

# **GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ON SENIOR SERVICES**

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Thursday, June 19, 2008 • 8:30 A.M. – 5:00 P.M.

Holiday Inn Express Hotel & Suites, 204 West Marine Drive, Astoria, OR 97103

## **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Elaine Barrett  
Peggie Beck  
Jeffry Brandon  
John Brenne  
Patty Brost  
Denise Dion  
Eunice Dutton

Chris Flammang  
Chuck Frazier  
John Helm  
Robert Lawrence  
Ross Mathews  
Timothy McQueary  
Barbara Nelson

Marilyn Patton  
Dolores Raymond  
Millie Salt  
Kathleen Schonau  
Remona Simpson  
Joan Staley

## **MEMBERS EXCUSED:**

Lucy Morgan  
Sen. Bill Morrisette  
Rep. Jean Cowan

## **STAFF PRESENT:**

Dawn Rustrum, Coordinator  
Becky Murphy, Administrative Staff

## **AGENDA ITEMS:**

**Setting Priorities**  
**Committee Assignments**  
**Wrap-Up/Announcements**

## **SETTING PRIORITIES**

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### **Introductions**

Members, staff, and guests introduced themselves and participated in an ice breaker exercise.

### **Wednesday's Presentations:**

Discussion included:

- Recognition of mental health needs.
- Surprise about glut of affordable housing – would like more information.
- Appreciated proposal to turn the pyramid of services upside down.
- Emergency preparedness issues at local, state, and federal levels.
- Door opened to CMS' policy discussions.
- GCSS remaining neutral, reviewing and giving comments.

### **Gregory A. Chaimov Letter, Statute, and Bylaws:**

The Commission reviewed the letter, statute, and bylaws discussing all aspects and definitions.

Discussion included:

- Ongoing communication with Governor's office and DHS, possibly a quarterly update/report
- Invite a representative of the Governor's Office and DHS to attend meetings and functions
- A broker of factual information in a neutral way and independent assessors on concerns of seniors
- Responsible advocacy for seniors
- "Consult" means to gather/research, share, ask, teach, communicate, learn, expertise, assist/help, and facilitate problem solving
- Reality check of expectations

Possible issues for special projects: emergency preparedness (even if only information gathering) and an intergenerational communication project.

### **Break Out Discussions and Reports:**

Members were divided into five groups to discuss priorities, using the GCSS flow chart, to form possible committees for the next year. Reports consisted of the priority issues and suggested new committees.

### **Group #1**

Issues: Transportation, Housing, Volunteerism, and Intergovernmental Communication Project.

## Committees:

1. Legislative
2. Mental Health
3. Caregivers & Abuse
4. General Issues

### **Group #2**

1. Caregivers: Issues: monitoring, workforce and caregiver supports, non-Medicaid support, and financial/money management
2. Mental Health: Issues: continue as is, with an emphasis on suicide prevention
3. Legislative: Issues: continue as is
4. Healthy Aging: Issues: housing, rural transportation, and volunteerism

### **Group #3**

1. Legislative
2. Long-Range Plan
3. Mental Health
4. Caregivers and Abuse
5. Add ad hoc committees for housing and transportation.

### **Group #4**

1. Legislative: Issues: continue as is.
2. Housing & Transportation: Issues: manufactured housing parks, affordable and accessible housing, and livable communities.
3. Mental Health: Issues: continue; pursue funding and work with insurance companies.
4. Long Term Care and Caregivers: Issues: monitor nursing homes, and pursue respite care and caregiver supports and funding.

Additional Ideas: Continue to have Liaison representatives for Financial Abuse and Guardianship/Conservatorship. Another possible project: a poster for volunteerism.

### **Group #5**

1. Health & Wellness: Issues: Mental Health and access to health services/health care reform.
2. Caregivers and Abuse: Issues: continue work and also include ADRC model
3. General Issues: Issues: Budget and program review and recommendations; community issues.
4. Legislative: Continue as is.
5. Healthy Living: Issues: volunteerism, wellness, housing, and transportation.

## **COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS**

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Members agreed on the following committee assignments:

### **1. Caregiver Supports and Senior Safety**

(Protection of vulnerable adults, financial abuse, personal money management, and guardianship/conservatorship)

Members: Remona Simpson; Chair, Barbara Nelson; Vice-Chair, Elaine Barrett, Jeff Brandon, Robert Lawrence, Ross Mathews, Marilyn Patton, Kathleen Schonau, and Joan Staley

### **2. Legislative**

Members: Robert Lawrence; Chair, Timothy McQueary; Vice-Chair, Jeff Brandon, John Brenne, Patty Brost, Denise Dion, Chuck Frazier, Barbara Nelson, Marilyn Patton, Dolores Raymond, and Millie Salt

### **3. Health & Wellness** (Mental Health and Health Care Reform Issues)

Members: Peggie Beck; Chair, Denise Dion; Vice-Chair, Patty Brost, Chris Flammang, Chuck Frazier, Millie Salt, Kathleen Schonau, and Joan Staley

### **4. Healthy Living** (Volunteerism, housing, transportation, and wellness)

Members: Chris Flammang; Chair, John Brenne; Vice-Chair, Elaine Barrett, Peggie Beck, Ross Mathews, Timothy McQueary, Dolores Raymond, Remona Simpson, and Kathleen Schonau

### **5. Long Range Planning** – All commissioners

**Action Item:** Staff will contact Lucy Morgan for her preference on committees.

**Action Item:** Committees to review the draft Long Range Plan.

## **WRAP-UP/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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Marla summarized discussion items, action items, and decisions made. Reviewed agenda and then adjourned the meeting.

**MEETING ADJOURNED:** 4:00 P.M.