

Minutes

Governor's Commission on Senior Services May 27, 2005 Department of Human Services

Members: Dolores Hubert, Chair; Elaine Barrett; Don Butsch; Estill Deitz; Eunice Dutton; Jack Ewing; Chris Flammang; Marilyn Hinds; Kay Kirkbride; Charles Kurtz; Bob Lawrence; Linda Miller; Barbara Nelson; Jack Roberts; Remona Simpson; and Maria Smith

Excused: John Helm; Dolores Raymond; and Marjorie Reuling

Guests: John Brenne; Chuck Frazier; Representative Gilman; Senator Morrisette; and Kathleen Schonau

Staff: Morgen Brodie and Sherry Whitehead

Called Meeting to Order

Approved April 2005 Minutes with minor corrections.

Announcements

Mary Harvey is resigning from the Commission due to medical reasons.

Sherry Whitehead, staff to the Commission, has accepted a position with Licensing and Quality of Care within Seniors and People with Disabilities. She will no longer be staffing the Commission as of June 1, 2005.

Bryan Johnston will be the Interim Director of the Department of Human Services. Barry Kast will be the Interim Deputy Director of the Department of Human Services.

Dolores Raymond will not be participating with the Commission for the next couple of months due to illness.

Marc Overbeck, staff, will be back in the office early June 2005.

Jack Ewing introduced a book of interest to the Commission, "Unequal Protection" by Tom Hartmin. (Published 2002.)

Chris Flammang discussed an article of interest to the Commission, regarding two different views from economists on Medicare's fiscal challenges. (TIA Financial Services, View, Spring 2005)

Home Care Commission Update

Negotiations are continuing with the Governor's Office regarding salary increases. The Home Care Commission is resistant to the Department of Human Service's request for 50% of ownership on the education of homecare workers.

State Plan (Rhonda Beundefeldt, SPD)

The Department of Human Services (DHS) is required to submit a State Plan for Older Adults to the federal government every four years. The purpose of the State Plan on Aging is to help structure the Department's priorities and set an "aging in place" plan for the general public. The State Plan is submitted to the Federal Administration on Aging and the State of Oregon receives funds under the Older Americans Act of 1965, as amended. The Plan will cover the four-year period from October 1, 2005 through September 30, 2009. Currently the State Plan Advisory Committee has held three meetings and six local public hearings. The Commission discussed the goals for the State Plan as submitted by Rhonda. DHS is still working on the review of the needs assessment, which has not been done for approximately fifteen years. The AAAs are feeling trepidation with how many times they are in the State Plan as achieving certain tasks; they do not have adequate funding to meet these tasks. DHS is going to help the AAAs with technical assistance through providing outreach efforts such as having the AAAs expand out into the community for fee-for-service functions, with money coming in as program income "private fee" case management. The Commission expressed concerns with the lack of adequate representation statewide and the lack of measurable outcomes within the Plan. The Commission has agreed to take their concerns and recommendations to the June 6, 2005 meeting via their representatives on the State Planning Advisory Committee.

Adult Protective Services Update

Effective July 1, 2005 the new Adult Protective Services Administrative Rules will take effect. These rules are available on the Department of Human Services website.

Executive Committee Update

Discussed recruitment for the Commission. Next week (May 30 – June 3, 2005) the Commission plans to hold interviews with four different candidates. The interviews will be conducted by an Executive Committee member and by a full Commission member. The Executive Committee volunteers are as follows: Eunice Dutton; Esitll Deitz; Don Butsch; and Dolores Hubert. The full Commission volunteers are as follows: Bob Lawrence; Marilyn Hinds; Barbara Nelson; and Charles Kurtz. A discussion ensued regarding succession planning and the methodology in the election of new chairs. It was determined that the Commission would continue to follow its historical practices. The meeting resulted in the following motion:

Motion: Recommend to the Governor's Office that Kathleen Schonau and Chuck Frazier to be appointed to the Commission. (Dolores Hubert) *Passed*

Legislative Committee Update

Don Butsch gave an update on the discussion from the Commission's Legislative Committee, which included the review of the legislative bills within the Commission's identified issues (Health, APS & Abuse, Caregiver, Transportation, housing, and OPI); the AAA equity issues; the SPD budget; and the Commission's Mental Health bill (SB 781). The meeting resulted in the following motion:

MOTION: The Commission will support and prioritize at a two, SB 770 and HB 2573 regarding AAA equity. (Charles Kurtz) *Passed*

Health, Abuse & Long Term Care Committee Update

Estill Deitz gave an update on the Health, Abuse and Long-term Care Committee and its subcommittees, Adult Protective Services, Adult Foster Care, and Wellness. He also gave an update on the presentation for the Medicare Modernization Act given by Jane-ellen Weidanz, DHS. The update given to the Full Commission resulted in the following motion:

MOTION: Purchase the IdentiMed system or ask for a donation. (Estill Deitz) *Passed*

Mental Health and Addictions Committee Update

Elaine Barrett gave an update on the discussions that ensued at the Mental Health and Addictions Committee which included the review of mental health services within the State Plan, Jeff Lukehart's presentation on senior peer counseling, and a Seniors and People with Disabilities update. The meeting resulted in the following motion:

MOTION: Send a letter to Bob Nikkel asking what representation is happening for the 2nd phase of planning and how can GCSS be represented in the planning. (Charles Kurtz) *Passed*

General Issues Committee Update

Eunice Dutton gave an update on the discussions that ensued in the General Issues Committee, which included an update on the Senior Financial Abuse Coalition, the End-of-Life booklet dissemination, transportation, and housing.

New Front Door Update

James Toews, SPD, has been given a charge to develop a planning task force by collapsing the New Front Door Workgroup and other focus groups into one umbrella task force that will identify needs, studying Title 19 services, and long-term care. Cathy Cooper, SPD, has been working on the Network of Care webpage, which is going to cost \$200,000 per year; O4AD is chipping in \$100,000 and DHS is chipping in \$100,000. The Network of Care Program reaches out to a large percentage of the populations in the service delivery areas. Its purpose is to serve all people. The program should be up and running in August on the DHS website. DHS has a contract with a California company to keep the information on Oregon updated.

Seniors and People with Disabilities Update

In the near future, the Governor's reforecast of the budget will be out (the "Re-shoot"), and there will be some adjustments in the budgets for seniors and people with disabilities. There will be a need to reorganize from the Governor's and the Co-Chairs budgets. DHS had steep declines in caseloads in November. This is not so anymore; caseload numbers are coming in at higher numbers for the Re-shoot. Every time you have reductions, there are other programs that will be listed to cut; the idea is to balance out the gains and the losses. With the caseload declining (as seen in the November numbers) will come a loss of staffing in our field offices. Any times you have lay-offs of this magnitude it throws the system off - this

will be very challenging to manage. The number of people coming to DHS for services is growing, in part because of the cuts in the services priority levels. The mystery factor is the MMA - once we have a new set of clients that were not in the system before, we expect we will have caseload surges, but we don't as yet know what that will look like. Today was the start of the letters from SSA being sent to Oregonians; 5000 letters went out today and will go out each day regarding MMA. Oregon is starting this program out with a skeleton crew; DHS will be redirecting the clients through SSA. Our biggest concern is our clients. We will do a lot more work on putting together a public education campaign for the general public - trying to put some dollars together maybe a "Medicare Monday" in each community to help population with questions on the prescription drug plan-we are behind on this portion of the MMA process.

Senior Medicaid Patrol

Aileen Kaye, SPD and Gay Lynn Pack, SPD, discussed the new Senior Medicare Patrol project. Senior Medicare Patrol's goals are to provide information, outreach, education, resources and advocacy through utilization of retired professionals to combat health care errors, fraud, and abuse. With the up-and-coming Medicare Part D: Prescription Drug Benefit Implementation occurring this year, they have added a new component to their training which included the types of MMA fraud, waste, and abuse.

Action Item:	Assigned To:	Deadline:
Distribute to the Commission a copy of the program instructions for the State Plan.	Rhonda Beundefeldt	June 23
The total mental health expenditures within the State Plan.	Rhonda Beundefeldt	June 23
Develop a list of questions for Commission member interviews	Dolores Hubert	June 6
During the June 2005 full Commission meeting view the Network of Care Demo.	Marc Overbeck	June 23
Send Chuck Frazier and Kathleen Schonau's application to the Governor's Office for appointment.	Marc Overbeck	June 6
Purchase the IdentiMed via the internet.	Marc Overbeck	June 23
Send a letter to Bob Nikkel asking what representation is happening for the 2 nd phase of planning and how can GCSS be represented in the planning.	Dolores Hubert	June 6