

# Minutes

## Governor's Commission on Senior Services April 25, 2008 Department of Human Services

**Members:** John Helm (Chair), Eunice Dutton (Vice-Chair), Elaine Barrett, Jeff Brandon, Patty Brost, Jean Cowan, Chuck Frazier, Robert Lawrence, Ross Mathews, Timothy McQueary, Barbara Nelson, Marilyn Patton, Kathleen Schonau, Remona Simpson, and Joan Staley

**Guests:** Debbie Bowers, Max Brown, Cathy Cooper, Jennifer Fuller, Claudia Grimm, Dolores Hubert, Jan Margosian, Alice Morton, Bernadette Murphy, Hardy Myers, and Pam Ruona

**Excused:** Peggie Beck, John Brenne, Denise Dion, Chris Flammang, Lucy Morgan, Dolores Raymond, Marjorie Reuling, Millie Salt, and Kelly Wessels

**Staff:** Becky Murphy, Marc Overbeck, and Dawn Rustrum

### Called Meeting to Order

**Introductions** – Introductions were made by members and guests.

**Approval of March Minutes - MOTION: Approve the March meeting minutes as written.** (Eunice Dutton/Remona Simpson) **Passed.**

**Review Agenda** – Add Debbie Bowers and Cathy Cooper to agenda during Announcements.

Debbie and Cathy shared transition and reassignment plans for Marc's departure. Dawn Rustrum will be the primary staff for GCSS, Max Brown will take over the Oregon Disabilities Commission, and both will assist during the legislative session. Becky will continue to handle the business functions for GCSS, ODC and the unit. The plan is to hire another support person who will specifically handle preparation of minutes, etc. Both Becky and Dawn will be going to May's meeting in Ontario. Members asked Debbie for copies of position descriptions of the staff who will be working with the commission. Debbie agreed to share the job descriptions with the commission. Debbie and Cathy thanked Marc for his great work with GCSS and presented him with a card and gift.

### **Announcements**

- Elaine reported on the DHS Budget Meeting she attended in Eugene. She encouraged all members to attend one in their area.
- Marc reported there are replacement pages for the Orientation Manual on the table.

### **Correspondence**

- Marc reported on incoming and outgoing correspondence.

## Public Comment

None.

## Workforce and Staffing Issues in the Long-Term Care Industry (Pam Ruona, Oregon Health Care Association (OHCA))

Pam distributed a handout, Oregon's Long Term Care Workforce and Staff Issues by OHCA. She reviewed the document and answered questions. Discussion included: reasons for a nursing shortage, lack of educational capacity, contributing factors to staff turnover, recruitment efforts, retention strategy recommendations, and Oregon initiatives. There was also discussion on the staffing standards and prevention of turnover.

## Update on Efforts to Combat Financial Abuse and Fraud (Honorable Hardy Myers and Jan Margosian, Department of Justice)

Hardy Myers, Attorney General and Jan Margosian introduced themselves and provided an update on the work being done to combat elder financial abuse, such as the work with Adult Protective Services unit of the Seniors and People with Disabilities division, banks and credit unions, as well as legislative changes that have occurred. Discussion included mortgage fraud, identity theft, internet fraud (i.e., Nigerian scheme), and restitution funds and recoveries. It was suggested that a technological fix is needed for internet schemes rather than a law enforcement fix. Jan shared that the Attorney General's Consumer Protection Hotline (six lines manned by seniors) is 1-877-877-9392. Jan brought various brochures and booklets for members. Jan also invited GCSS to share a booth at the State Fair. GCSS thanked the Attorney General and Jan for their work with Everyday Heroes.

## Working Lunch: Making Oregon Vital for Elders---MOVE (Bernadette Murphy, SPD)

Bernadette submitted a handout and provided an overview of Making Oregon Vital for Elders (MOVE). She explained that it is a coalition of organizations out to change the way Oregonians feel about health and long term care for adults, by building on the principles of Pioneer Network (vision: a culture of aging that is life-affirming, humane, and meaningful), which is dedicated to culture change by enhancing the way care and services are delivered directly to elders in Oregon, across agencies/organizations/health care settings. She shared that MOVE is dedicated to creating a new culture where Oregonians embrace aging and the opportunity to live or work in environments where individual contributions are valued, unique talents celebrated, and personal life experiences honored. MOVE is united to create and sustain personalized, enriching communities where older adults and those who support them can thrive.

## Committee Reports (All Chairs)

**Executive Committee** – John reported on the Executive Committee meeting (drafted minutes in binder), highlighting the decision on sending a letter due that day.

**Caregivers Committee** – Remona briefly reported on an update by Judy Bowen and presentations by Chris Tanner and Julia Huddleston. In July the plan is to show “Caring for Parents,” and invite Julia back for another update.

**Elder Abuse Committee** – Jeff reported guests were Patti Little and Meredith Cody. There was discussion on a “needs” survey and Marc’s research. Decisions made: the committee will be a player but not take the lead regarding guardianship/ conservatorship. Judy Giggly will be contacted about forming a group and GCSS will request to be involved.

Eunice reported on bank and credit union training. The Financial Abuse and End of Life publications are being reviewed to see if there are any needed changes before reprinting. There was one suggestion to add an advanced directive to the End of Life booklet.

**Mental Health Committee** – Chuck reported on Rebecca Curtis’ update on the Addictions and Mental Health Division (AMH) Policy Option Packages (POPs). Three of the POPs coincide with the committee’s priorities. The 4<sup>th</sup> POP is an enhancement of telemedicine. Chuck distributed the letter sent to the Community Mental Health Coalition of Oregon.

**MOTION Send letter to Bob Nikkel in support of the AMH Policy Option Packages.** (Robert Lawrence/Eunice Dutton) *Passed.* [Chuck will draft letter; copies to GCSS legislators, James Toews, Dr. Bruce Goldberg, Claudia Black, Erin Kelly-Siel.]

**SUGGESTION: All letters sent by GCSS also go electronically to members.**

**Legislative & Advocacy Committee** – Robert reported that Jane-ellen Weidanz, Oregon Association of Hospitals, spoke about mental health issues; John Mullin, Oregon Law Center, reported on the strategy for the 2009 legislative session; Mary Shortall, Multnomah Aging and Disability, reported on the New Front Door/ADRCs; and Nicole Armstrong, 04AD Director, discussed hopes for the DHS Budget and 2009 legislative session.

Robert also reported on the Medicare Access Project (50+ Dialogue group’s initiative) regarding having a central phone number to obtain information about physicians who accept Medicare patients. Robert will send a copy of the information to Sen. Morrisette.

Robert shared that his daughter found a foundation with possible grants for respite care.

## Budget Report (Elaine Barrett)

Elaine distributed and discussed the 2007-2009 GCSS Budget with expenditures from July through February. She shared that she and Becky will continue working on a monthly expenditure form. Eunice praised Elaine's hard work, and all members thanked her.

## Staff Report (Marc Overbeck)

**Ontario Update** – Marc reported on the schedule invitation, motel, meeting place, local assistance, tentative panels, and travel arrangements. There will be a need to rent a couple of vans (Robert and Timothy possible drivers). There was discussion regarding partners, local legislators, media, etc.

**Planning Days Update** – Marc reviewed the handouts distributed, possible agenda and priorities. There was discussion about the agenda structure. The Planning Days subcommittee will be discussing the agenda at their meeting next week.

**MOTION: Offer honorarium, out of employee training, of \$500 for facilitator.**  
(Kathleen Schonau/Joan Staley). *Passed.*

**Other** - Becky reported she talked to Maria Smith recently who says hello to all.

## Liaison Reports

- There were none received this month. Patty mentioned she sent a Home Care Commission report but will resend.
- Eunice reported MLTCQRAC did not meet this month.
- Remona reported briefly about the Long Term Care Ombudsman Meeting in the Elder Abuse Committee.

## Member Submitted Items

Cards presented for Joan's birthday and Marc's departure. Marc thanked everyone. Tim (meeting monitor) reported members appeared to be on their best behavior, and he felt they stayed on the agenda and kept on track. Presentations were good and informative.

## Adjourned

Action Item	Assigned	Deadline
A copy of staff's position descriptions to be sent to members.	Debbie Bowers	5/08
Add "advanced directive" to End of Life booklet.	Eunice	5/08
Send letter to Bob Nikkel in support of AMH POPs. (Copies to SPD, DHS, Governor's Office, and GCSS Legislators.)	Chuck Staff	5/08

All outgoing correspondence to be electronically sent to members.	Staff	Ongoing
Send Sen. Morrisette Medicare Access Project information.	Robert	5/08
Offer honorarium to Planning Days' facilitator (charge to employee training).	Staff	5/08