

MICHIGAN COMMISSION ON SERVICES TO THE AGING (CSA)
Ramada Lansing Hotel and Conference Center
7501 W. Saginaw Hwy., Lansing
January, 15, 2010
Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Rau, on behalf of 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.

ROLL CALL

The roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Owen Bieber, Cheryl Bollinger, Mary Gardner, Rose Gill, Kathleen Johnston-Calati, Valerie Lafferty, Donald Newport, Anthony Pawelski, Thomas Rau, Ramesh Verma, Janice Wilson, and James Wright

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT (Excused)

Joan Budden, Jerutha Kennedy, and Amne Talab

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT (Un-excused)

None

OFFICE OF SERVICES TO THE AGING (OSA) STAFF PRESENT

Sharon Gire, Peggy Brey, Eric Berke, Bonnie Graham, Cindy Albrecht, Janis Bowlin, Jane Church, Dan Doezema, Sherri King, Sally Steiner, Tanya Bishop, and Holliace Spencer

VISITORS/GUEST PRESENT

Anne Holmes Davis, Ginny Wood-Bailey, Dona Wishart, Cynthia Paul, Carolyn LeJuste, Lynn Kellogg, RoAnne Chaney, Bob Brown, Jason Maciejewski, Kristi Hollingsworth, Cherie Mollison, Elke Doom, Octavia Smith, and Bob Cochrane

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

Commissioner Wilson made the motion to approve the minutes from the November 20, 2009 meeting. Commissioner Johnston-Calati 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 everyone to the meeting and updated the Commission on the following:

- ❖ The State of the State will be held February 3, 2010, with the Governor's budget presentation on February 11, 2010
- ❖ Revenue Estimating Conference
- ❖ Phone conference call with Kathy Greenlee, U.S. Assistant Secretary to Aging from the Administration on Aging (AoA)
- ❖ OSA staff, Holliace Spencer, David Dekker, and Eric Berke were all recognized for 35+ years of service
- ❖ The beginning of the initiation of the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act (OAA). Director Gire will attend a meeting in February with other State Unit on Aging Directors to discuss issues and concerns with AoA with regards to the reauthorization of the OAA.
- ❖ OSA will apply for another Recovery Act grant
- ❖ Commissioner Rau was appointed to the Long Term Care (LTC) Commission. Along with Jonathan Mead, Executive Director for U.P. Area Agency on Aging, Mary Ablan, Director of Area Agency on Aging Association of Michigan; and Roane Chaney, Program Manager for the Michigan Disability Rights Coalition (MDRC), was named Chair of the LTC Commission

A brief discussion followed.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Approval of Proposed Amendment to FY 2010 Area Implementation Plan (AIP) for The Senior Alliance (TSA) (PSA 1-C)

Janis Bowlin, OSA staff, introduced Mr. Bob Brown, Executive Director for TSA. Mr. Brown introduced Jason Maciejewski, Director of Planning; Kristi Hollingsworth, Quality Manager; Cherie Mollison, Consultant; Elko Doom, TSA Board member; and Octavia Smith, TSA Board member.

Ms. Bowlin requested Commission approval of proposed amendments to FY 2010 AIP to remove The Senior Alliance special conditions. Ms. Bowlin described the special conditions as follows:

Special Condition 1: Address the conflict of interest risk with the Board Finance Chairperson, who is a service provider, by removing as an authorized signature for TSA payments to vendors.

Ms. Bowlin stated TSA appointed a replacement for the Board Finance Chairperson who poses no conflict of interest.

Special Condition 2: Restructure TSA Board of Directors in a manner that eliminates any current or future potential risk of conflict of interest for board membership. Current board membership has been found to be non-compliant with operational by-laws, OSA standards and regulations in that conflict of interest risk exists with the membership as it stands.

Ms. Bowlin stated the restructure of the TSA Board of Directors was completed with TSA Ad Hoc committee's recommendation for revised operational by-laws, and those by-laws were approved effective December 10, 2009. The adoption of new operational by-laws provided mechanism for new board member appointments, assuring compliance with requirements to remove membership conflict of interest.

Special Condition 3: Restructure of TSA Board of Directors draft plan due by November 1, 2009, with implementation of board restructure to begin January 1, 2010.

Ms. Bowlin stated with the adoption of new operational by-laws, as approved by the full board, provided appointment of new board members under the new board structure, and those by-laws were immediately effective.

Special Condition 4: Submit monthly progress reports to OSA by the 15th of each month for status updates on Special Conditions 1, 2, and 3, beginning October 15, 2009.

Ms. Bowlin stated all monthly progress reports were submitted in a timely, efficient manner and contained all of the elements required for compliance related to status update for all special conditions. OSA will continue to monitor board meetings without the need for monthly status updates.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bollinger to approve the Proposed Amendment to the FY 2010 AIP for The Senior Alliance, Inc. as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bieber. Commission approved with a 12-0-0 vote.

Mr. Brown talked briefly about the reorganization of TSA Board of Directors and the special conditions.

Approval of Wayne County Elder Friendly – Livable Community Leadership Team Application for 2009 Community for a Lifetime Recognition for the City of Inkster

Mr. Doezema stated the panel reviewed the Wayne County Elder Friendly-Livable Community Leadership Team application for recognition of their assessment of the City of Inkster on December 22, 2009. Mr. Doezema stated the assessment team used the original Michigan Community for a Lifetime (CFL) Assessment with additional questions developed by the community group. The assessment covered, walkability, access to health care, transportation, safety and security, housing, supportive community systems, commerce, enrichment and inclusion. The strengths of the assessment were acknowledged in the memorandum prepared by the review panel for the Commission.

Mr. Doezema requested the Wayne County Elder Friendly-Livable Community Leadership Team be approved for recognition of their community assessment of the City of Inkster.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson to approve the Wayne County Elder Friendly – Livable Community Leadership Team application for the 2009 Community for a Lifetime recognition for the City of Inkster and seconded by Commissioner Newport. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

A brief discussion followed with Commissioner Johnston-Calati inquiring if the City of Inkster has voice crosswalks. Mr. Doezema stated not that he was aware of, but a great idea.

Approval of Direct Service Waiver for Region 2 Area Agency on Aging (AAA)

Sherri King, OSA staff, introduced Ginny Wood Bailey, Executive Director of Region 2 AAA. Ms. King requested Commission approval of a Direct Service Waiver for Region 2 AAA for Medication Management in the amount of \$5,471 for the period of the Multi-Year Plan (MYP) 2010-2012.

Ms. King noted Region 2 AAA released a request for proposal on June 29, 2009, which included a legal notice in three county newspapers and letters to interested agencies. A proposal review committee read the proposals.

Ms. King covered the medication management objectives in detail with the Commission.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wright to approve the Direct Service Waiver for Region 2 AAA for Medication Management as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnston-Calati. Commission approved with a 12-0-0 vote.

A brief discussion followed.

Approval of Grant to MMAP, Inc. for Long Term Care (LTC) Insurance Counseling

Jane Church, OSA staff, is requesting Commission approval for a grant award in the amount of \$24,000 to MMAP, Inc. for the purpose of training Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program regional coordinators and volunteer counselors in the basics of LTC insurance, and to provide ongoing support to the coordinators/counselors throughout FY 2010. In addition, funding will be provided to cover the cost of printing an updated version of the MMAP publication entitled "Long Term Care Insurance Comparison Guide.

Ms. Church noted the source of funding is a seed grant awarded by the Center for Health Care Strategies (CHCS) to the former Department of Community Health (DCH) Office of LTC Supports and Services in 2007 to assist in the implementation of a long term care insurance partnership program.

Ms. Church gave a history of the grant and the roadblocks they encountered. Ms. Church noted because of roadblocks she discussed with CHCS and OSA on how the funds could be used to provide long term care counseling for the public instead of a long term care insurance partnership program.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson to approve the grant to MMAP, Inc. for LTC insurance counseling as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Johnston-Calati. Commission approved with a 12-0-0 vote.

A brief discussion followed with Commissioner Rau inquiring how the partnership between CHCS and OSA worked together to resolve the roadblocks and put the funds to good use. Ms. Church noted that bookmarks are being made as a resource of information on “how to” and “why do I need LTC insurance” in English, Arabic and Spanish.

Approval of Creating Confident Caregivers: Master Trainer Certification

Sally Steiner, OSA staff, requested Commission approval to award Debra Monroe, MSW, of the Area Agency on Aging of Northwest Michigan, with a Master Trainer Certification for the Creating Confident Caregivers Program.

Ms. Steiner stated Ms. Monroe successfully fulfilled all the required activities. Her pilot trainings, solo training, and personal essay reflect her understanding of the Creating Confident Caregivers Program and she has scored highly as an effective trainer.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gardner to approve the recommendation for certification of Ms. Monroe as Creating Confident Caregivers Master Trainer and seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Ms. Monroe was present via conference call to accept her certification and talked briefly about her experience in the program. Commissioner Rau thanked Ms. Monroe for her participation in the program.

INFORMATION AND COMMENT

State Profile Tool Grant

Jane Church, OSA staff, introduced RoAnne Chaney and Carolyn LeJuste, from Michigan Disability Rights Coalition (MDRC). A presentation on the new State Profile Tool (SPT) grant. Ms. Church stated the SPT grant is a profile of publicly-funded long term care services. Ms. Church covered the systems transformation initiatives and the factors that drive the systems transformation. Ms. Church noted that ten states were chosen to participate in this grant. Ms. Church discussed the two phases of the grant in detail and gave a snapshot of Michigan’s profile. Also shown were the profile findings of the strengths and challenges Michigan will face.

Creating Confident Caregivers, The Savvy Caregiver

Sally Steiner, OSA staff, gave a presentation updating the Commission on the Savvy Caregiver Program. Ms. Steiner noted that currently three states are using the Savvy Caregiver-Michigan, Maine, and California. Ms. Steiner, in detail, explained the components of the program, the project activities, the evaluation, fidelity monitoring, and project partners. Ms. Steiner also covered the goals for year two of the project.

Alternative Funding Sources for Aging Services

A presentation was given by Lynn Kellogg, Executive Director for Region IV Area Agency on Aging, and Bob Cochrane, Executive Director for Cass County Council on Aging (Cass Coal) and Director of the Michigan Directors of Services to the Aging (MDSA) on alternative funding sources for aging services.

Lynn Kellogg showed a presentation on results from the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) survey. Ms. Kellogg stated the area agencies on aging were graded on organizational capacity with a grade of 87.5, consumer direction with a grade of 87.5, private pay with a grade of 65.8, and outreach and Business with a grade of 76.9. Ms. Kellogg discussed the characteristics of AAAs with graphs of proportion of agencies with funds from various sources, most common partnerships.

Mr. Cochrane provided information on MDSA, stating they are a statewide organization of local service providers who represent multi-purpose human service agencies. He stated their mission is to enhance the lives of senior citizens through advocacy and education. Mr. Cochrane showed a profile of those they serve. He also covered, in detail, all the funding sources that are utilized to support the many programs MDSA and Cass Coal support. Mr. Cochrane talked about the Cass CoA programs and the effect it has on the community.

Other

Commissioner Wilson stated she heard Director Gire on a public service announcement reminding everyone the importance of the up-coming Census count. Commissioner Gardner noted the census data will now include same-sex unmarried partners in their count.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the Commission on Services to the Aging will be held at 10:00 a.m. on February 19, 2010 via conference call or you may come to the Office of Services to the Aging, 300 East Michigan Ave, Third Floor, Lansing.

The next State Advisory Council meeting will be held on March 4, 2010 via conference call and Commissioner Johnston-Calati will be the guest Commissioner.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Verma and seconded by Commissioner Wilson. Commissioner Rau adjourned the meeting at 12:15 p.m.