



Area Agency on Aging

Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area Agency on Aging

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ADVISORY COUNCIL Meeting Minutes for December 2, 2009

Members Present

Beverly Brathovde, Steve Clark, Zane Cosby, Marv Faughender, Mike Freeman, Sandy Gould, Tracey Lowrey, Jim Olson, Mary Lou Pearson, David Shephard and Karen Shephard

Members Absent

Gwen Gadberry, Roberta Gray, Pat Lisoskie, Patty Kinswa-Gaiser, Bill Rothchild, Ida Sevier

Staff Present

Julie Dasso Moore, Heather Ligtenberg, Dennis Mahar, Joy McBride and Carrie Petit

Guests

Paul Tosch, Regional Long Term Care Ombudsman

Opening and Introductions

Sandy Gould called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. and introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes and Agenda

The minutes of the November 4, 2009 meeting were approved as submitted. The agenda for the December 2, 2009 meeting was approved as submitted.

Announcements

Dave and Karen Shephard both expressed their gratitude for being able to serve on the Advisory Council. Dave and Karen Shephard have served as Council members from Mason County for six years, with their final term expiring in January 2010.

State Council on Aging Report

Mary Lou Pearson, State Council on Aging member, gave a report on the last meeting and reported that members discussed the bills from the last legislative session that are likely to be introduced again this year, family caregiver support programs cost \$2,000 per year per person, each Agency should go to their legislature with the same, brief message, and to share our cause with other organizations who may be willing to join us in our mission. New

officers were elected for the State Council on Aging. Mary Lou expressed her gratitude in being asked to serve on both the State Council on Aging and the Advisory Council.

Director's Report

United Way Campaign – Director Mahar reminded the Council that the United Way is still fund raising. Please give them consideration when thinking about donations.

Kinship Advocacy Day – Director Mahar announced that there will be a Kinship Advocacy Day officially observed. The date has not yet been determined, but staff will be keep the Council apprised.

Light of Hope 2009 – Director Mahar announced that the Agency is participating in the Light of Hope 2009 this year. A list of clients from our Agency are listed anonymously in the local paper and donors can contribute to their wish lists.

Advisory Council Member Terms – Director Mahar announced that the Thurston County Advisory Council reappointments have taken place.

LTC Ombudsman Report

Paul Tosch, Regional Long Term Care Ombudsman, reported that he has seven new volunteers, but that four regular volunteers have decided not to continue.

Aging Readiness Forum Report

Marv Faughender reported on the Aging Readiness Forum planning subcommittee. There will be a community meeting on December 14th at 10:00 am to discuss community ideas and direction for the Aging Readiness Forum.

Lewis County Transportation Report

Catholic Community Services will be transitioning into the administration of the transportation, nutrition, and enrichment programs in Lewis County in January 2010. CCS has requested a letter on behalf of the Advisory Council to support their application to contract with the Department of Social and Health Services to provide Paratransit services.

Marv Faughender moved to approve writing a letter of support for Catholic Community Services with the Department of Social and Health Services for providing Paratransit services. Bev Brathovde seconded the motion. Steve Clark abstained from the vote. The motion passed unanimously.

Other Reports

Steve Clark reported that Valley View Health Center in Centralia will be expanding services into Raymond to better serve the population in the western part of Lewis County. Last year Valley View opened up a medical office in Morton to serve the eastern part of Lewis County. Steve also reported that Valley View Health Center opened an urgent care office next to the emergency room at Providence Centralia Hospital to help people that don't have insurance.

Health Care Discussion

The Advisory Council had a discussion regarding health care. Members also discussed rationing of health care in our current system. Other issues discussed were medical inflation, health care in Congress, and the possibility of a public option.

2010 Services Contract Status

Director Mahar distributed a handout that detailed the 2010 Service Contracts that will be presented to the Council of Governments for approval at the December meeting. These are the nutrition, transportation, adult day care, and legal services programs that are administered by Senior Services for South Sound, Catholic Community Services, Mason County Transportation Authority and Northwest Justice Project.

Legislative and State Budget Update

Director Mahar distributed a handout that was produced by the Office of Financial Management. The handout detailed the status of the Washington State budget and gives an overview of expected cuts and revenue for the upcoming year.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 6, 2009 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the Olympia office, 3603 Mud Bay Rd W in Olympia.

Submitted by: Julie Dasso-Moore