

MICHIGAN COMMISSION ON SERVICES TO THE AGING

Office of Services to the Aging
7109 W. Saginaw Hwy., Room 2-D, Lansing

August 15, 2008

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Kennedy called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and reiterated the role of the Commission, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairperson Kennedy, on behalf of all the Commission, welcomed new Commissioner Joan Budden, from Bloomfield Hills. Commissioner Budden succeeds Commissioner Walters whose term expired. Commissioner Budden gave a brief profile of herself and stated she was looking forward to being a part of the Commission.

ROLL CALL

The roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Owen Bieber, Cheryl Bollinger, Joan Budden, Rose Gill, Kathleen Johnston-Calati, Jerutha Kennedy, Chun-Keung Leung, Donald Newport, Thomas Rau, Anthony Pawelski, Ramesh Verma, Janice Wilson, and James Wright

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT (Excused)

Mary Gardner, Amne Talab

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT (Un-excused)

None

OSA STAFF PRESENT

Sharon Gire, Cindy Albrecht, Bonnie Graham, Eric Berke, Steve Betterly, Jan Bowlin, Sherri King, Laura McMurtry, and Holliace Spencer

VISITORS/GUEST PRESENT

Kelly Beem, Steve Todd, Judy Sivak, Mary Ablan, Angela Willis, Tina Abbate-Marzolf, Drew Orvosh, Donna Hobart, Amy Florae, Zane Rybkowski, Ginny Wood-Bailey, and Sandra Davis.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Wright made the motion to approve the agenda. Commissioner Pawelski seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

Commissioner Newport made the motion to approve the minutes from the July 18, 2008 meeting. Commissioner Rau seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

INFORMATION FROM INDIVIDUALS CONCERNING AGENDA ITEMS

None

OSA DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Gire welcomed Commissioner Joan Budden to the Commission.

Director Gire updated the Commission on the following:

- The Office of Services to the Aging (OSA) will be moving on August 21, 2008 to 300 E. Michigan Avenue. The September Commission meeting will be held at our old office 7109 W. Saginaw Hwy, Room 2-D, Lansing.
- OSA submitted two federal grants this week, Alzheimer's and Related Disorders Demonstration Grant and the Nursing Home Diversion Modernization Grant.
- Attended a ribbon cutting for Alpena Village in Alpena.
- Older Michigianians Day has been scheduled for next June.

A brief discussion followed.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Approval of FY 2009 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Region IIIA Area

Agency on Aging

Eric Berke, OSA staff, introduced Judy Sivak, Executive Director of Region IIIA Area Agency on Aging (AAA) covering Kalamazoo County. Mr. Berke request Commission approval of Region IIIA's AIP.

Mr. Berke noted the plan was reviewed against the approval criteria and the FY 2009 cost allocation plan. Compliance with federal regulations and statewide operating standards was confirmed by the assessment conducted on August 7, 2008. Assessment findings are considered when reviewing proposed AIPs.

A public hearing was held in the region on May 14, 2008 and submitted to all local units of government in the Planning and Service Area (PSA). No local governments raised any issues of concern and there are no special conditions attached to the plan.

Mr. Berke noted that Appendix G: Request to Transfer funds, \$15,000 from Title III Part C-1 into Title III Part B for nutrition participant transportation and Appendix H: Nutritionist budget need Commission approval.

Mr. Berke highlighted several areas of the AIP stating this agency provides Long Term Care Ombudsman services directly for Regions IIIA, IIIB, and IIIC, which covers Kalamazoo, Barry, Calhoun, Branch, and St. Joseph Counties. Mr. Berke also noted

the AAA supports a Professional Caregivers Appreciation Day to show support for the individuals serving as direct care workers in the community. Bookmarks, developed to highlight the importance of direct care workers, were distributed at this event.

Mr. Berke requested the Commission's approval of the FY 2009 AIP for Region IIIA AAA.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson to approve the FY 2009 AIP for Region IIIA AAA as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnston-Calati. Commission approved with a 13-0-0 vote.

A discussion followed with a more detailed explanation provided regarding Appendix G and Appendix H. Further discussion followed regarding AAA budget line items.

Approval of FY 2009 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan, Inc. (AAAWM) (PSA 8)

Eric Berke, OSA staff, introduced Sandra Davis from the Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan, Inc. serving Allegan, Ionia, Kent, Lake, Mason, Mecosta, Montcalm, Newaygo, and Osceola Counties.

Mr. Berke stated the plan has been reviewed against the approval criteria and FY 2009 cost allocation plan established by OSA. Compliance with federal regulations and statewide operating standards and policies was confirmed by an assessment of the AAA conducted, July 29, 2008. A public hearing was held on June 2, 2008. No local governments expressed issues of concern regarding the plan.

A special condition has been added to the plan for the continued cooperation and collaboration of AAWM with OSA for implementation of the Nursing Home Diversion (NHD) program. It is expected that AAWM will follow all NHD program and policy instructions issued by OSA. The AoA grant supporting the development of the program ends March 31, 2009. Appendix H – Nutritionist Budget and Appendix L – Waiver of Minimum Percentage for a Priority Service Category – Legal Assistance needs Commission approval.

Mr. Berke stated AAWM persists in developing the programs outlined in its approved Multi-Year Plan; emphasizing the benefits to communities from their experienced, older adults; educating and training older adults to be strong advocates for themselves and others; and, providing support when older adults have needs. Mr. Berke explained the partnership AAWM has with the Grand Rapids Community Foundation in support of the "Creating Communities for a Lifetime" initiative. This partnership resulted in the creation of a roadmap in 2006 to guide activities for making Grand Rapids a community for all ages.

Mr. Berke noted that AAWM also has established a caregivers resource network which allows agencies and individuals that support caregivers the ability to meet and network

on a regular basis. Also, AAAWM has developed a Ride-Link proposal to allow for the coordination of transportation dispatch services multiple providers.

Mr. Berke requested the Commission's approval of the FY 2009 AIP for Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan, Inc.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bieber to approve the FY 2009 AIP for Area Agency on Aging of Western Michigan, Inc. as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rau. Commission approved with a 13-0-0 vote.

A brief discussion followed with Ms. Davis from AAAWM explaining the funding of their programs and how the AAA responds to public input received by the during public hearings.

Approval of FY 2009 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Senior Resources (PSA 14)

Eric Berke, OSA Staff, introduced Amy Florae, Community Services Director for Senior Resources which covers Muskegon, Oceana, and Ottawa Counties.

Mr. Berke stated the plan has been reviewed against the approval criteria and the FY 2009 cost allocation plan established by OSA. Compliance with federal regulations and statewide operating standards and policies was confirmed by the assessment of the area agency conducted August 6, 2008. A public hearing was held on May 7, 2008, with no local governments having any issues of concern regarding the plan. There are no special conditions or appendices requiring approval.

Mr. Berke noted that Senior Resources does not use any grant resources to support their dietitians. Also, during FY 2007 Senior Resources joined in partnership with Porter Hills Retirement Communities and Mercy General Health Partners to bring a PACE project (Program of All-inclusive Care for the Elderly) to Muskegon and northern Ottawa Counties. Mr. Berke announced as a direct result of their partnership with the PACE program, Senior Resources also entered into a collaboration to establish a convenient, centralized, one-stop senior service center to meet the needs of older adults and their families both in Muskegon and throughout the region called Tanglewood Park. Tanglewood Park will house Senior Resources, Nutritional Services for Older Americans, Community Access Line of the Lakeshore (CALL 2-1-1) and LifeCircles PACE. This collaboration will increase visibility and ease of access to senior services, improve effectiveness and efficiency of service delivery to older adults and their families, and expand healthy aging opportunities.

Mr. Berke requested Commission approval of FY 2009 AIP for Senior Resources.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson to approve FY 2009 AIP for Senior Resources as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wright. Commission approved with a 13-0-0 vote.

A brief discussion followed.

Approval of FY 2009 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for the Area Agency on Aging 1-B

Steve Betterly, OSA staff, introduced Tina Abbate-Marzolf, Executive Director of Area Agency on Aging 1-B, which serves Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, St. Clair, and Washtenaw Counties.

Mr. Betterly stated the plan has been reviewed against the approval criteria and the FY 2009 cost allocation plan established by OSA. Compliance with federal regulations and statewide operating standards and policies was confirmed by the assessment of the area agency conducted April 3, 2008 and scheduled for August 5, 2008. A public hearing was held on June 3, 2008, with no local governments having any issues of concern regarding the plan and there are no appendices requiring approval. Mr. Betterly stated the special condition for this plan is AAA 1-B will continue to cooperate and collaborate with OSA for implementation of the Nursing Home Diversion (NDH) program through the end of the grant period and will follow NHD program and policy instructions issued by OSA. Mr. Betterly highlighted the program developments in this AIP.

Mr. Betterly requested Commission approval of FY 2009 AIP for the Area Agency on Aging 1-B.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wright to approve the FY 2009 AIP for the Area Agency on Aging 1-B as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rau. Commission approved with a 13-0-0 vote.

A discussion followed with explanation on the goals of the area agency on aging. Also, discussed were the waiting lists and standby list, along with budget questions. Ms. Abbate-Marzolf also discussed how they prioritize within their programs.

Approval of FY 2009 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Branch-St. Joseph Area Agency on Aging (PSA 3-C)

Steve Betterly, OSA staff, introduced Steven Todd, Executive Director, and Kelly Beem, Program Director, of Branch-St. Joseph Area Agency on Aging, which covers Branch and St. Joseph Counties.

Mr. Betterly stated the plan has been reviewed against the approval criteria and the FY 2009 cost allocation plan established by OSA. Compliance with Federal Regulations and statewide operating standards and policies was confirmed by the assessment of the area agency conducted on April 3, 2008 and August 7, 2008. A public hearing was held on May 22, 2008. No local governments expressed any issues of concern regarding the plan and there are no special conditions or appendices requiring approval. Mr. Betterly highlighted the AIP.

Mr. Betterly requested Commission approval of FY 2009 AIP for Branch-St. Joseph Area Agency on aging (PSA 3-C).

A motion was made by Commissioner Newport to approve the FY 2009 AIP for Branch-St. Joseph Area Agency on Aging (PSA 3-C) as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rau. Commission approved with a 13-0-0 vote.

A brief discussion followed.

Approval of FY 2009 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Region VII Area Agency on Aging

Jan Bowlin, OSA staff, introduced Drew Orvosh, Executive Director, and Zane Rybkowski, Planning Director, for Region VII, which serves Bay, Clare, Gladwin, Gratiot, Huron, Isabella, Midland, Saginaw, Sanilac, and Tuscola Counties.

Ms. Bowlin stated the plan has been reviewed against the approval criteria and the FY 2009 cost allocation plan established by OSA. Compliance with federal regulations and statewide operating standards and policies was confirmed by the assessment of the area agency conducted August 7, 2008. A public hearing was held on April 10, 2008, with no local governments expressing any issues of concern regarding the plan. There are no special conditions requiring approval. Ms. Bowlin noted that Appendix G: Request for Transfer of Funds, Appendix I: Agreement for Recipient of Cash-in-Lieu of Commodity Payments for the Nutrition Program for the Elderly, and Appendix J; Administration of Direct Services require approval.

Ms. Bowlin noted Region VII received a grant from the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging and is participating in the "Medicare Aging Services Network Community Based Enrollment Campaign." This project helps support the My Health/My Medicare outreach effort to help beneficiaries understand their full Medicare benefits. Also, Region VII co-sponsored two Medicare health fairs with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that included many local agencies and provided seniors with information, flu shots, and other preventative screenings. Ms. Bowlin stated Region VII is continuing to focus on outreach using such media as advertising, brochures, website, publication of articles, media interviews and participation in health and information fairs.

Ms. Bowlin requested Commission approval of FY 2009 AIP for Region VII Area Agency on Aging.

A motion was made by Commissioner Verma to approve the FY 2009 AIP for Region VII Area Agency on Aging as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnston-Calati. Commission approved with a 12-0-1 vote with Commissioner Pawelski abstaining.

A brief discussion followed.

Approval of FY 2009 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Region 2 Area Agency on Aging

Sherri King, OSA staff, introduced Ginny Wood-Bailey, Executive Director for Region 2, which serves Hillsdale, Jackson, and Lenawee Counties.

Ms. King stated the plan has been reviewed against the approval criteria and the FY 2009 cost allocation plan established by OSA. Compliance with federal regulations and statewide operating standards and policies was confirmed by the assessment of the area agency conducted July 28, 2008. A public hearing was held on April 22, 2008, with no local governments expressing any issues of concern regarding the plan. There are no special conditions or appendices requiring approval.

Ms. King noted Region 2 recently moved to downtown Brooklyn, which has increased accessibility to the public and has also made it possible for them to be more involved in community activities.

Ms. King highlighted Region 2 accomplishments stating they were one of five regions in the State of Michigan that met or exceeded the goals of “one-on-one counseling” and “total clients reached” in the Medicare and Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP). Region 2 also increased the number of home delivered meals served to homebound older adults in FY 2007-08. The Senior Employment Program is currently at maximum enrollment with several new host sites secured for training opportunities. The AAA is also sponsoring community workshops on the “Matter of Balance: Concerns About Falls Program.” Region 2 continues to present educational information to senior centers and congregate meals sites with a focus on improving the health and nutrition of the participants.

Ms. King requested Commission approval of FY 2009 AIP for Region 2 Area Agency on Aging.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pawelski to approve the FY 2009 AIP for Region 2 Area Agency on Aging as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rau. Commission approved with a 13-0-0 vote.

A discussion followed regarding their program development objectives and issues of concern regarding increased transportation costs related to rising fuel costs. Ms. Wood-Bailey stated that Region 2 does have senior mileages in each of the counties served by the PSA to help offset fuel costs, along with assistance from volunteers. It was also noted that Region 2 has a pet therapy program, which has been very successful. Commissioner Wright also thanked Region 2 for their fall prevention work.

Approval of FY 2009 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Tri-County Office on Aging (TCOA) (PSA 6)

Sherri King, OSA staff, introduced Donna Hobart, Deputy Director for the Tri-County Office on Aging, which serves Ingham, Eaton, and Clinton Counties. Ms. King requested Commission approval of FY 2009 AIP for Tri-County Office on Aging (PSA 6).

Ms. King stated the plan has been reviewed against the approval criteria and the FY 2009 cost allocation plan established by OSA. Compliance with federal regulations and statewide operating standards and policies was confirmed by the assessment of the area agency conducted on July 29, 2008. A public hearing was held on May 8, 2008, and no local governments expressed any issues of concern regarding the plan. Approval is requested for Appendix G: Transfer \$4, 000 from congregate Nutrition Services to Supportive Services for in-home services. A special condition applies that states TCOA will continue to cooperate and collaborate with OSA for implementation of the Nursing Home Diversion (NHD) program through the end of the grant period. It is expected the AAA will follow NDH program and policy instructions issued by OSA.

Ms. King highlighted the AIP stating TCOA continues to promote health and wellness by working with OSA, the Department of Community Health (DCH), Chronic Disease Prevention Department, to promote fitness, "A Matter of Balance", and a variety of other health programs. In conjunction with the Capital Area United Way and other community agencies, Region 6 continues to collaborate with the area faith communities to implement the "Poor at Your Door" initiative. TCOA also conducted a survey of seniors in 2005 and 2006 that showed 16% of the 786 individuals sixty years of age and older would ask their faith community for information. Ms. King announced that approximately 3,000 seniors were assisted in the preparation of their taxes, resulting in cumulative tax return of 2.5 million dollar.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson to approve the FY 2009 AIP for Tri-County Office on Aging as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rau. Commission approved with a 13-0-0 vote.

A brief discussion followed.

Approval of Fiscal Intermediary for the Evidence-Based Disease Prevention Grant Project

Sherri King, OSA staff, requested Commission approval of Tri-County Office on Aging (TCOA) as the fiscal intermediary for staff support to the Evidence-Based Disease Prevention Grant Project. A student intern, currently assigned to OSA, will provide this support to the project for duration of the grant.

Ms. King stated this project will help senior centers in Michigan implement new Evidence-Based Disease Prevention programs, such as "Matter of Balance", the "Stanford Chronic Disease Self-Management program (PATH)" and exercise classes to assist those individuals with arthritis. TCOA has agreed to assume the role of fiscal intermediary for the project period of June 1, 2008 to May 31, 2009. The amount

requested is \$7,100. From this amount, TCOA is allowed up to 8.5% for administrative expenses.

A motion was made by Commissioner Pawelski to approve the selection of TCOA as the fiscal intermediary for the Evidence-Based Disease Prevention Grant Project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Newport. Commission approved with a 13-0-0 vote.

A brief discussion followed.

Approval of Distribution of Long Term Care (LTC) Ombudsman Title VII/A Funding

Bonnie Graham, OSA staff, requested Commission approval to distribute \$140,000 in federal Older Americans Act funding (Title VII/A) to existing local long term care ombudsman grantees on behalf of Sarah Slocum, State Long Term Care Ombudsman. In addition, it is requested the OSA Director be granted authority to make administrative adjustments in the identified grant levels, not to exceed five percent (5%) of the total grant amount, when final funding levels become available. These allocations are determined based on the funding formula established for the Ombudsman program.

Ms. Graham stated the funds will be used to support ongoing local ombudsman services which include: complaint intake and resolution, consumer and family support in selecting long term care options, and educational outreach to residents, providers and others regarding residents' rights, abuse prevention and reporting and other related topics.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wright to approve the Distribution of LTC Ombudsman Title VII/A Funding as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnson-Calati. Commission approved with a 13-0-0 vote.

A brief discussion followed.

INFORMATION AND COMMENTS

Other

Chairperson Kennedy asked for a volunteer from the Commission to serve as chairperson of the State Advisory Council. A new chair is needed following the expiration of Commissioner Walters term of membership on the Commission.

Commissioner Pawelski volunteered to chair of the State Advisory Council. Commission approved unanimously by voice vote.

Commissioner Leung announced the winners of the 2008 Senior Citizen of the Year awards. Johnnie Rodebush of Niles received the award for Leadership, and William and Ellen Head of Fraser were named co-recipients for Service.

Commissioner Verma informed the Commission that "India Day" held last Sunday, stating it was a well attended and exciting event.

Commissioner Wilson announced that approximately 600 volunteers were recognized for their assistance with the Meals on Wheels program. She also attended a ground breaking at Fraser Villa, a long term care facility in Macomb County, to add a new rehabilitation facility. In conjunction with Senior Services, CARE, and Macomb County Mental Health a presentation regarding depression, substance abuse and misuse will be conducted in September, 2008.

Commissioner Newport announced a Senior Summit will be held in northeast Michigan on September 25, 2008.

Chairperson Kennedy announced she participated in a radio show, hosted by the Detroit Area Agency on Aging, on the importance of advocacy for older adults.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the Commission on Services to the Aging will be held at 10:00 a.m. on September 19, 2008, in Room 2-D at the former location of the Office of Services to the Aging in Lansing. Please plan on attending the full day as the Commission will be continue review of the FY 2009 Area Agencies on Aging AIPs and other grant allocations.

The next meeting of the State Advisory Council will be October 9, 2008.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Wright and seconded by Commissioner Pawelski. Chairperson Kennedy adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.