

# MINUTES

Senior & Disabled Services  
**Senior Services Advisory Council**  
Hilyard Community Center, 2580 Hilyard St., Eugene

April 11, 2006

Members Present: Anna May Herbert, Chair; Mae Westfall Cook, Mary Johnson, Jane Strasdas, Dianne Burch, Andrea Gillispie, Steve Skipton, Darlene Puls, Don Hampton, Marion Esty, Jim Patterson, Jane Boren, Jean Jordan.

Members Excused: Jack Ewing, Joe Xavier.

CR Member Present: Cathy Steadman-Cox, David Quale

Staff Members Present: Patti Little, and Kay Metzger.

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Anna May Herbert called the meeting to order at 1:37 PM.

## 2. CONSIDERATION OF THE MEETING AGENDA

David Quale asked that he have an opportunity to make an announcement. This will be added under item #7. Other Reports and Announcements.

**Action:** Without objection, Anna May Herbert ruled that the agenda for the meeting be amended to include an additional item under #7. Other Reports and Announcements.

## 3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2006 SSAC MEETING

Three spelling corrections of Committee member's names were pointed out. Corrections noted.

**Action:** Minutes of the February 2006 SSAC approved with corrections as noted.

## 4. LCOG REPORTS

**a. LCOG Board of Directors**

Kay Metzger reported that the LCOG Board was informed of the Western Lane Community Foundation grant that S&DS was awarded recently. Additionally, a presentation by Bobby Green, Lane County Commissioner, was heard on the Metropolitan Planning Committee activities.

**b. Disability Services Advisory Council**

Kay Metzger reported that the March DSAC meeting had been rescheduled to April 7<sup>th</sup> due to poor weather. At its meeting on April 7<sup>th</sup>, the DSAC acted on two items. First, they approved the Bylaws changes as presented at the meeting. The Bylaws changes will now move to the LCOG Executive Committee to ratify. Second, the DSAC received the 2006-07 Area Plan Update as submitted by the Planning and Budget Committee, and recommended to LCOG that it be adopted as drafted and that S&DS staff be authorized to submit the Plan Update to the Oregon Department of Human Services.

**5. ACTION ITEMS**

**a. Area Plan Update**

The Council received a report from Kay Metzger on the process followed for creation of the 2006-07 Area Plan Update. The development was a joint effort involving staff and members of the Planning and Budget Committee. Based on the information received, the Planning and Budget Committee developed recommendations covering the key policy elements of the 2006-07 Component to the Area Plan, notably the budget and objectives for the year. The SSAC members were informed of the Public Hearing that was held on February 21, 2006, at which there were no objections to the Area Plan Update. Immediately following the Public Hearing, the Planning and Budget Committee voted unanimously to recommend to the Advisory Councils that they recommend to LCOG the adoption and submission to DHS of the Plan Update as drafted.

SSAC members had several follow-up questions. Mary Johnson asked if OPI funded services are available to people with disabilities at this time. Kay responded that the rules were still in the process of being written, and that at this time OPI funded services were not available to people with disabilities. Jean Jordan asked if the Special Legislative Session scheduled for later this month

would have an impact on the services included in the Area Plan. Kay responded yes, the decisions of the Legislature could potentially have an impact on the contributions the state of Oregon's Department of Human Services makes to our programs. Specifically, the issue of adequate reimbursement for TXIX Meals on Wheels and the equitable funding to Transfer AAAs may be pursued. Mary Johnson asked if the Network of Care is useful for e-mailing Legislators. Kay responded yes, the Network of Care has a "Legislate" button that can be very useful. Marion Esty asked if Jacqueline Zimmer of O4AD could do a presentation for the group on advocacy. Kay announced that Jacqueline Zimmer has tendered her resignation, as she has accepted a position with Trilogy, the sponsoring company for Network of Care.

***Motion:*** Moved by Mae Wesfall Cook, and seconded by Jane Strasdas, to recommend to LCOG that the 2006-07 Update to S&DS 2003-07 Area Plan be adopted as drafted, and that S&DS staff be authorized to submit the Plan Update to the Oregon Department of Human Services. Motion passed unanimously.

## **6. INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **a. Chair's Report**

SSAC Chair, Anna May Herbert, stated there was no information to report at this time.

### **b. Committee Reports**

#### **(1) Advocacy Committee**

Dianne Burch reported that at the most recent Advocacy Committee the members spent time debriefing the Legislative Conversations that were held in the winter. Additionally, the Committee discussed the need for expansion of video conferencing to allow more seniors and people with disabilities to participate in legislative matters. Jane Boren opined that this is a great idea, as users of services are often unrepresented at meetings that may impact the services they receive. Mae Westfall Cook asked if we are informing O4AD of our advocacy activities. Kay replied that there are frequent meetings in which AAA Directors share information and collaborate with each other.

#### **(2) Long Term Care Committee**

Steve Skipton reported that the Committee's next meeting will be at the S&DS Eugene Office. The members will hear reports from staff on the services provided by S&DS. David Quale added that they plan to engage in a larger discussion regarding the mission of the Long Term Committee and how best to fulfill their charge.

### **(3) Procurement and Monitoring Committee**

Anna May Herbert reported on the most recent meeting of the Procurement and Monitoring Committee. She shared that the Committee received a report from Joan Taylor regarding the Family Caregiver Support Program. Anna May shared several pertinent statistics regarding the services the program has provided. Jane Boren suggested that a letter be written to the Chambers Foundation for their contributions. S&DS has already sent a letter of thanks, as this is our practice when any individual or agency offers a contribution. Jane Boren agreed to draft a letter of thanks from the SSAC and route it to Kay Metzger.

The report from the Procurement and Monitoring Committee concluded with a reminder from Ann May Herbert that the full SSAC will review continuation contracts at its May meeting.

### **(4) Nominating Committee**

Marion Esty, as chair, reported on the first meeting of the SSAC Nominating Committee. At the meeting, the Committee directed staff to move forward on activities to recruit new members, with a specific focus on people over age 60 who are members of a minority. The deadline for receipt of applications is Friday, May 5, 2006. The first interviews will be scheduled for the morning of Tuesday, May 9, 2006. SSAC members were encouraged to contact people who may be interested in membership, and refer them to Patti Little or Kay Metzger.

Additionally, the Nominating Committee made recommendations regarding appointment of new members and officers for the 2006-07 cycle. The full committee will vote on these recommendations at a later meeting. At that meeting, nominations can also be taken from the floor. The recommendations of the Nominating Committee were:

- That two current SSAC members, Steve Skipton and Jonathon Ramey, be reappointed to a second term,

- That two current Community Representatives, David Quale and Cathy Steadman Cox, be appointed to full membership, and
- That the following SSAC members be considered as officers,
 

|                             |               |
|-----------------------------|---------------|
| Chair:                      | Jane Boren    |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Chair: | Steve Skipton |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair: | Don Hampton.  |

The Committee then engaged in a discussion about licensed facilities. Members expressed an interest in hearing a presentation on Adult Protective Services, with a focus on licensed facilities. Kay will coordinate this for the June meeting.

**c. Staff Reports**

**(1) S&DS Staffing Update**

Kay reported that S&DS has laid off most of the temporary MMA Choice Counselors, as the majority of the work involved in transitioning Medicare/Medicaid clients to Medicare Part D has been accomplished. Currently we have four staff continuing to work on this project through May 31, 2006. S&DS may receive funding for additional MMA temporary staff for next year, however details from the Seniors and People with Disabilities Office are not available at this time.

Kay also shared that, due to prudent management of the budget, S&DS will be hiring three new positions to the Title XIX staff. The plan is to fill an Administrative Aide II position (by a recall of a previously laid off employee), and to fill a Financial Services Worker and a Facility-Based Case Manager position either through internal promotions or external hires. These additions, however, do not bring staffing up to the level prior to the layoffs in 2005.

**(2) Other Staff Reports**

No additional reports were given.

**7. OTHER REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

David Quale announced that a community meeting sponsored by Lane Independent

Physicians Association and the Community Advocates Group will be held on Thursday April 20, 2006 at the Eugene Public Library. This is an important meeting to recognize the positive changes and improvements that LIPA has incorporated into its practices.

**9. REMINDER OF NEXT MEETING/ADJOURN**

Anna May Herbert reminded members that the next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, May 9, 2006, 1:30 PM, at the Hilyard Community Center.

The meeting adjourned at 3:02 PM.

*(Recorded by Kay Metzger)*

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