

Minutes

Legislative Committee Governor's Commission on Senior Services April 25, 2008 Department of Human Services

Attendees: Robert Lawrence (Chair), Barbara Nelson (Vice-Chair), John Brenne, Patty Brost, Eunice Dutton, John Helm, Ross Mathews, Timothy McQueary, and Marilyn Patton

Excused/Absent: Peggie Beck, Denise Dion, Chris Flammang, Lucy Morgan, Dolores Raymond, Kelly Wessels

Guests: Nicole Armstrong, Jeff Brandon, Jim Mullin, Bill Olson, Mary Shortall, and Jane-ellen Weidanz

Staff: Becky Murphy, Marc Overbeck, and Dawn Rustrum

Called Meeting to Order

Introductions – Introductions were made by members and guests.

Review Agenda – No changes were made.

Approval of March Minutes - MOTION: Approve the minutes as written. (John Brenne/Ross Mathews) ***Passed.***

Announcements: None.

RFP For Mental Health and Addiction Services Assessment (Jane-ellen Weidanz, Oregon Association of Hospitals)

Jane-ellen gave a brief history about the current work force and delivery system for mental health, the need for prevention and early intervention and a supportive system, and the chronic under-funding. She also discussed what happened in the last two legislative sessions and what is hoped for in the next one. Shared that a bill was passed in the last session for an independent study---an intensive assessment/analysis of needs and audit of the system of DHS, Corrections, and county agencies.

Jane-ellen gave the following suggestions for GCSS members as advocates:

- Contact Dr. Goldberg directly with concerns and budget issues.
- Serve on stakeholder groups, such as Community Mental Health Coalition
- All relevant correspondence should be copied to the Governor's Office.
- Have clear goals and platform---DHS agencies, leadership, Governor's Office, and other advocacy groups.

New Front Door/Aging and Disability Resource Centers (Mary Shortall, Multnomah Aging and Disability)

Mary reviewed a handout distributed---the vision of Seniors and People with Disabilities and Area Agencies on Aging, strategies for successful steps in moving forward with a new entry into Oregon's long-term care system. Discussion on aging and disability resource centers (ADRCs), community networking, and funding (short-term and long-term).

Campaign for Oregon's Seniors and People with Disabilities (John Mullin, Oregon Law Center)

John reported on consumer issues that the Law Center is working on. He gave a brief history of past bills supported by the state and advocacy groups, and the disappointment in the 2007 session for senior and people with disabilities' issues. John reported on SB 1061 introduced during the 2008 Legislative session. He shared appreciation for the work that Senator Morrisette and Representative Cowan have done to encourage various groups to collaborate on future issues as well as the restoration of programs. Mentioned that preparations have begun for the 2009 session including the long range plan which costs out future needs for seniors and people with disabilities.

Nicole Armstrong (04AD Executive Director)

Nicole reminded members about DHS budget meetings across the state and encouraged all to attend. Nicole reported on three areas they hope the Legislature will address in 2009: Oregon Project Independence (OPI) funding and expansion, Medicaid programs: equity and workload based staffing, and the New Front Door or Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs).

Agenda Items for Next Meeting

To be decided at a later time.

Adjourned