

LONG-TERM CARE (LTC) ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
(VIA Teleconference)
December 21, 2012
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

STAFF PARTICIPATING:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Peter Fuchs

LTCO VOLUNTEERS PARTICIPATING:

None

GUESTS:

None

CALL TO ORDER: Mr. Bard called the meeting to order. He welcomed the Committee's newest member, Glenn Berk of Ashland. Mr. Berk hopes to become familiar with Committee issues as soon as possible and help the Committee move along towards its goal of sustaining and strengthening the Ombudsman program.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Bill Bard asked that the minutes of the November 16, 2012 meeting be corrected. Naomi Sacks is with Aging and People with Disabilities/Department of Human Services (DHS). She is not on loan to DHS by the Oregon Health Authority and is not associated with nor does she represent the Oregon Health Authority. Michele Edwards moved that the minutes be approved as corrected. The motion was seconded and passed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mr. Bard asked Committee members to review the handout from the Oregon Government Ethics Commission.

Ms. Ainslie drew Committee members' attention to a handout regarding Elder Abuse. Ms. Jaeger suggested that Ms. Ainslie forward the information to State Representative Vic Gilliam and State Representative Alissa Keny-Guyer, Co-Chairs of the Elder Abuse Work Group.

Mr. Dunham noted that the topic for the National Consumer Voice for Quality Long Term Care's Face Book First Friday on January 4, 2013 will be "Volunteer Ombudsmen."

Ms. Ainslie commented that she attended a meeting of the Recruitment and Screening Committee in Multnomah County which recently welcomed several new members. She believes the Committee is off to a wonderful start and includes some very good members.

DAN DUNHAM, SENIOR MEDICARE PATROL (SMP) UPDATE: Mr. Dunham had nothing to report but is looking forward the January meeting of the SMP Steering Committee. Mr. Bard reported that the LTCO's on line reporting system has been modified so that volunteer hours spent working on SMP efforts can be tracked more easily. Mr. Berk is looking forward to learning more about the SMP volunteer opportunity and would like to be more active in supporting it in Southern Oregon.

BILL BARD, CHAIR, DATA AND IT COMMITTEE: Mr. Bard is working with Tracy Behnke and Mary Jaeger to produce the Annual Performance Progress Report, the agency's annual report to the legislature, and the agency's annual report to the Administration for Community Living (formerly the Administration on Aging). The reports should be complete shortly after the beginning of 2013.

Mr. Bard reported that the LTCO continues to comply with state information security guidelines. Ms. Lebold summarized two key issues that were covered in a recent Webinar sponsored by the LTCO's email service provider about trends in information security.

PerfectForms, the firm that supports the LTCO's on line reporting system, has delayed a cut over until more work is done to prove a new version of PerfectForms that will allow PerfectForms to operate in any of the new mobile platforms such as iPads and iPhones. In response to a question from Ms. Kyle, Mr. Bard explained that he does not anticipate any changes in the way the volunteers file activity reports and case reports.

GRETCHEN JORDAN, COORDINATOR OF VOLUNTEERS, LTCO: Committee members were asked to review Ms. Jordan's November report. At the suggestion of Ms. Jaeger, discussion of the volunteer evaluation requirements of the SMP grant will be considered at a future meeting.

MARY JAEGER, DIRECTOR/STATE LTC OMBUDSMAN: Ms. Jaeger asked Committee members to review the Joint Interim Task Force of Public Guardian and Conservator (HB 2237) Report which is the product of 18 months of work by Task Force members. A bill, expected to be introduced in the 2013 legislative session, would make a public guardian to available to state residents in need of protection but who have no family member or friend willing and able to serve as guardian, nor with the means to engage a private guardian. Ms. Jaeger hopes the Committee will offer its support for the bill both to the Committee considering the bill and to legislators when the bill comes before the entire legislative assembly.

The Legislative Concept Fact Sheet for LC 371 captures the work that is being done on LTC 3.0 in advance of the 2013 Legislative Session. Mike McCormick expressed his appreciation to Ms. Jaeger for the opportunity to present information about LTC 3.0 at the November Committee meeting. Ms. Jaeger asked Committee members to review the Fact Sheet on Legislative Concept 371, which describes LTC 3.0 for the 2013 Legislative Assembly.

The Legislative Concept Fact Sheet on LC 376 describes the Nursing Facility Capacity Reduction Bill. In Oregon, there are now 139 nursing facilities, now filled to about 62% of their capacity across the state. The Department of Human Services is trying to determine how we can best use Medicaid funding when 40% of nursing facility resources are not being used. The bill proposes that nursing facilities be consolidated and the vacant nursing facilities be used for other activities. This would require changes in the provider tax. Ms. Jaeger believes that there should be some specific language that talks about the effect of such a change on facility residents. She suggested that Mr. McCormick be invited to the Committee's January meeting to discuss this bill.

The Governor's Recommended Budget (GRB) has been released. There need to be some corrections to the brief summary of the 2013/2015 LTCO activities that was part of the GRB. Although LTCO resources were not reduced, the GRB does not provide everything the LTCO requested.

There was discussion about future Committee meetings and whether some of the meetings during calendar year 2013 might be by teleconference instead of at the LTCO offices. No decision will be made until LTCAC meeting costs are tabulated and reported to Committee members.

The Committee's next meeting will be January 18, 2013 at the Salem office. Today's meeting was adjourned at 10:10 AM.