

MINUTES

Senior & Disabled Services
Disability Services Advisory Council
LCOG's Administrative Office, 4th Floor Large Conf. Room
99 E. Broadway, Eugene

May 12, 2006

Members Present: L.M. Reese , Chair; Dan Arkin, Jane Boren, Kevin O'Reilly, Kathy Jenness, Kelly Hodgkinson, Michael Thomas, Tim Baxter, and Laura Weil

Members Excused: Ed Necker, Joann Scheck, Luther Beecroft, Darlene Puls, Jeanne Barter

C.R. Members Present: Leslie Relle

Guest: Mary Otten (Eugene Human Rights Commission),
Trescott Ducker

Staff Present: Kay Metzger

1. CALL TO ORDER

L.M. Reese, DSAC Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:36 P.M.

2. CONSIDERATION OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Kay Metzger requested an additional item under Action Items. A report from the DSAC Nominating Committee requires an action by the full Council. Item will be added as 5(c).

Action: Without objection, the Chair ruled that the agenda for the meeting be approved, as presented.

3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF THE April 2006 DSAC MEETING

Motion: Michael Thompson moved, Kathy Jenness seconded a motion to accept

the minutes as mailed. Motion passed.

4. LCOG REPORTS

a. Senior Services Advisory Council

Jane Boren reported on the actions taken by the Senior Services Advisory Council at its May 9th meeting. The SSAC approved the re-appointment of two SSAC members to a second term and the appointment of one new member to the Council. Additionally, the SSAC reviewed and approved six contracts for service provision using Older Americans Act funds. The Council also reviewed and approved (with one abstention) a recommendation from the Advocacy Committee to present to the LCOG Board the paper, “An Analysis of Tax Expenditures in Oregon”.

b. LCOG Board of Directors

Kay Metzger reported on the Board’s April meeting. Action items related to Senior & Disabled Services included an approval of the 2006-07 Area Plan Update for Senior & Disabled Services. Additionally, the Board received a special presentation on “Education and Workforce Development in Lane County”.

5. ACTION ITEMS

a. Review of “An Analysis of Tax Expenditures in Oregon”

The Committee reviewed the paper “An Analysis of Tax Expenditures in Oregon”.

Motion: Kevin O’Reilly moved that the DSAC approve moving forward to the LCOG Board with the concept and paper. Kathy Jenness seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Post-Motion Discussion

The Council engaged in a discussion about the topic, i.e. if it has the potential to be controversial (the answer was yes), if other entities have pursued this idea (the answer was yes, but unsuccessfully), and whether or not a Council member should be present at the LCOG Board meeting. Members stated they would try to attend, however given the location was in Florence it would be difficult for some. The Senior Services Advisory Council has a member that resides in Florence and is also a member of the Advocacy Committee. She plans to attend.

b. Performance of State Agencies

(1) Setting the Stage: Discussion of Issue

Jane Boren opened the discussion by relaying a personal experience dealing with the Office of Medical Assistance Programs as a durable medical equipment vendor. The experience was extremely negative and as a vendor Jane felt very vulnerable to changing policy interpretations by staff at OMAP. The current culture at OMAP seems very closed to input from consumers, advocates and stakeholders.

(2) Moving Forward: Addressing the Issue

By consensus, the Council reviewed and approved the following action steps:

- Kathy Jenness suggested the state-level committee, Persons with Disability Advisory Council (PDAC), would be a good place to bring up this issue. There is an opening for a Lane County representative on the Committee.
- One of the Legislative Priorities for last year was to advocate for a “Health Care Ombudsman”. The need for a Health Care Ombudsman remains. The Advocacy Committee will be identifying priorities for the coming year, which should include this issue.
- Pursue the need for OMAP to have an Advisory Council that includes consumers, partners, advocates and stakeholders. There is some movement towards this within the Durable Medical Equipment Committee (Tim Baxter is a member), but it is slow-going and there is some resistance. Continued efforts need to be made in this area.

c. Nominating Committee Report

The DSAC By-Laws require the full Council to approve the membership needs as identified by the DSAC Nominating Committee. Kay reviewed the first meeting of the DSAC Nominating Committee, and a handout that described the DSAC membership needs.

Motion: Kelly Hodgkinson moved, Kathy Jenness seconded a motion to approve the membership needs for 2006-07 as identified by the DSAC Nominating Committee. Motion passed unanimously. Thus, the Nominating Committee will now move forward with recruitment activities.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. Chair’s Report

L.M. reported there are significant changes occurring at LTD. Public meetings will occur regarding this changes soon.

b. Committee Reports

(1) Long Term Care Committee

Laura Weil reported the LTC Committee received presentations from the S&DS Supervisors at their last meeting. They found the information very helpful. Additionally, regarding the Customer Service Report Cards, the Committee has requested the total number of reports sent out be documented. Since the total number of reports received is already documented, this will help to determine the response percentage.

(2) Advocacy Committee

Given the time, no additional report by the Advocacy Committee was given.

c. Staff Reports

Kay distributed several handouts to the Council regarding upcoming events in Eugene, including the Forum on the Future of Long Term Care to be held at the Valley River Inn on May 25th and the Public Forum on the Department of Human Services Budget to be held at the Eugene Library on Monday May 22nd.

7. OTHER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

No additional reports or announcements.

8. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 3:01 P.M.

REMINDER OF NEXT MEETING:

Friday, July 28, 2006 1:30 p.m.

Ed's Room

Senior & Disabled Services

1015 Willamette Street

Eugene, OR 97401