GOVERNOR’S COMMISSION ON SENIOR SERVICES

Joint Governor’s Commission on Senior Services with
Oregon Disability Commission

Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2016
3406 Cherry Ave. Keizer, OR
Room 123
9:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Members Present: Victoria Blachly, Suzette Boydston, Lee Po Cha, Penelope Clifton, Jody Cline, Jim Davis, Kenneth Dudley, Elaine Friesen-Strang, Joseph Greenman, Juan Guzmán, Mary Jaeger, Pamela Latta, Ruth McEwen, Nancy Pierce, Keith Putnam, Randy Samuelson, William Schmidt, Laurie Schwartz VanZandt, Catherine Skiens, Laurie Slye, Judy Strand, Kenneth Viegas, Walt Dawson, Representative David Gomberg, Senator Chuck Riley, Ted Wenk, Mike Volpe, LeRoy Patton, Angela Weaver

Members Absent: Morgan Anderson, Jonathan Bartholomew, Janet Campbell, Patricia Kepler, Kaaren Londahl

Guests: Debbie McCuin, Jenny Cokeley, Chuck Richards, Chad Ludwig

Staff: Rebecca Arcé, Max Brown, Julie Jacobs, Deborah White, Sione Filimoehala, Ann McQueen, Angela Allbee, Kelsey Gleeson

CALL TO ORDER
Meeting is called to order at 9:38 AM

MEETING MINUTES
The meeting minutes from June 9th, 2016 are reviewed.

LeRoy Patton moves to approve. William Schmidt seconds the motion.
Aye: 24
Nay: 0
Abstain: 0
Motion carries. Minutes from last meeting are approved.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chad Ludwig announces the Deaf & Hard of Hearing Community Needs Assessment conducted by Western Oregon University will be ending soon. He and other community members would like to get the word about the need for consumer feedback from all individuals with any level of hearing loss.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Deb McCuin discusses AAA area plans and the importance of involvement by GCSS commissioners (See page 10 of packet). The timeline for this project is September through December. AAAs are currently seeking commissioners who would like to participate in the review of area plans and/or attending public meetings.

The AAAs would like one full meeting after completing the reading to reach consensus about the area plan. This process would take place for each area plan. Preparatory meetings will take place in mid-September; following but before end of October, one more meeting will be required to review documents and approve.

Nancy Pierce reminds the commission that this activity is one of the few tasks required by the commission’s bylaws.

Suzette Boydston, Sherry Stock, William Schmidt, Pamela Latta, Ruth McEwen, Kim volunteer to participate in this project.

Pamela will attend Enterprise.

Ruth will attend the Northwestern region.

RETHINKING SB 21

Julie Jacobs announces that the Advocacy & Development Team attended a unit retreat last week to explore the development of a new project that would follow-up on the issues addressed in Senate Bill 21. The Advocacy & Development unit will
be working regionally to create “pipe-lines” of communication and community development that lead both out of and in to central offices.

The team is still in the very early stages of planning, however they will be focusing on Housing, Transportation, Caregiving, and Service Equity as identified in SB 21. They will be working with district managers and field offices, creating more opportunities for outreach, and building methods of communication throughout all parties.

Julie will be attending the IAP stakeholder meeting next Wednesday, August 17th. Oregon Health Authority is driving the IAP; Julie reports that there has been substantial conversation about supported housing. The meeting on the 17th will be available through webinar and is scheduled from 1:00 – 4:00 PM.

Jim Davis would like to be reassured that data and research around SB 21 will continue to have a spotlight on it and will include grassroots advocates in the process.

Julie agrees that community advocates will need to play a large part in the success of this project. We currently have around three (3) functioning DSACs and we will be working hard to bolster them.

Mike Volpe reminds the group that it is critical for both commissions to be aware of service equity within each focus area.

**COMMISSIONER PER DIEM & TRAVEL POLICY**

Sione Filimoehala reviews the per diem and travel policy for commissioners (See page 11 and 12 in meeting packet).

**COLLABORATION DISCUSSION**

Jim Davis state that both commissions have been seeking mutual communication and collaboration for several years, and he is very happy about this coming to fruition. In particular, Jim would like to work jointly through the legislative process and support each other’s legislative concepts and asks.
Suzette Boydston agrees that there are many common issues for service populations, however it is important as we move forward with joint action to recognize and pay attention to the distinct differences and needs of individuals.

Mike Volpe suggests that adults with disabilities live a different lifestyle than seniors with disabilities. To that end, Ruth McEwen adds that people with disabilities use home-care workers more than seniors do.

Keith Putnam would like to develop a package to present to the legislature instead of waiting for them to create legislation in regards to what they think senior communities need. Keith suggests that it would behoove the commission to partner human services with medical services and to recruit someone from OHA to sit on the commission as a liaison at least.

Joe Greenman announces that on July 29th the 1115 waiver was released by OHA. This waiver discusses at length the senior community and behavioral health. Joe states his disappointed that this waiver process was not presented to the commission and included very little community involvement. He feels that GCSS needs more interaction with OHA moving forward.

Sen. Chuck Riley inquires whether it requires legislative action to mandate GCSS/OHA involvement. Joe responds that yes, legislative action would be needed to ensure communication of important consumer related system changes.

In relation to the conversation regarding OHA and the 1115 waiver, Catherine Skiens states that commissioner participation with CCO advisory committees is essential. She believes that we need to be more involved with CCOs and legislature; very recently a for-profit company purchased Trillium (CCO) in Lane County and community members are receiving information that providers are now hurting after the exchange.

Keith Putnam expresses concern that CCOs say they are not subject to public meeting laws. Keith acknowledges that before OHA became its own silo the commission used to have much more oversight on these matters.
Ted Wenk recommends that the two commissions have a joint executive committee meeting to discuss some of these issues.

Jody Cline states that she is on the board of Trillium and offers to be a liaison for GCSS.

Mary Jaeger believes it will be important to frame the commission’s concerns as safety oriented rather than concerned with personal independence and well-being.

Ann McQueen adds that she has been doing more work on safety since leaving the commission work and would be happy to come back to present on her department and their safety philosophy.

Mike Volpe stresses the importance of keeping LTSS (Long Term Supports & Services) work with DHS, and not allowing it to be co-opted by CCOs.

**Legislative Update**

Angela Allbee reminds the commission that Clyde Saiki (DHS Director) has made a lot of changes within the Department, thus Ashley Carson-Cottingham has been working to create strong communication around safety within APD.

Angela acknowledges that there are budget concerns that Ashley will unpack at a later time. Currently the K-Plan has changed how the agency approaches services for the APD population. Furthermore, there is some movement towards self-determination for disability and developmental disability populations. Angela confirms that she can be a point of contact for issues that would require the attention of upper management.

The APD agency request budget will be submitted very soon; around September or November.

The agency is still developing legislative concepts for the 2017 session. All legislative concepts will have a focus on safety, particularly in regard to the safety of people living in provider settings. Angela would like to return with Ann to
discuss more in-depth about legislative concepts, safety, and how to move forward.

Jim Davis raises concerns of costs increases due to labor legislation and what the impact on services could be.

Angela states that APD has decided to “close the front-door” on new consumers for the live-in program and is actively transferring consumers to hourly services. Angela asks that if you are concerned about communication to a particular community, please contact her.

**HOME CARE CHOICE PROGRAM**

See presentation in packet (page 13). PowerPoint presentation was also provided electronically to commissioners.

This new program has eleven (11) consumers are enrolled at this time. This program is for private pay consumers. The program tool is largely internet based and admittedly those consumers who are not tech savvy may not fair the best. The commission expresses concern for consumers who do not have access to technology or internet capabilities.

Jenny Cokeley confirms that the employer is identified as the “participant” in the program. Power of attorney or guardianship are acceptable.

Commission would like program developers to consider what is being done to expand the number of providers and support to non-Medicaid/Medicare consumers.

**AGING & PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES UPDATE**

**SPL/ADL Changes**: SPL changes are presented by Jane-Ellen Weidanz and Ben Sherman, prefaced with the knowledge that there are also changes coming to the six (6) ADLs.
Commissioners review packet presented (not included in meeting packet).

Jane-Ellen states that cognition is the hardest to determine. She acknowledges the concerns regarding the assessment tool and its accuracy.

Within the changes to SPLs and ADLs Jane-Ellen and her team want to be more specific about what a service will do, “hands-on.” There is no intention to change who is eligible, rather the goal is to improve how we determine who is eligible. Jane-Ellen confirms that ADL definitions will be used by IAP as well.

**Budget Updates & Changes to Live-In:** Ashley Carson-Cottingham echoes Clyde’s emphasis on safety and states that APD is embarking on reassessing how safe our consumers actually are.

Ashley feels that complaints that are not abuse related, were not being addressed as they should. APD is currently changing timelines and protocol for contacting corrective action officers and is interested in promoting taking action sooner and faster. In recent months APD has had to remove license from many providers; removing any conditions and reinstating once issues have been addressed. With that said, allegations are continuing to rise. There are approximately 40,000 consumer complaints submitted in a year. Not all are substantiated or investigated.

APD is serving over 17,000 people in their own homes at this time, and the agency is seeing that number increase which we regard as a positive trait of our services.

Ashley acknowledges that the K-Plan has provided access to home modifications and other supplemental services as well as strengthening ADRCs. Ashley doesn’t feel that the agency has been losing ground with growing private industry, however we are always looking to improve services for consumers with complex needs.

Although DHS has a new strong focus on the safety of our consumers, we also are intent on supporting consumers’ choice and independence. In order to best serve our diverse population of consumers APD is developing a central gathering
of abuse allegations, as there is no current process for centralizing these issues. This will specifically improve our ability to react appropriately in a timely manner.

Ashley states that there is a great need to address the sustainability of our services. The live-in program presented issues after the institution of new labor laws, thus the agency has begun working to tighten criteria for that program. About 500 people are still part of the live-in program. As Angela stated, the agency has decided the no new consumers will be accepted to live-in program. Currently there is some negotiating taking place as there is a need to figure out how to wind-down the program for the remaining 500 people. Ashley assures the commission that there are no plans to begin that “wind-down” until the first of the year. As much as Ashley and other directors would like to allow the program to phase itself out, natural attrition would take around eleven (11) years.

In September APD will be starting time study regarding ADLs and SPLs. We hope to get a better feeling for consumers on an individual level; people are very different and it is unreasonable to try and set a ubiquitous time-limit for services.

Ashley also announces that the Licensing Division is moving back into APD and ODDS purview.

Suzette Boydston expresses concern for case managers and their caseloads.

Jane-Ellen responds that Suzette’s concerns are well-founded and APOD will be seeking to provide updated trainings for seasoned case managers to improve management of their workload.

APD will have cost break-down available in the coming weeks. A majority of these changes are influenced by the fact that the In-Home program has now become more costly than Community Based Care due to new labor laws.

Mike Volpe would like to remind the commissioners and its guests that there is a lot of work that a consumer must do to participate in the live-in/in-home program and asks all to consider how we are addressing accessibility and services equity throughout these programs.
GCSS CONFERENCE PLANNING UPDATE

Save the Dates are presented to the commission. Commissioners review the tentative agenda (page 25 in meeting packet).

Jim Davis would like it officially noted that he is not in agreement with the LTSS panel only addressing their ADRC legislative ask, he believes there is much more legislatively that can be done to support LTSS.

Pamela Latta would like to volunteer at the conference.

OSU is providing a volunteer coordinator who will be responsible for organizing and training volunteer staff.

PENDLETON OUTREACH REPORT

Rebecca Arcé reports an excellent turnout with approximately 117 people in attendance.

Review of summary report presented (page 27 in meeting packet).

Commission would like Rebecca and staff to send “thank you”s to the Pendleton community partners we worked with to set-up the meet and greet.

COMMISSION ELECTIONS

Commissioners fill out ballots provided. Results are collected and displayed below.

Vice-Chair: Ken Dudley
Financial Officer: Jim Davis
Legislative Coordinator: Joe Greenman
Additional Member: Pamela Latta
ADJOURNMENT

Meeting is adjourned at 3:48PM

ATTACHMENTS

- AAA Area Plan Public Input Meeting Calendar 2016
- APD – Commissions and Councils Reimbursement Policy
- Homecare Choice Program PowerPoint
- 2016 Oregon Conference on Aging Budget
- 2016 Oregon Conference on Aging Agenda
- GCSS Pendleton Outreach Report
- GCSS Ballot