

LONG-TERM CARE (LTC) ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
(VIA Teleconference)
June 15, 2012
Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO)
3855 Wolverine NE, Suite 6
(Training Room)
Salem, Oregon

MINUTES

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING:

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

STAFF PARTICIPATING:

Mary Jaeger, Director/State LTC Ombudsman
*Mary Ann Lebold, Office Manager

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

LTCO VOLUNTEERS PARTICIPATING:

Jerry Walker, Volunteer Finance Committee

GUESTS:

None

CALL TO ORDER: Ms. Ainslie called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Dan Dunham suggested two corrections to the minutes of the May 18, 2012 meeting. In the fifth paragraph on page 3, he suggested that the word “that” should replace the word “the” and, in the seventh paragraph on the page 6, the word “importance” should replace the word “important.” He moved that the minutes of the May 18, 2012 be approved as corrected. The motion was seconded and passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Bill Bard drew Committee members’ attention to an information piece he created aimed at individuals interested in Committee membership.

Ms. Ainslie reminded Committee members that Certification Training will begin in the Portland area next week. She also discussed the notice that Committee members received about the merger of two Department of Human Services (DHS) offices -- Adult Protective Services and the Office of Investigations and Training. This merger is the result of stakeholder feed back and a legislative recommendation based on the Adult Safety and Protection Team.

Claudia Kyle attended the Certified Ombudsman support group and volunteer recognition meeting in Lane County on June 14th. She used this as an opportunity to tell the group about the Committee and what the Committee does. She also made certain that the volunteers at the meeting know that they are key to the agency’s success.

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS: Ms. Ainslie called for nominations of officers. Mr. Dunham nominated Mr. Bard to be Chair and Ms. Kyle to be Vice Chair. Mr. Bard is willing to serve. Ms. Kyle would like to consider whether she would be able to serve satisfactorily after taking her other obligations into consideration. Final nominations will be received and the election will take place at the July meeting.

EMERGENCY BOARD AND PROGRAM FUNDING TEAM UPDATES, JERRY WALKER AND MARY JAEGER: In the recent emergency board presentation, the LTCO requested and received an increase the agency's 2011-2013 budget authorization to include the additional monies that the agency will be spending under the Senior Medicare Patrol (SMP) project. The agency also received approval to utilize .5 FTE for the SMP program. Senator Devlin cautioned all present at the emergency board meeting that economic conditions are not expected to improve in the next biennium. Mr. Walker commented that the impact of the new 10-year budget planning process is unknown. There was discussion about encouraging program volunteers to contact their state legislators during the next legislative session to ask them not only to support the LTCO budget but also to encourage legislators to increase agency funding if at all possible.

Committee members have received Mr. Walker's written presentation to the Program Funding Team describing the LTCO budget request for the 2013-2015 biennium. Mr. Walker, Ms. Jaeger and Mr. Dunham will be making a presentation to the Program Funding Team for the Safety Outcome on June 19 to acquaint Program Funding Team members with the agency and to explain why the LTCO needs the funds requested. On July 1, the agency's detailed budget proposal will be submitted. Mr. Walker believes that the Governor's new budget process has great potential for improving how the state's money is spent. Mr. Dunham expressed his appreciation of Mr. Walker sharing his knowledge, experience and enthusiasm to promote the LTCO.

Mr. Walker acknowledged Ms. Lebold's extraordinary and much appreciated support for the budget development process and her careful monitoring of the agency's expenditures. Her assistance has been critical in meeting the demands of the new budgeting process.

BILL BARD, CHAIR, DATA AND IT COMMITTEE: The IT focus during recent weeks has been on SMP data collection and on creation of the Performance Measure Dashboard. In recent weeks, more of the Certified Ombudsmen who have been with the program the longest have expressed an interest in online reporting. Mr. Bard will participate in the Certified Ombudsman training in the Portland area to encourage Certified Ombudsmen to report their Ombudsman activities. He is also working on the Committee's annual report for 2012 to the Governor. He noted that today is National Elder Abuse Prevention Today.

GRETCHEN JORDAN, COORDINATOR OF VOLUNTEERS, LTCO: Ms. Jordan was not able to attend today's meeting. Her Monthly Report for May 2012 has been distributed to Committee members electronically.

Mr. Dunham reported that there was a training and orientation meeting for the new members of the Recruitment & Screening (R & S) Committee for Linn and Benton Counties. He hopes that this will lead to additional Certified Ombudsmen in Linn and Benton Counties where Ombudsman coverage is at best “thin” at this time.

Committee members expressed their appreciation to AARP for their recent email blast regarding the Ombudsman program. The email blast resulted in at least twenty potential Certified Ombudsman applicants contacting the LTCO to request more information about the program.

DAN DUNHAM SMP UPDATE: The first meeting of the SMP Steering Committee was held recently. Mr. Dunham described Steering Committee membership and listed issues discussed in the meeting.

Mr. Bard reported that Gretchen Jordan made a presentation about the SMP Program opportunity at the District 21 team meeting yesterday.

Ms. Edwards mentioned that, in the northeast corner of Oregon, there are an increasing number of issues at the area’s primary residential care and memory care facility. She hopes that, in a future meeting, Committee members could share information about models for operation of long-term care facilities.

The Committee’s next meeting will be July 20, 2012 at the Salem office. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:00 AM.