

MINUTES
Senior & Disabled Services
Disability Services Advisory Council
1015 Willamette St; Eugene, OR 97401

May 13, 2011

Members Present: Robert Fritson, Steven Pickett, Bruce Abel, Tim Baxter, L. M. Reese, Dawn Aubrey

Members excused: Christine Riley, Dr. Diane Rogers, Scott Whetham, David Balthrop, Linda Hamilton, Jessica Harris, Kathy Jenness

Guests: Harvey Lavassaur, Ed Necker

Staff: Angela Phinney, Kay Metzger, Lenora Crowson

1. Call to Order; self Introduction

The meeting was called to order at 12:35 p.m. A thank you was given to Robert Fritson for bringing refreshments. Everyone present introduced themselves.

2. Consideration of Meeting Agenda

L. M. Reese noted that there would be some additions to the Agenda. The first would be under Action items by Kay Metzger; Request for Input on Agency Staffing, Robert Fritson asked to share under Information Items, Angela Phinney asked to give a report under Staff Reports, and Steve Pickett wanted to make an announcement under Other Reports and Announcements. Kay had handouts to share under Staff Reports. The updated Agenda was accepted by consensus.

3. Consideration of the minutes of the January 2011 and March 2011 DSAC Meeting Minutes.

The January 2011 and the March 2011 Meeting Minutes could not be accepted due to the lack of a quorum.

4. LCOG Reports

a. Senior Services Advisory Council (SSAC)

Tim Baxter and Kay Metzger reported that Kay Metzger presented the 2011-12 Area Plan Update and the State Health System Transformation Report. She requested feedback on the Principles of the Lane Coordinated Care Organization. The SSAC members were encouraged to attend the Legislative Forum that was held April 30.

b. LCOG Board of Directors

Kay Metzger reported that the LCOG Board of Directors met April 28, 2011. They reviewed and accepted the 2011-12 Area Plan Update approved by the Senior Services Advisory Council (SSAC). Kay presented the Building Bridges report and gave a

Legislative update. There was a presentation by the Communication Consultant hired by the Board to improve communication among LCOG's member agencies.

5. Action Items

a. Confirmation of Nominating Committee Members

Kay Metzger reported that Jessica Harris, Scott Whetham, and Kathy Jenness are members of the nominating Committee, but there is still a need for at least two more members to participate in the nominating process. Steven Pickett and Tim Baxter volunteered to fill those positions.

b. Request for Input: Principles of the Coordinated Care Organization (Attachment)

Kay Metzger reported that the governor's original proposal for health care in Oregon intended to integrate acute care, physical health care, managed mental health care, addictions, co-dependency, and long term care. Long term care has since been pulled out of the proposal. The health care proposal has been put into House Bill 3650, which is in its fourth revision. The House Committee is hoping to get this Bill finalized on Monday. There have been several groups meeting in Lane County since January 2011. One of the groups meeting include Terry Copeland, Bruce Abel, and Kay. They wanted to see how coordination would look in Lane County and to have opportunity to be part of the health care discussion concerning seniors and people with disabilities. The Lane Integrated Health Consortium's (LIHC) initial charge is to improve population health and the patient care experience through administrative and service-level integration. Initial agencies will assure the provision of services to beneficiaries of health-related public dollars.

LIHC's guiding principles are:

- Meaningful consumer (patient) involvement,
- Provision of integrated and coordinated care through collaboration, innovation and inter-agency support
- Commitment to policies, practices and financing that promotes patient-centered care
- Prioritizing access to timely and effective level of care
- Investments in evidence-based prevention strategies
- Investments in projects that are intended to provide a long-term return on investment
- Commitment to minimal administration
- Commitment to long-range, system-level planning
- Commitment to evaluation and metrics

Kay asked for ideas and suggestions from the Senior Advisory Council members. The discussion was lively with many thoughts, suggestions, and ideas exchanged by the members.

c. Request for Input on Agency Staffing

Kay Metzger reported that S&DS is still functioning in the dark about the state budget; she added she is hopeful that there is enough funding to add staff, but a big concern is finding office space for additional staff. She asked the DSAC for suggestions and several were offered.

6. Information Items

a. Chair's Report

L. M. Reese reported that on May 13, 2011 he spent the day at the Capital with a group of around 100 people, of which thirteen were from Lane County. They visited with Nancy Nathanson and Rep. Val Hoyle in the morning and Rep. Paul Holvey and Rep. Phil Barnhart in the afternoon. Their visit was on the positive side of things. The morning speaker was Tracy Zitzelberger from Oregon Center for Aging & Technology at the Oregon Health & Science University. She told about a study of the movements of 86+ year olds and its outcome. Ellen Pinney the first OHA Ombudsperson gave a little history of the program, the current status, and the role of her position as it moves forward. Mary Shortall, from Multnomah County Aging Services gave the N4A federal updates. Fritz Graham from Rep. Senator Wyden's and Katie Gauthier from Senator Merkley's offices talked to them before they were connected to a phone conversation with Senator Merkley in Washington D. C.. Kay Metzger gave a Director's update before hearing from Ryan Green, Government Relations Director of the Oregon Paralyzed Vets. He told of the help persons with problems were receiving from the Disabled Vets program. Sally Larson reported that the budget will be down \$40 million this biennium and up \$128 million next biennium. L. M. was impressed that Rep. Phil Barnhart asked how he could be of service to us and he let us know we only need to ask.

b. Committee reports

(1) Long Term Care Committee

Dawn Awbrey reported that Lynn Boone, S&DS Program Supervisor, gave a presentation on the new On-line Food Stamp Program Application. The program has started and is going smoothly with 25 applications already received by May 3rd for May. On-line Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) allows customers to apply for food stamps without coming to an S&DS office. They will still need to provide copies of some basic information, such as identification and income verification. Annual SNAP/Medicaid renewals can be done via phone interviews, also making it unnecessary for the client to come into the office. The new on-line SNAP application has easy-to-follow directions and offers an on-line calculation option to determine if one is likely to qualify without having to complete the application and have it processed, though to confirm eligibility one would need to complete the process. S&DS will deduct items such as medical and prescription expenses, reducing the countable income. The maximum possible food stamp allotment per month is currently \$200.00, and when one qualifies, they are automatically qualified for the Oregon Telephone Assistance Program (OTAP).

(2) Advocacy Committee

Tim Baxter reported that the forum held April 30, 2011 at the Hilyard Center was a huge success. Ed Necker was the moderator.

c. Staff Reports

Angela Phinney announced the Elder Abuse Conference titled, “There’s No Excuse for Elder Abuse”, being held at Lane Community College, June 7, 2011, 8:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. There is a \$15.00 charge.

Kay Metzger handed out two informational sheets. One was announcing a Pedestrian Safety Summit being held June 1, 2011, 9:30-12:30 at the Eugene Public Library Bascom-Tykeson Room and the other was a list of the Joint Ways and Means Human Services Subcommittee membership with phone numbers and email addresses of the members. The main people the DSAC was encouraged to contact were Sen. Alan C Bates, Co-Chair, Rep. Tim Freeman, Co-Chair, and Rep. Tina Kotek, Co-Chair. Some of the main talking points on the back of the handout were funding for OPI, adequate funding for staff, cuts to the number of hours for in-home care, and rate and pay cuts to providers.

d. LIPA

Robert Fritson, member of LIPA, reported that there is a new law in Salem under **Ventilators 1.6.2**. It states: “You must have a desire to breathe to be eligible for a ventilator” through Medicaid.

7. Other Reports and Announcements

Ed Necker announced a Legislative Forum bring held May 14th with Representatives Phil Barnhart and Terry Beyer at the Springfield City Hall at 12 noon.

Steven Pickett mentioned that he met with a class of students at the U of O where he was guest lecturer. The topic was the history of disabilities and the disability movement in the State of Oregon. Some of the students voiced their willingness to help in whatever way they could. Steven gave them a list of agencies they could contact to offer their services by volunteering. They could get together in groups to spearhead campaign activity, and advocate for people with disabilities, especially for people facing potential hardship.

8. Reminder of Next Council Meeting

Friday, July 22, 2011, 12:30 p.m.

LOCATION:

Senior & Disabled Services

1015 Willamette, Eugene, OR 97401