

MINUTES

Senior & Disabled Services
Disability Services Advisory Council
Senior & Disabled Services Office, Ed's Room
1015 Willamette Street, Eugene

July 28, 2006

Members Present: L.M. Reese , Chair; Dan Arkin, Jane Boren, Kevin O'Reilly, Kathy Jenness, Kelly Hodgkinson, Michael Thomas, Ed Necker, Joann Scheck, Darlene Puls, Jeanne Barter and Laura Weil.

Members Excused: Tim Baxter, Luther Beecroft

C.R. Members Present: Maureen Wadst

Guest: Trescott Ducker

Staff Present: Kay Metzger

1. CALL TO ORDER

L.M. Reese, DSAC Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:35 P.M.

2. CONSIDERATION OF THE MEETING AGENDA

Laura Weil requested that item 6.b(1) Report of the Long Term Care Committee be removed from the agenda, as they have recessed during the summer months.

Action: Without objection, the Chair ruled that the agenda for the meeting be approved, with the deletion noted.

3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF THE MAY 2006 DSAC MEETING

Motion: Ed Necker moved, Kelly Hodgkinson seconded a motion to accept the minutes as mailed. Motion passed unanimously.

4. LCOG REPORTS

a. Senior Services Advisory Council

Kay Metzger reported items covered at the most recent SSAC meeting. The SSAC approved the application of two new members, elected the slate of officers for 2006-07, approved the 2006-07 contract for the Elder Help program and Addus in-home services. Additionally, they received an update on the Area Plan for 2006-07.

b. LCOG Board of Directors

Kay Metzger reported on the Board's June meeting. Action items related to Senior & Disabled Services included an item regarding the paper, "An Analysis of Tax Expenditures in Oregon". The LCOG Board engaged in a discussion regarding whether or not LCOG should support the position presented in the paper. The Board declined to do so, encouraging the Advisory Councils to focus on issues that specifically address senior and disabled persons needs, rather than broad-based topics such as tax reform. Additionally, the LCOG Board heard presentations by S&DS and LCOG's Regional Services in preparation for the July LCOG Board Planning Session.

5. ACTION ITEMS

a. Advocacy Committee Recommendation Priorities for 2006-07

Kathy Jenness, as Chair of the Advocacy Committee, presented the four legislative priorities the Committee has approved. They are:

- (1)** Promote actions that create an environment that supports consumer needs and input at the policy making level within the Department of Human Services, Office of Medical Assistance Programs.
- (2)** Pursue increased funding for Older Americans Act Programs.
- (3)** Protect the values of the system for Oregon's seniors and people with disabilities.
- (4)** Keep the promise – fund "equity" for Area Agencies on Aging and Disability Services.

The Council engaged in a question and answer period, clarifying specifics related to each priority and assisting members to get a clear picture of the issues at hand. The Council had many questions about the first priority, particularly related to the extent of the problem and its impact on consumers. Jane Boren recommended that

Priority #1 be re-worded as follows, “Promote actions that create a *culture and* environment that supports consumer needs and input at the policy making level within the Department of Human Services, Office of Medical Assistance Programs.” By consensus the Committee agreed with the addition.

Regarding the “equity” issue, Kathy Jenness requested a document that outlines the issue, so that she can better articulate the problem. Kay stated O4AD has put together some “talking points” on the matter and she will forward them to Council members.

Ed Necker noted for the group that the Priorities are not listed in order of importance.

Motion: Dan Arkin moved that the Disability Services Advisory Council approve the priorities and recommend their adoption to the LCOG Board of Directors. Kevin O’Reilly seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

a. Chair’s Report

L.M. reported on the services provided by the Lions Club, as he has been an active member for the past several months. The Lions Club assists with the purchase of hearing aides and glasses for needy Lane County residents. Jane Boren shared that Mobility Unlimited out of Medford has a program that will purchase mobility devices for employed people. Trescott reported they will also help with ramps, chairs and van modifications. Kelly Hodgkinson stated the Blance Fischer Foundation is also a good resource.

b. Committee Reports

(1) Long Term Care Committee

Removed from the agenda as they do not meet during the summer months.

(2) Advocacy Committee

No additional report by the Advocacy Committee

(3) Nominating Committee

Ed Necker, Chair of the Nominating Committee, reported the status of the recruitment process. There are six members whose terms are expiring at the end of September. Three will be recommended for re-appointment at the September meeting. One Community Representative has expressed an interest in being appointed as a Full DSAC member and thus, will be recommended for

appointment (also at the September meeting). One Community Representative is not interested in re-appointment. This results in the need to fill four positions – two Full DSAC members and two Community Representatives. The deadline for submission of applications is August 15, 2006. The interviews will be late August, or early September.

Ed also gave the recommendation of the Nominating Committee for next year's slate of officers. The Nominating Committee recommends:

Chair: L.M. Reese

Vice-Chair: Ed Necker.

The DSAC will vote on the slate of officers at its September meeting. Anyone interested in serving as an officer was encouraged to contact Kay Metzger or any member of the Nominating Committee.

c. Staff Reports

Kay reported on the temporary MMA position which will begin August 1 and continue through June 30, 2007. This is a position funded with temporary funds from SPD to assist Medicaid clients with enrollment in a Medicare Part D plan. Tammy Rutherford, long-time Financial Services Worker with S&DS, will move from the Florence office to fill this position.

7. OTHER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

No additional reports or announcements.

8. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 P.M.

REMINDER OF NEXT MEETING:

Friday, September 8, 2006

Ed's Room

Senior & Disabled Services

1015 Willamette Street

Eugene, OR 97401