

MINUTES

Senior & Disabled Services
Advocacy Committee
Hilyard Center
2580 Hilyard Street
Eugene, OR 97405

June 17, 2006

Members Present: Tim Baxter, Dianne Burch, Jim Patterson, Ed Necker,
Dan Arkin, Andrea Gillispie

Members Excused: Kathy Jenness, Marion Esty

Staff Present: Patti Little, Kay Metzger

1. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 2:19 p.m.

2. Consideration of Meeting Agenda

Ed Necker moved, Dan Arkin seconded that the agenda be presented as mailed.

3. Consideration of the minutes of the May 2006 Meeting

By consensus, the minutes were accepted as mailed.

4. Committee Business

a. Legislative Priorities

The Committee spent the bulk of its meeting discussing the list of potential priorities for 2006-07. Each item on the list was reviewed, with a question and answer period. Committee members felt they did not want a long laundry list of items, thus spreading themselves too thin. They agreed that there should be a focus on three to four issues. Additionally, members suggested the following concepts to use as a guide:

- Which issues can we have an impact on, make a difference?
- Which issues have minimal fiscal impact?
- Are there items which already have some momentum, which we can work with others on?

The Committee added two additional items, for a total of nine potential priorities. The list included,

1. Advocating for the Needs of Seniors and People with Disabilities with the Office of Medical Assistance Programs (OMAP)
2. Funding for Older Americans Act Programs
3. Equity for Transfer AAAs
4. Oregon Project Independence Modernization
5. Safety Net Services (pursuing services to people who don't meet the Medicaid Service Priority Level)
6. Protecting a "Values-Based" System for the Oregon Model of Long Term Care
7. Prescription Drug Coverage
8. Advocating for a Separate Service Division (State-level) for Seniors and People with Disabilities
9. Reform Tax Expenditure System

The Committee took a vote to determine the top four issues. The top four priorities were:

1. Working with OMAP (6 votes)
2. Funding for Older Americans Act Programs (5 votes)
3. Protecting a "Values-Based" System (3 votes)
4. Reform the Tax Expenditure System (3 votes).

At the next meeting, we will discuss the issues further and bring forward to the Advisory Councils for approval.

b. Status Report on Tax Exemption Paper

Kay reported that the Tax Exemption Paper will be presented at the LCOG Board meeting in June.

c. Other business

None

5. Announcements

Tim Baxter gave a report on the OMAP Durable Medical Equipment Committee. Tim is advocating for advisory status, but the progress is slow. There are four seats available for advocates. This is the first committee that OMAP has had that included advocates. A planning meeting that was scheduled to work on the By-laws was cancelled.

Dianne Burch reported on the Forum on the Future of Long Term Care as sponsored by Governor's Commission on Senior Services.

- 6. Reminder of Next Meeting – July 21st, Hilyard Center**
- 7. Adjourn**