation grants, vans and other needs

*Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS)* – Jay Dunkleberger reported on AHCCCS’ main strategic issues related to the implementation of state and federal changes to how AHCCCS provides care for its members’ (statutory and rule changes that occurred last year).

- Successful Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS)/ Division of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS) General Mental Health/Substance Abuse members (GMH/SA) integration into their AHCCCS acute care plans
- Administrative simplification
- Next year’s Operational Reviews
- Providing feedback to Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and analysis of the implications of the CMS proposed rules for Medicare
- Implementation of Department of Labor guidelines for workers providing home and community based services (HCBS) to AHCCCS long term care members
- Implementing Value Based Purchasing arrangements with provider contracts – providing value while maintain access to care
- Implementing Centers for Excellence in care

*Attorney General’s Office* – No representative was in attendance.

*Arizona Indian Council on Aging (AICOA)* - Edith Thomas (in attendance for Ronald Moore) reported:

*September 2015 AICOA Conference*

- Elder awards given
- Conference held every two years

*Concerns Raised*

- Transportation
- Need for collaboration
- Lack of data on Alzheimer’s and dementia in the Native American populations
- Caregiver needs ( respite and other caregiver services)

*Arizona Veterans Administration (ADVS)* - Kristin Fray, Admissions Coordinator, Arizona State Veterans’ Home reported:

Veteran Employment – “Roadmap to Employment” Program

- Arizona Veteran Supportive Employers were honored in an event on November 2 at the Arizona State Capital. Col Wanda Wright and Secretary of State Michelle Reagan presented

certificates to thank employers who have made a commitment to hiring/recognizing veterans.

#### Arizona State Veteran Home – Phoenix

- The ASVH P will be celebrating its 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary on Veterans Day (November 11). To commemorate this event, veterans will enjoy a BBQ, visit to the parade, and a formal program. The ASVH will be participating in the parade this year, with a float in honor of Korean War Veterans.
- As the ASVH –P is 20 years old, building maintenance is becoming more of a concern.
- The ASVH-P veterans were delighted with a visit from “Re-Creation.” “Re-Creation” is a group of talented young adults who perform a Broadway-style musical at a professional level.
- Veterans at the ASVH-P are taking advantage of the cooler weather, by continuing the therapeutic gardening program and participating in outdoor events.

#### Arizona State Veteran Home – Tucson

- This October, Veteran Leo Silverstein received a Purple Heart for injuries he received during WWII, 70 years after the close of the war. His daughter recently found paperwork documenting his injuries in an old footlocker, and the Purple Heart was presented by Congresswoman Martha McSally.
- The ASVH-T recently had a fall carnival, which was attended by residents, staff, and family. A pumpkin judging contest was enjoyed by all, and the home raised \$1000 to fund a bookcase expansion and holiday events.

#### Arizona State Veteran Home – Yuma

- Continuing to review bids and determine architecture plans with a goal of opening in 2018

#### Veteran Cemeteries Update

- The Marana Cemetery Dedication will be held on March 26, 2016, instead of March 19.
- The Camp Navajo Dedication will remain on June 4, 2016.
- On October 24, the Missing in America Project interred remains of 30 veterans and one spouse at the National Cemetery.
- December 12 is the annual Wreaths across America ceremony. In this event, thousands of wreaths are placed on the graves of veterans in the National Cemeteries.

#### Veterans Benefits Counselors

- Continue to provide education and support to veterans filing claims
- Encourage veterans to be proactive with filing claims

#### **Break**

A 10-minute break was taken by the group.

#### **Kick off of 2016 Planning Process**

Anne Morrison, former GACA member and facilitator, conducted an exercise with the members that focused on a set of preferences that relate to group behaviors.

A copy of the Compass Points materials is available for review at the Governor's Office on Aging office.

### **Review, Discuss & Consider**

Ms. Morrison facilitated a review and discussion of the following with the members.

1. Senior Action Day responses
2. Stakeholder survey results
3. Liaison input received
4. Reports provided by the Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust concerning the statewide listening sessions of the White House Conference on Aging.

Ms. Morrison invited the group to provide other input, research or best practices regarding concerns of older Arizonans as part of the discussions. Additional issues stated:

- Concern that older adults are seen as a burden,
- Baby boomers' denial of aging,
- Seasonal visitors impact and allocation by census so "snow birds" not counted
- Lack of support systems for those older adults moving to Arizona without family/friends

Copies of all of the materials reviewed are available through the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging office.

### **Lunch Break**

A lunch break was taken from 11:30 a.m. to 12:04 p.m.

### **Important Factors for 2016 Goals**

The group discussed the following factors:

- Current Environment
- Governor's Priorities
- Others Identified

Executive Director Cathy De Lisa provided a draft of potential advocacy priorities with the group. The group then discussed the need for the Marketing Ad Hoc to help develop talking points that can be used to promote GACA and the need for a Speaker's Bureau once the marketing materials were developed, approved and produced.

A copy of the list is available through the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging office.

### **Establishing 2016 Goals**

Ms. Morrison reminded the group that any goals established needed to: (1) fit with their six areas of focus, (2) be significant yet reasonable and have outcome measurements and (3) be in alignment with the important factors discussed. Using the posted dashboard, the group reviewed the six focus areas of the GACA Action Plan. After a discussion on the goals and the opportunity to sponsor the AZ4A statewide conference on May 19-20, 2016 in Flagstaff and meet the GACA goal, *Deborah*

*Hankerd provided an amended motion to co-sponsor at \$20,000 the AZ4A statewide conference. Lisa O'Neill seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.*

### **GACA Member Engagement Survey & SWOT Analysis**

Ms. Anne Morrison facilitated a discussion of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats or SWOT analysis asking members how they will use their strengths and opportunities to overcome weaknesses or threats. The discussion included a review of the GACA Member Engagement Survey results.

#### *Opportunities/Strengths*

- Dashboard
- Diversity in geographic locations
- Participation
- Staff
- GACA is still here
- Liaisons
- “Stick to itiveness”
- Wonderful information (shared)
- Connectedness with membership

#### *Challenges/Threats*

- Funding
- Ability to feel connected
- Efficiencies
- Members (numbers needing appointment/reappointment)
- Duplication due to lack of awareness
- Staffing
- GACA remains independent
- Time as full-time employees and volunteers (to GACA)
- Relevant with achievable goals
- Uncertainty of top priorities for administration
- Credibility
- Larger elder population that's changing
- Need equal percentage of compass points on GACA

### **Short break**

The group reconvened following a 10-minute break.

### **Consensus on Moving Forward & 2016 Meeting Dates**

GACA Chair Brimhall-Lepire facilitated a discussion and review of the dashboard containing the six areas of focus with objectives and actions taken as of 9.8.15. Edits were made and staff was asked to update and repost the dashboard to the GACA website.

The group agreed to the following 2016 meeting dates:  
January 8, 2016

March 11, 2016  
May 13, 2016  
July 8, 2016  
September 9, 2016  
November 4, 2016 - Annual Planning Meeting

**Discussion of 2015 Accomplishments & Key Items for GACA Annual Report**

Executive Director Cathy De Lisa provided a beginning draft list of 2015 accomplishments and asked the GACA members to email and share ideas for additions.

A copy of the list is available through the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging office.

**Suggested Panels, Speakers, Presentations, Ideas for Partnerships in 2016 per Newly-Established Goals and Objectives**

- Right Care Foundation (follow up)
- Prescott Police Department's best practices dementia training program
- Center for Healthy Aging - Longevity Study
- County attorneys as well as members of Attorney General's office and the Task Force Against Senior Abuse (TASA)
- Silver Alert
- Coach of the Arizona Cardinals (leadership)
- Legislators – Representatives Kate Brophy McGee and Heather Carter; Senator Nancy Barto

**Wrap-Up, Reflections & Recognitions**

GACA Chair Becky Brimhall-Lepire thanked all members for their service and recognized Deborah Lavinsky whose term is ending with a certificate of appreciation. GACA Chair Becky Brimhall-Lepire was recognized by Executive Director Cathy De Lisa for her leadership in 2015. All members were recognized for their individual contributions by Ms. De Lisa.

**Call to Public**

No input from the public was received.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned by Council Chair Becky Brimhall-Lepire at 2:58 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging is planned for Friday, January 8, 2016; time and location of this meeting to be confirmed and announced by public meeting notice posted at the GACA website: <http://govtrans.az.gov/gaca/>. These meetings are open to the public.