

Minutes

Governor's Commission on Senior Services

April 27, 2007

Department of Human Services

Members: John Helm, Chair, Elaine Barrett, Peggie Beck, Jeff Brandon, John Brenne, Patty Brost, Denise Dion, Chris Flammang, Chuck Frazier, Marilyn Hinds, Kay Kirkbride, Charles Kurtz, Robert Lawrence, Lucy Morgan, Barbara Nelson, Kathleen Schonau, Remona Simpson, Joan Staley, Kelly Wessels

Guests: Liz Baxter (Archimedes Project), Jerry Cohen (AARP), Joe Greeman (Oregon Health Care Association), Maribeth Healy (Oregonians for Health Security), Bill Kramer (Oregon Business Council), Bill Olson (Cross Disabilities Coalition, Advocacy Coalition for Seniors and People with Disabilities)

Excused: Eunice Dutton (E), Dolores Raymond (E), Marjorie Reuling (E), Millie Salt (E)

Staff: Lee Girard, Marc Overbeck, Wendy Russell

Called Meeting to Order 10:15

Introductions: Introductions were made of members and guests present

Approval of minutes: The March minutes will be corrected to reflect that Kay Kirkbride was present at the meeting. **Barbara/Lucy as corrected. Passed**

Review Agenda: Chris Flammang will give the legislative report instead of Robert Lawrence.

Announcements/Correspondence

Chris Flammang provided a brief update on what was happening at the federal level regarding discrimination due to genetic history of disease.

Lucy Morgan spoke of an article she read in the AARP Global Aging magazine with regards to the new pharmacy approach and having clinics in the pharmacies in locations such as Walgreen's and Target.

Kay Kirkbride has an opportunity through her church to go to a meeting in June to meet with seven other large churches throughout the nation of all denominations to plan for the age wave and be part of the discussion on what care is needed for people as they age.

Kathleen Schonau talked about how nurses are now part of the gatekeeping movement around protective services with the changing of the culture.

Denise Dion spoke of a legislative bill that will allow psychologist to provide medications. Her concern is that they do not have the pharmacy training and there could be drug interactions.

Marc let members know where absent members were: Eunice is traveling; Marjorie is traveling; Joan would be arriving late to today's meeting; Millie was attending to some critical family matters and would not be at the meeting.

Marc went over the correspondence file.

The Commission would like to ask Mary Gear to be the noontime speaker about regulation of the long-term care industry.

John Brenne asked where HB 2780 is in the legislative process. Marc and John Helm both have asked for an updated status, and that will be shared with the Commission as soon as we have the information.

Public Comment

None

Future of Long-Term Care Committee

The FLTC convened for its quarterly meeting at the beginning of the month, with about 30-35 attendees present. The Commission was sent the latest draft, which is Draft 3.0. Today is the last day for comments to Julia Huddleston for the next draft. Modifications from previous drafts include the acknowledgment that the members of Workgroup 7 were not supportive of integrated acute and long-term care models, and this item will not be pursued in the near future, but will be continue to be discussed with other potential models.

Next steps for the FLTC effort include the development of three task groups: Community planning, Medicaid system reform, and Workforce Development.

The community-planning group will look at how communities should best prepare for the age wave, and continue to develop plans for implementing projects under questions 1-4 of the report.

The second group will look at the Medicaid system and potential changes to the model and discuss what services should look like in Oregon in the future.

The 3rd task group will focus on the work force issue, staffing ratios, compensation, etc

Commission members said they would like to get out in the community sooner than next spring to talk with folks again in regard to what is being done and what needs to be done in the future of long term care. They would like to focus on city/community planners and their partners. Members expressed that, while they may participate in another round of forums with DHS and disability advocates, there is a need to begin dialogue now, and that going out sooner, even if on their own, could support SPD's effort on long-range planning.

There is a report that Elders in Action is putting together regarding the aging baby boomers and GCSS would like a copy.

The Commission agreed that they would like to talk to James Toews about their intention to hold meetings throughout the state this fall instead of waiting until next spring.

At these meetings throughout the state, members would like to a) remind people about the earlier community forums, b) speak about what has happened so far with their comments, c) talk about the accomplishments of the legislative session in this area, d) and find out what communities are interested in and what people think needs to happen in the future. This could be a helpful precursor for the meetings envisioned to take place in the Spring under DHS sponsorship.

The Commission would like to invite people from 3 task groups to speak (once they are established) at a future working lunch.

Members said they would be happy to bring back from the various communities and local decision makers to the task groups.

Committee Reports

Executive- John Helm reported that the Executive Committee is focusing on legislative activity taking place, and responding as needed to urgent items on behalf of the Commission.

Caregivers- Remona Simpson reported that Gene Sundet came and spoke about the spousal pay rules. Bandana Shrestha from AARP and Judy Bowen from the State Unit on Aging spoke about the Grandparents Caring for Children. Kay will also join Remona

as part of the Relatives as Parents Program (RAPP) committee.

Elder Abuse- Peggie Beck yielded to Marilyn Hinds, who reported on the Everyday Heroes program's efforts to establish a 501c3 non-profit corporation. They are trying to find volunteers to help put together the legal paperwork so that they may find funding. Peggie said that the conservator/guardianship bill that Jeff testified on (HB 3342) is still moving forward in the legislature. Valerie Eames presented the bankers trainings that are being done to help fight financial abuse.

Mental Health- Denise Dion reported on the meeting and the conversation with Bob Nikkel, Megan Hornby and Rebecca Curtis concerning collaboration between AMH and SPD. Denise provided a copy of a template for review of county mental health plans to Bob, who expressed a willingness to use this in future reviews.

Legislative- Chris reported that Jane-ellen Weidanz came and talked to the committee about the Community Mental Health Coalition and asked for GCSS to become a member. **It was moved that GCSS join the Community Mental Health Coalition.** John Brenne/Peggie Beck. **Passed (Lucy Morgan and Chris Flammang abstaining).** Marc will find out about the meeting times and forward these on to the Mental Health committee and to Peggie.

Health Care Reform in Oregon/Working Lunch

Jerry Cohen (Oregon AARP) gave a background on what AARP is doing in the area of health care reform and some of the recent initiatives launched by AARP.

Bill Kramer (Kramer Health Care Consulting, Oregon Business Council) distributed a handout that was provided and gave the Oregon Business Council point of view on what is needed to transform the health care system, and offered recommendations.

Liz Baxter (The Archimedes Movement) discussed the recent activity around SB 27, and the efforts of the Archimedes Movement around the state.

Maribeth Healy (Oregonians for Healthcare Security) spoke about her background and the work of the Senate Interim Committee on Health Care Reform, the work to expand the Oregon Prescription Drug Program, and what she sees as next.

The panel answered questions from the Commissioners.

Legislative Report & Updates

It was brought up that the Legislative Committee also handed out a newspaper commentary focusing on HB 2735 regarding terms of the closure of manufactured housing parks. The Commission was noted in the article for its objection to one part of the bill, and was joined in this opposition by many consumer groups and local

governments.

All members received a copy of the legislative priorities as of the meeting.

Marc and John Helm reported that HB 2780 had indeed been sent to Ways and Means.

Kathleen reported on her meeting with Senator Verger, and that **Senator Verger would like GCSS to support the bill providing funding to OPB to expand their signal capacity. Move that it be deferred to the legislative committee. Kay Kirkbride/Peggie Beck. Passed.**

Kathleen will write a thank you letter to Senator Verger.

Staff Updates

Lee gave an update on the State Unit on Aging.

Wendy went over lunch orders for May and travel reimbursement issues.

Member Submitted Items

John Helm expressed his great appreciation and acknowledgement to members and staff around their work supporting the Commission's activities with the Legislature. He noted that that many in the Capitol have talked with him positively about the work and presence of the Commission this session.

Adjourn: 2:55

Action Item:	Assigned To:	Deadline:
The Commission would like to ask Mary Gear to be the noontime speaker about DHS quality and license of care issues.		
There is a report that Elders in Action is putting together regarding the aging baby boomers and GCSS would like a copy.		
The Commission decided that they would like to talk to James Toews about having meetings throughout the state this fall instead of waiting until next spring.		
The Commission would like to invite people from 3 task groups to speak during the noontime break.		
Kathleen will write thank you to Senator Verger.		