

Minutes

Abuse Committee Governor's Commission on Senior Services December 6, 2007 Department of Human Services

Attendees: Peggie Beck (Chair), Jeff Brandon (Vice-Chair), Elaine Barrett, Eunice Dutton, Kay Kirkbride, Lucy Morgan, Marjorie Rueling, Kathleen Schonau, and Remona Simpson

Excused/Absent: None.

Guests: Marie Cervantes, Valerie Eames, Judy Giggy, Robert Lawrence, Barbara Nelson, Millie Salt, and Joan Staley

Staff: Becky Murphy

Called Meeting to Order

Introductions – Introductions were made.

Review Agenda – An evaluation review was added to the agenda. Eunice also had another item to discuss regarding improper business practices in soliciting elderly individuals by mail.

Approval of October Minutes - MOTION: Approved minutes as written.
(Marjorie Rueling/Lucy Morgan) *Passed.*

Announcements – None

Complete Review of Lake Oswego

Consensus was to table agenda the item for a future meeting.

Evaluation

Committee members reviewed all goals, steps completed, and steps that remain. Becky will update the document prior to the next meeting.

Discussion of Guardianship Efforts (Travis Wall)

Travis introduced himself with a short explanation of his background, and although he is a DHS employee, he came as a citizen to share information at the invitation of the Commission. Travis defined “guardians” and “conservators” and gave a brief history on the topic. He reviewed his handout, Implementation Plan for the Office of Public Guardian (from the State of Utah). Travis also answered as many questions as time permitted.

Jeff mentioned Oregon's statute---by county with no set funding source. Multnomah County has funding, staff, and is very active.

APS Continuing Education (Judy Giggy)

Judy responded to Travis' presentation regarding the need of a public guardianship program throughout Oregon with adequate funding. She briefly shared SPD and DHS views, CMS and funding, and resources available.

Valerie Eames reviewed the folder of handouts distributed:

- Oregon's Revised Statutes,
- Department of Human Services, Seniors and People with Disabilities Rules,
- Public Guardian definitions,
- Guardianship (power point),
- Referral for Payment of Guardianship Proceedings, and
- Homework Assignment (scenarios).

ACTION: Judy will check on the State of Washington's funding source, and the Cornerstone organization in Eugene, and share the information with the Committee.

Update on Financial Abuse Issues (Eunice Dutton and Valerie Eames)

An update was given under the discussion on goals. Eunice did mention there is still a supply of Financial Abuse and End of Life publications in the Resource Room and both are on the GCSS website.

Other

- Robert discussed the need for collaboration with another entity and a champion in the legislature to proceed with any bill on guardianship. The Elder Abuse Committee needs to work more on the issue before submitting it to the Legislative and Advocacy Committee.
- Discussion held that there would still be a liaison to Everyday Heroes from the Commission; however, Marilyn Hinds could also be contacted.
- Eunice reported that some GCSS members received an official looking letter that actually was an ad for an insurance program. Chuck planned to call about it and it was suggested he also contact Jan Margosian.

MOTION: Bring up the mailing issue with the full Commission on Friday. (Remona Simpson/Joan Staley)

Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Possible items:

- Lake Oswego Meeting Ideas.
- Judy Giggy's Update on Action Items.
- Answers to Homework Assignment (Judy Giggy or Valerie Eames).

Adjourned

