

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

July 29, 2011

**Members Present:** L.M. Reese, Chair, Tim Baxter, Dawn Aubrey, Dr Diane Rogers, David Balthrop, Robert Fritson, Steven Pickett

**Members Excused:** Bruce Abel, Linda Hamilton, Jessica Harris, Christine Riley, Scott Whetham

**Guests:** Ed Necker, Isaiah Burgess, Michele Scheib

**Staff:** Angela Phinney, Lenora Crowson, Kay Metzger

**1. Call to Order; Self Introductions**

The meeting was moved to the Buford Room in the Park Place Building, 859 Willamette St, due to a scheduling conflict. The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m., and everyone present introduced themselves.

**2. Consideration of Meeting Agenda**

Kay Metzger asked to reschedule Agenda Item 6. Special Discussion with Douglas County DSAC since their representative was unable to attend this meeting. Kay asked to give a report on the State Budget and Tim Baxter wanted to add information about the DME. Michele Scheib asked to make an announcement. It will be included under Other Reports and Announcements. The amended Agenda was accepted by consensus.

**3. Consideration of the minutes of the May 2011 DSAC Meeting (Attachment)**

Robert Fritson mentioned that Metzger was misspelled in two places on page one, Dawn Aubrey's name was misspelled on page three in the Long Term Care Committee report, and the announcement in Other Reports and Announcements, should have read, "a Legislative Forum **being** held" instead of **bring** held. Dr Diane Rogers made the motion to accept the minutes as corrected, with a second by Stephen Pickett. The motion was approved.

**4. LCOG Reports**

**a. Senior Services Advisory Council (SSAC)**

Kay Metzger reported that the SSAC approved the new Council members at their June meeting, and since Kay was called to a meeting in Salem, Angela Phinney and Nancy Sargent-Johnson were gracious enough to attend in her place.

**b. LCOG Board of Directors**

Kay Metzger reported that the LCOG Board of Directors met in June at EWEB. The main topic of discussion was the communication plan LCOG is pursuing. There are three areas on which they are focusing. One addressed Human Services Coordination and recommended financial support for the United Way’s 211 System. The System was improved from just a database system to an additional telephonic system making it easier for people to access information. The second area focused on economic development and the last area was improved communication between public agencies and to the public. Kay presented a report to the LCOG Board regarding the impact of the state budget on S&DS staffing and services.

**5. Action Items**

**a. Confirmation of Nominating Committee Members**

Kay Metzger reported that there is still a need for additional members. Dr Diana Rogers and Stephen Pickett volunteered to serve. Tim Baxter and David Balthrop volunteered to serve as back up members, if needed. Applications are available to give prospective applicants. The deadline to turn in applications is Aug 26, 2011 with the interviews to be held the week of August 29<sup>th</sup>.

**b. Other**

**6. Special Discussion with Douglas County DSAC**

**a. Description of S&DS’ DSAC**

This item was postponed until another time.

**b. Input/Ideas on What Makes a DSAC Successful**

**c. Other; Impact of the State Budget on Services and S&DS**

Kay gave out two hand outs. One was a summary compiled by the State of Oregon of the legislatively approved budget and services. The second handout was a summary of the direct impact of the budget reductions to S&DS and our clients. Some of the cuts are as follows:

- Ten percent (10%) reduction to in-home hours for Medicaid recipients receiving home care. Effective Jan 1, 2012
- No cuts to rates paid to providers such as nursing homes, assisted living facilities, residential care facilities, adult foster homes, and home care workers during 2011-2012.
- Oregon Project Independence Program, a program intended to help people remain in their own home and off of Medicaid, was reduced by 26% from the levels originally approved in 2009.
- The budget does not include the Governor’s proposal to invest in Adult Protective Services and Eligibility Staff.
- 6. No COLA for 2011-13.

- 7. Fund Transfer Type B Area Agencies on Aging and Disabilities (like us) at 85% of what it would cost a State office to do the work.
- 8. Lower caseload growth projection for Long Term Care.

As a result of the reduction to Transfer Type B Area Agencies on Aging (#7), S&DS must embark on a reduction in force process. There is not sufficient funding to support our services and staff at the status quo level. While the number of clients S&DS serves has increased by almost 20% in the past two years, the level of funding was increased by only 3.5%. This increase is not adequate to cover the increase in operating costs over the course of two years, and thus a reduction in staff is required.

Kay requested input and suggestions regarding the list of Principles for Decision-Making being used by the S&DS Management Team to make the difficult staff-reduction decisions. There was a consensus by the DSAC that the listed principles were well stated and workable. Some of the suggestions given were to use volunteers where appropriate, access resources such as the Americore, partner with other agencies, look for service duplications, put a human face on the problem to the Legislators, and inform the public through public relations how the cuts will impact services given through S&DS.

Tim Baxter gave a short report on the cuts being implemented regarding medical equipment and supplies by the Oregon Health Authority due to the reduction in funding.

## 7. Information Items

### a. Chair's Report

L.M. Reese has been approached to take the chairmanship of the O4AD Advisory Council Chair quarterly meetings.

### b. Committee Reports

#### (1) Long Term Care Committee (LTCC)

No Report given.

#### (2) Advocacy Committee

Robert Fritson reported that a presentation about roundabouts was given at the last Advocacy Committee meeting. Robert had an opportunity to be a presenter on a national website blog regarding roundabouts where a very good question was posed. The participant asked the question, "Why is a roundabout placed where there is pedestrian traffic?" Robert found that to be a very good question to bring up with the engineer in charge of the Hayden Bridge roundabout in Springfield.

### c. Staff Reports

None

## **8. Other Reports and Announcements**

Michele Scheib made an announcement in regards to a four week foreign exchange program through the Rotary for people between the ages of 25 and 40.

## **9. Reminder of Next Council Meeting**

**Friday, September 9, 2011**

12:30 p.m.

### **LOCATION:**

Senior & Disabled Services

1015 Willamette

Eugene, OR 97401

## **10. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2 p.m.