



Area Agency on Aging

Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area Agency on Aging

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ADVISORY COUNCIL Meeting Minutes for February 3, 2010

Members Present

Beverly Brathovde, Steve Clark, Zane Cosby, Marv Faughender, Mike Freeman, Gwen Gadberry, Sandy Gould, Roberta 'RG' Gray, Patty Kinswa-Gaiser, Pat Lisoskie, Jim Olson, Mary Lou Pearson, Ida Sevier

Members Absent

Tracey Lowrey and Bill Rothchild

Staff Present

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

Guests

Paul Tosch, Regional Long Term Care Ombudsman; Patty Kleist, Faith in Action; Betsy Pozzanghera, Another Way Consulting

Opening and Introductions

Sandy Gould called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes and Agenda

The minutes of the January 6, 2010 meeting were approved as submitted. The agenda for the February 3, 2010 meeting was approved as submitted.

Announcements

None

State Council on Aging Report

Mary Lou Pearson gave a report on the State Council on Aging meeting. The State Council on Aging has a new chair, Fran Bessermin. There were updates on the Senior Lobby, Older Americans Treatment Services (OATS), and the Home Care Quality Authority. Discussions took place regarding the suggested elimination of the Home Care Quality Authority. There was also a report on the Legislative bills that were of interest.

Director's Report

Anti-Harassment Training for Staff – Director Mahar reported that the Agency staff have gone through anti-harassment training recently.

Capital Steps Rally – Director Mahar distributed a flyer for a rally at the Capitol steps to support revenue solutions on February 15 at noon.

Handout from Economic Opportunity Institute – Director Mahar distributed a handout that lists the other revenue options as described by the Economic Opportunity Institute that could assist in developing revenue sources.

Kinship Rally – Director Mahar announced that there will be a Kinship Rally at the Capitol on February 17 at 11:00 a.m. to promote programs that support grandparents or other relatives raising children.

Honor Totem – Director Mahar attended a totem pole dedication ceremony for Sally Nixon. Sally, who passed away last summer, was the former director of the Pierce County AAA.

Mud Bay Road Construction – Director Mahar reported that the road widening project on Mud Bay Road is slated to begin this Spring. There will be some disruption of traffic during the construction. The Council will consider having the meeting in one of the other counties as an option to bypass the slow down.

Senior Games 2010 – Director Mahar announced that the Agency will be sponsoring the 2010 Senior Games again this year. They are set to be held on the third and fourth weekend in July. Visit the website for more information or to find out how to sign up or volunteer: www.pugetsoundgames.org.

Other Reports

Paul Tosch, Regional Long Term Care Ombudsman, reported on a recent Seattle Times front page article that highlighted concerns about care issues in Adult Family Homes. It is a three part series and analyzes the oversight of these facilities by DSHS. Governor Gregoire has ordered DSHS to review its oversight of these facilities and change regulations to improve quality standards.

Legislative Review, Discussion and Action

Paul Tosch gave a report on the legislative bills that affect vulnerable adults. SB 6202/HB 2426 increases sentencing guidelines of offenses against vulnerable adults, as well as making bank tellers mandatory reporters of suspected vulnerable adult abuse.

Mike Freeman reported on the Division of Developmental Disabilities legislative bills. An office of public guardianship is in development through SB 5699/HB 1417. SB 6780 proposes a 5-year transition plan to close Residential Habilitation Centers for persons with Developmental Disabilities, moving from care provided in institutional settings to community settings.

Zane Cosby updated the Council on the legislative bills addressing housing issues. SB 5550 requires a minimum of eighteen months' notice on closures or conversions of mobile home parks and manufactured housing communities unless certain circumstances exist, and requires a tenant who sells a mobile home, manufactured home, or park model within a park to provide the buyer with a copy of any closure notice provided by a landlord at least seven days in advance of the intended sale and transfer. SB 6385 establishes a

certification program for managers of manufactured housing communities, creates an advisory council on manufactured housing community manager training and certification, and penalizes a person who manages a manufactured housing community with more than fifteen manufactured housing lots if the person has not been certified as a manufactured housing community manager.

Director Mahar reported on his recent panel testimony in front of the Legislature regarding long term care. He emphasized the savings to the State by utilizing in-home care options instead of nursing homes and facilities. The Senior Citizen's Services Act was also highlighted. Director Mahar reported on the State agency reorganization that Governor Gregoire had proposed. Major departmental shifts have been proposed to help ease the budget shortfall.

Aging Readiness Forum Report

Betsy Pozzanghera, the Aging Readiness Forum planning consultant, reported on the current planning of the Aging Readiness Forum and distributed a proposal that outlined the ideas so far. There will be a forum in each county, and general consensus is that it would be a half day forum with breakout sessions. The forum is planned for late April or early May 2010.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:12 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 3, 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