

LONG-TERM CARE (LTC) ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
(VIA Teleconference)
February 15, 2013
Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO)
3855 Wolverine NE, Suite 6
(Training Room)
Salem, Oregon

MINUTES

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING:

Bill Bard, Chair
*Claudia Kyle, Vice Chair
Teena Ainslie
Glenn Berk
Dan Dunham
Michele Edwards
Peter Fuchs

STAFF PARTICIPATING:

*Mary Jaeger, Director/State LTC Ombudsman
Gretchen Jordan, Coordinator of Volunteers
*Mary Ann Lebold, Office Manager

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

LTCO VOLUNTEERS PARTICIPATING:

None

GUESTS:

None

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Kyle called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Dan Dunham moved that the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded and passed.

CORRESPONDENCE: Committee Members discussed the “Response to Long Term Care 3.0” which is attached. Mr. Berk moved that the Committee endorse the Campaign for Oregon Seniors and People with Disabilities’ response with minor edits. The motion was seconded and passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/RELATED ACTIVITIES: Mr. Bard noted that, on February 13, Kendall Clawson, the Governor’s Executive Appointments Director, and Kate Brown, Oregon Secretary of State, made a presentation on the executive appointments process and the results of the audit that the Secretary of State’s office did on several of the 312 Boards, Commission, Task Forces, Working Groups, etc. The presentation is available at the rules committee audio archives. Mr. Bard is pleased that this Committee performs well within the guidelines described in the presentation.

Ms. Kyle announced that Oregon’s Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum will be presenting at the LTCO Training Days in early May.

Dan Dunham reported that the Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) Steering Committee continues to be on hiatus while new Committee leadership begins their work. Mr. Dunham will propose that Ms. Jordan attend the SMP Steering Committee meetings and provide committee members an update on what Certified Ombudsman volunteers are doing regarding the SMP effort.

GRETCHEN JORDAN, COORDINATOR OF VOLUNTEERS, LTCO: Ms. Jordan referred Committee members to her January 2013 report which has been distributed electronically.

Ms. Jordan has been preparing for the three Certified Ombudsman training sessions being held within ten weeks. She has been meeting with R & S Committees. An event is being planned to recognize the Certified Ombudsmen in Josephine and Jackson Counties who have visited 100% of the facilities in their districts for the second year in a row. Ms. Jordan said that on-line registration for the LTCO May Training Event would go live next week.

Ms. Kyle thanked Ms. Jordan for her work on the LTCO website and for attending the January 31 Team Meeting in District 3 where Ms. Jordan presented tips on getting the most out of the agency's website.

MARY JAEGER, DIRECTOR/STATE LTC OMBUDSMAN: Ms. Jaeger asked Committee members to describe how they would like to be informed about legislative activities during the 2013 session. Discussion followed. Committee members will be provided a link to a legislative website where they can track measures being considered during the current session. Mr. Dunham suggested that Committee members send a short list of topics that they are interested in to Ms. Jaeger. Committee members were reminded that March 5 is Alzheimer's Advocacy Day. On March 26, Senior and People with Disabilities Advocacy Day, the Joint Ways and Means Subcommittee on Human Services will hear testimony on the Department of Human Services/Aging budget. The day before, March 25, will be the first day of the Department of Human Services testimony on their budget. The LTCO budget testimony will be heard April 1 and will be presented by Mary Jaeger, Jerry Walker and Dan Dunham.

The LTCO's Policy Advisor -- its link to the Governor -- is now Sean Kolmer, Health Policy Advisor to the Governor. Prior to joining the Governor's staff, Mr. Kolmer was Deputy Administrator of Office of Oregon Health Policy and Research. He has also worked on projects for the National Institute of Health at OHSU and developed partnerships to the National Football League to disseminate prevention programs.

Ms. Jaeger asked Committee members to host an event during the evening of April 30 to welcome volunteers to the Training Days.

The Committee's next meeting will be March 15, 2013 at the Salem office. Today's meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:00 AM.

A Response to Long-Term Care 3.0

The Campaign for Seniors and People with Disabilities has worked with other stakeholders and the Department of Human Services/Aging and People with Disabilities (APD) on SB 21, also referred to as Long Term Care (LTC) 3.0. We are pleased that DHS has listened to our input, and has submitted amendments that address several of our initial concerns with the proposal.

The Campaign notes that Oregon's long-term system has been a national model. The vision and values established in ORS 410 are the hallmark of this model. We are far ahead of most states in creating a system that serves seniors and people with disabilities in the least restrictive care settings that best meets the needs of the individual and family. However, there have been service reductions over the last decade that has affected this model.

In regards to the specifics in SB 21, we continue to believe that the proposed timeline for the planning process and presentation to the Legislature (to occur during the short 2014 session) is not adequate. We also believe that legislative approval should be required to implement the plan.

We are committed to working with other stakeholders and APD to plan for the future. We are especially interested in the integrity of the current system, even as we look to improve it by investing in additional long-term services and supports. We believe that upfront preventive services and supports will delay entry into the Medicaid LTC system while serving people appropriately. We are confident that we can work together to find cost effective strategies that are person centered, aligning with the time honored values of independence, dignity, and choice.