

# MINUTES

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

May 10, 2005

- Members Present: Anna May Herbert, Chair; Jane Boren, Jack Ewing, Jean Jordan, Steve Kraus, Paul MacLearn, Debbie Olsen, Murray Pettit, Alice Putnam, L.M. Reese, Jane Strasdas, Joe Xavier.
- Members Excused: Mae Westfall Cook, Marion Esty, Mary Johnson, Darlene Puls, Steve Skipton.
- CR Members Present: Dianne Burch, Andrea Gillespie.
- Guests Present: Jim Patterson, Moray Povey.
- Staff Present: Sandy Karsten, Patti Little, Ted Stevens.

## 1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Anna May Herbert called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. Persons present introduced themselves.

## 2. CONSIDERATION OF THE MEETING AGENDA

***Action:*** Without objection, Anna May Herbert ruled that the agenda for the meeting be accepted, as presented.

## 3. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2005 SSAC MEETING

***Action:*** Without objection, Anna May Herbert ruled that the Minutes of the April 12, 2005 meeting be accepted, as written.

Following this action, Joe Xavier stated that he did not want members of the

Council to construe his remarks at the April meeting regarding the Senior Meals Program's meal rates for 2005-06 as negative comments about Sandy Karsten, S&DS' Senior Meals Program Manager. He stated that he has tremendous respect for Sandy and for the work that she performs.

#### **4. LCOG BOARD REPORT**

Ted Stevens reported that the LCOG Board of Directors accepted the recommended advocacy position calling for the modification of Medicare's three-day prior hospital stay rule. As a result, letters on this matter have been sent to the Administrator of the U.S. Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) and to members of Oregon's congressional delegation.

#### **5. PRESENTATION OF THE SLATE OF OFFICERS FOR 2005-06**

Joe Xavier, SSAC Nominating Committee Chair, presented the following slate of SSAC officers for 2005-06:

Chair, Anna May Herbert  
First Vice Chair, Jane Boren  
Second Vice Chair, Marion Esty

He reminded members that the election will be held at the next Council meeting, and stated that nominations may be offered from the floor on the day of the election.

#### **6. ACTION ITEMS**

##### **a. Recommendations for the Appointment of Members to the SSAC**

Joe Xavier, SSAC Nominating Committee Chair, presented the membership appointment recommendations. Actions are these recommendations are presented below.

##### **Motions:**

- (1) Moved by Joe Xavier and seconded by L.M. Reese to recommend to LCOG the re-appointment of the following current Council members for three year terms (July 1, 2005 – June 30, 2008): Jane Boren, Marion Esty, Jean Jordan, Murray Pettit, and Jane Strasdas. Motion carried unanimously.
- (2) Moved by Joe Xavier and seconded by Jane Strasdas to recommend to

LCOG the promotion of the following Community Representative members to full membership on the Council for three year terms: Dianne Burch and Andrea Gillespie. Motion carried unanimously.

(3) Moved by Joe Xavier and seconded by Jane Boren to recommend to LCOG the appointment of Jim Patterson to the Council for a three year term. Motion carried unanimously.

(4) Moved by Joe Xavier and seconded by Jane Strasdas to recommend to LCOG the appointment of the following individuals as Community Representative members for one year terms: Cathy Steadman Cox and David Quale. Motion carried unanimously.

Following these actions, Alice S. Putnam reported that she is finding participation on the Council and Advocacy Committee more taxing than anticipated. As a result, she stated that she wishes to give up her seat on the Council, with the hope that the Council will nominate Don Hampton, former Oakridge Mayor and former Lane County Commissioner, to complete her term. Ted Stevens reported that he spoke with Mr. Hampton the day before and found him interested in membership on the Council, if nominated.

**Motion:** Moved by Jack Ewing and seconded by Paul MacLearn to accept Alice S. Putnam's resignation from the Council, with regret, and to recommend to LCOG the appointment of Don Hampton to complete Ms. Putnam's term of service on the Council. Motion carried unanimously.

**b. Service Contracts for 2005-06:**

Jane Strasdas, Co-Chair of the Procurement and Monitoring Committee, presented the recommendations for service contracts for 2005-06. Each recommendation was dealt with separately, as noted below.

**Motions:**

(1) Moved by Jane Strasdas and seconded by Joe Xavier that the SSAC recommends the following actions to LCOG: (a) accept the application submitted by the Lane County Law and Advocacy Center to operate the Senior Law program in 2005-06, and (b) award the program up to \$58,869 of Older Americans Act III-B funds, payable at the rate of \$16.82 per unit of service, not to exceed a total of 3,500 units of service annually. Motion carried unanimously.

(2) Moved by Jane Strasdas and seconded by Joe Xavier that the SSAC recommends the following actions to LCOG: (a) accept the application submitted by the Lane County Ombudsman Recruiting and Screening Committee to operate

the Lane County Ombudsman Recruiting and Screening Committee for FY 2005-06; and (b) award the program up to \$1,254 of Older Americans Act III-B funds, pursuant to the application, payable on an as needed basis. Motion carried unanimously.

(3) Moved by Jane Strasdas and seconded by Jean Jordan that the SSAC recommends the following actions to LCOG: (a) accept the application submitted by Amy Raven, consultant, to coordinate the Elder Help Volunteer Program for FY 2005-06, and (b) that Ms. Raven be awarded \$15,653 of Older Americans Act III-B funds for program operations in FY 2005-06, pursuant to her application, payable at the rate of \$24.61 per hour, not to exceed a total of 636 hours annually. Motion carried unanimously.

(4) Moved by Jane Strasdas and seconded by Joe Xavier that the SSAC recommends the following actions to LCOG: (a) accept the application submitted by the Emerald Empire Council on Aging to operate the Money Management Program in 2005-06; and (b) award up to \$13,777 of Older Americans Act III-B funds, pursuant to the proposal, payable at the rate of \$8.88 per unit of service, not to exceed a total of 1,551 units of service annually. Motion carried unanimously.

(5) Moved by Jane Strasdas and seconded by Joe Xavier that the SSAC recommends the following actions to LCOG: (a) accept the application submitted by the American Red Cross for the operation of the Metro Meals on Wheel program in 2005-06; (b) award the following funds to Red Cross for program operations: OAA III-C-2, \$93,376; USDA, \$31,714; and HSC, \$13,798; (c) accept the following unit rates for payment during 2005-06: total unit rate - \$6.31/meal; OAA unit rate - \$1.616/meal; USDA unit rate - \$.53/meal; and HSC unit rate - \$.2388/meal; and (d) continue current contract language regarding the allocation of net proceeds from the Combined Meals on Wheels Fund Raising Campaign (divide net proceeds on the proportion of Meals on Wheels served by each organization). Motion carried unanimously.

Following these actions, Jane Strasdas reported that Peace Health has recently informed S&DS that it plans to close its Senior Mental Health Counseling Program on July 1, 2005 and, as a result, will not accept a continuation contract for 2005-06. She reported that this action frees up \$34,263 of Older Americans Act funds, including \$20,567 of III-D (health promotion and disease prevention) and \$13,696 of III-E (family caregiver support) funds. Continuing her report, she shared that the S&DS staff presented a plan for the use of these funds to the Procurement and Monitoring Committee at its April meeting. This plan calls for the III-D funds to be retained by S&DS for an intensive, time-limited Medicare Part D outreach and education campaign between November 2005 and May 2006, and the III-E funds to be contracted to Cascade Health Solutions for the provision of three closely

related Family Caregiver services by its Adult Day Center program: organization and maintenance of support groups for caregivers, counseling for caregivers, and training for caregivers. Jane stated that this plan was acceptable to the Committee.

**Motion:** Moved by Jane Strasdas and seconded by Joe Xavier that the SSAC recommends the following actions to LCOG: (a) that the available OAA III-D funds (\$20,567) be retained by Senior & Disabled Services and used to organize and implement a time-limited Medicare Part D outreach and education campaign, with the major efforts of this campaign focused on the period between November 2005 and May 2006; and (b) that S&DS staff be authorized to negotiate a contract with Cascade Health Solutions' Adult Day Center for the provision of caregiver services (organization and maintenance of support groups for caregivers, counseling for caregivers, and training for caregivers) during 2005-06, with the understanding that the amount obligated under this contract not exceeds the \$13,696 available in OAA III-E funds. Motion carried unanimously.

## **7. INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **a. Committee Reports**

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

Steve Kraus, member of the Long Term Care Committee, reported on behalf of the Committee. He reported on the Committee's project to re-survey former clients who lost services in 2003 during the large-scale downsizing of DHS services. He stated that the purpose of this project was to assess how these former clients are doing, after approximately two years without services. Of the 26 former clients identified to re-survey, seventeen participated in the re-survey process. Highlights of the findings include: people were receiving in-home assistance from family and friends, but not at the same level as previously; the majority were obtaining needed medications, but they were paying more out-of-pocket than before; and many observed that their quality of life is lower due to the loss of State-paid in-home assistance. At the conclusion of his report, Steve stated that Steve Skipton, LTC Committee Chair, will present the findings of this project to the Advocacy Committee at its meeting on Friday, May 20. All SSAC members with an interest in this project were invited to sit in on the May Advocacy Committee meeting.

#### **(2) Advocacy Committee**

Ted Stevens reported on the April Advocacy Committee meeting. He stated that

the Committee spent a significant part of its meeting preparing for the May 21<sup>st</sup> Legislative Dialog. He also shared that the Committee is developing its work priorities for the balance of 2005.

Following this presentation, Ted Stevens urged SSAC members to attend the May 21<sup>st</sup> Legislative Dialog.

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

Jane Strasdas, Procurement and Monitoring Committee Co-Chair, stated that the Committee, at its April meeting, reviewed continuation contract proposals and developed the recommendations considered by the Council earlier in this meeting. She announced that the next Committee meeting will be held on May 17, rather than May 24. This meeting will be held at Campbell Senior Center.

#### **b. Staff Report – Award of a VISTA Member to Work in Support of the Senior Connections Program**

Ted Stevens announced that S&DS' Senior Connections Program has been selected to host a VISTA member for a 12 month period, starting at the end of August 2005. This individual will help the program develop and implement a resource development program designed to increase private donations to help underwrite the cost of program operations. He explained that S&DS is responsible for recruiting and recommending the VISTA to the American Red Cross, Columbia Chapter, the prime sponsor of the VISTA participant, and to the VISTA Program State Office. Assuming their concurrence, the individual will start his or her experience with mandatory orientation and training in mid-August, and then will arrive on site in Eugene on August 26, 2005. Ted asked for help from Council members getting the word out about this opportunity. Debbie Olsen asked for copies of the job description and training plan. Ted agreed to share these items in electronic form with Council members.

### **8. REMINDER OF NEXT MEETING/ADJOURN**

Anna May Herbert reminded members that the next Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 14, 2005, 1:30 PM, at Hilyard Community Center.

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.

*(Recorded by Ted Stevens)*

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