

# Minutes

## Legislative Advocacy Committee

Governor's Commission on Senior Services

August 26, 2004

Keizer, Oregon

**Attendees:** Bob Lawrence, Chair; Dolores Raymond, Vice Chair; Dolores Hubert; Eunice Dutton; Helen Liere; Barbara Brewer-Nelson; Don Butsch; Mary Harvey; Jack Ewing; and Harvey Roth

**Guests:** Marilyn Hinds and Joan Staley

**Staff:** Jane-ellen Weidanz; Sherry Whitehead; and Kim Hector

### *Called Meeting to Order*

Approved May 2004 Minutes.

### **Announcements**

Information was handed out on legislation that may be introduced during the 2005 Legislative session regarding the power-of-attorney statutes. There have been some concerns expressed that this legislation may lead to more abuse. Committee members should review the document for discussion next month.

### **Legislative Issues**

John Mullin, AAA Director for Clackamas County gave a presentation regarding the AAA Equity issue. There is a gap between what the state pays transfer AAAs, such as Multnomah and Clackamas Counties, and what it would cost the state to run the same program in the same area. This has occurred because AAAs are treated like contractors for budget purposes versus part of the state system. Legislation was passed in the 2003 session mandating that the state develop a methodology to bring the AAAs up to at least 95% of Equity. DHS has worked with the AAAs and has included a Policy Option Package that will bring AAAs up to 92% of Equity next biennium. The AAAs have agreed to support this. A discussion ensued about sending a letter to the Governor's office regarding supporting the equity issue. The committee decided that a letter highlighting all of the issues the commission will be prioritizing would be better. All committees are asked to discuss potential priorities at their meeting next month.

Discussed the possibility of creating a dedicated revenue source for senior and disability programs. The AAAs have also expressed some interest in finding a funding source. The committee empowered Jane-ellen to call Mary Shortall, O4AD's Legislative chair, to see if they think it is worthwhile discussing the issue further.

Action Item:	Assigned To:	Deadline:
Call Mary Shortall regarding a dedicated revenue source for seniors and people with disabilities.	Jane-ellen	9/17/04
<b>Liaison Assignments</b>		
Discussed vacant legislatively related liaison assignments including Human Services Coalition of Oregon and the Advocacy Coalition of Seniors and People with Disabilities. Discussed potential work with the Advocacy Coalition.		
<b>Federal Legislation</b>		
Discussed the letter the Commission sent to Senators Wyden and Smith regarding the federal match rate legislation asking them to ensure that states like Oregon would still qualify for an enhanced match rate.		
Discussed the State Mandated Commission project. At the next meeting we will discuss the response from other states and determine next steps.		
<b>Fall Advocacy Strategy</b>		
<p>Discussed this Fall's advocacy strategy. Commission members will be assigned to legislators after the election. Each member will develop a relationship with his or her legislator including hand-delivering materials. In preparation we will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Update the Commission's brochure and the cards;</li> <li>• Prioritize issues;</li> <li>• Developing talking points;</li> <li>• Develop information packets; and</li> <li>• Update the Commission's legislative contact matrix.</li> </ul>		
<b>Next Meeting</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Finalize work plan.</li> <li>➤ Review and finalize suggested legislative priorities.</li> <li>➤ Review proposed materials for legislative visits.</li> <li>➤ Review feedback on State Commissions and discuss next steps.</li> <li>➤ Discuss potential power of attorney statute changes.</li> </ul>		