

MICHIGAN COMMISSION ON SERVICES TO THE AGING
Owen Bieber Building, 3300 Leonard Street, NE; Grand Rapids, MI
March 16, 2012 @10:00 A.M.

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Kennedy called the meeting to order at 10:00 A.M.

Commissioner Kennedy welcomed the Commissioners. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Kennedy thanked Commissioner Bieber, President Emeritus, and Gerald Kariem, Regional Director, of the UAW 1-D, for hosting the meeting in their building, and for the wonderful work they do.

Director Kariem welcomed the Commissioners to the Owen Bieber Building, recognizing President Emeritus Bieber as an American labor movement activist and hometown hero. He thanked the Commission for the opportunity to serve them and wished them a very productive meeting and hearing.

ROLL CALL

The Commission roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Jerutha Kennedy, Owen Bieber, Shannon English, Gerald Irby, Kathleen Johnston-Calati, Harold Mast, Jeffery Schade, Michael Sheehan, Ramesh Verma, Janice Wilson, James Wright and Kristie Zamora.

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT (Excused)

Donald Newport, Anthony Pawelski and Amne Talab.

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT (Un-excused)

None.

OFFICE OF SERVICES TO THE AGING (OSA) STAFF PRESENT

Kari Sederburg, Carol Dye, Bonnie Graham, Sherri King, Wendi Middleton, and Sarah Slocum.

VISITORS/GUEST PRESENT

Pam Curtis, Director, Senior Resources, Region 14 AAA.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Irby to approve the agenda. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

Commissioner Kennedy asked for a motion to approve the February 17, 2012 minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Sheehan to approve the February 17, 2012 minutes. Commissioner Verma seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

INFORMATION FROM INDIVIDUALS OR DELEGATIONS CONCERNING AGENDA ITEMS

Commissioner Irby provided brochures put together by Marquette County alternative high school students, which will be distributed to 19 local townships in support of the upcoming senior millage.

OSA DIRECTOR REPORT

Chairperson Kennedy asked Director Kari Sederburg for her report.

Director Sederburg reported OSA completed budget presentations to the Senate and House Appropriations Committees, noting it looks like OSA will continue with the same funding levels as last year, plus \$1.1 million in program enhancements towards Alzheimer's, Dementia, elder abuse and the Aging and Disability Resource Centers regional partnership collaborations. OSA hopes to see a finalized budget this summer.

Commissioner Kennedy asked if the Commission needs to advocate to the Legislators to follow the Governor's recommendations.

Director Sederburg stated the Commission sent a letter to the Governor, which was included in their folders, but if anything further is needed, we would let them know.

Commissioner Mast stated he attended a meeting of the Kent County Advocates for Seniors, an active group who decided to send a letter to legislators, at the suggestion of Representative MacGregor, to advocate for a five percent increase in OSA's budget for each of the next three years.

Commissioner Irby asked if he could receive a copy of that letter

Commissioner Mast stated it would go out in the next couple of weeks.

Commissioner Johnston-Calati asked if there were concerns about funding being spent on transitions, noting there's only enough to transition about 200 more people out of nursing homes because of the legacy costs.

Director Sederburg stated she was not at the hearing on the Medicaid budget, where that program is housed, but noted there are concerns that it's not enough money for transitions, and she will follow up with the Medicaid office and report back.

Director Sederburg stated the 14 elder abuse bills are in the House Committee of the Families, Children & Seniors and they passed out Senate Bill 466, the senior alert bill, which will go to the full House for a vote soon, and the other bills are also moving along.

Director Sederburg stated OSA management will hold a retreat to review the overall flow of OSA, clarify the visions, priorities and alignment, and include discussion on OSA's expanded communications strategy to aid in drafting OSA's three-year state plan, as required by AoA, which will be reported on back to the Commission.

Director Sederburg stated she will interview nine candidates for the deputy director position next week with Commissioner Kennedy, and the deputy director of Community Health, noting three other positions are in the works as well.

Director Sederburg thanked Commissioner Bieber for hosting today's meeting, and she congratulated him on receiving the Nelson Mandela Award.

Commissioner Bieber provided insightful discussion leading up to his award.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Requested Approval to De-obligate Evidence-Based Disease Prevention (EBDP) Grant Funding

Sherri King, OSA staff, requested approval to de-obligate EBDP grant funding.

Ms. King stated she previously asked the Commission for approval of two training programs, one for master trainers in chronic pain self-management, and for the Spanish version of the PATH Program. A survey of the aging network showed a lot of interest in the chronic pain training, and very little response to the Spanish training, so to utilize the funding appropriately, it was decided \$31,500 should be de-obligated and reallocated.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bieber to approve the de-obligation of the EBDP grant funding as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sheehan.

Discussion followed and the Commission approved with a 12-0-0 vote.

Requested Approval for Evidence-Based Disease Prevention (EBDP) Grant

Sherri King, OSA staff, requested approval for EBDP grants.

Ms. King stated the \$31,500 in de-obligated funds, along with an additional \$50,410 from the same funding source be reallocated to AAA Regions 2, 8 and 11 to conduct EBDP programs, including PATH, Matter of Balance, and nutritional programs.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wilson to approve the EBDP grants, as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Mast.

Commissioner Verma asked the memo be amended to reflect correct dollar amounts.

A motion to amend the memo was made by Commissioner Mast. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Wilson.

Brief discussion followed and the Commission approved with a 12-0-0 vote.

Approval to Distribute Grant Funds from Money Follows the Person (MFP) Project, Option C to MDRC

Sarah Slocum, OSA staff, requested approval to distribute grant funds from MFP Project, Option C to MDRC.

Ms. Slocum stated these federal grant funds from Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services is aimed at people who use long term care services to live in settings of their choice and to get the services they need and want in that setting. The Ombudsman program seeks to expand their services through this pilot project into home care and adult foster care homes for clients using MIChoice services under the MFP project and they've been working to get a program of advocacy for people not living in a licensed long term care setting where ombudsmen services are already available. Ms. Slocum stated \$146,655 would be distributed through Michigan Disability Rights Coalition, who would act as a fiduciary, to pay for three part-time advocates to assist those who move out of nursing facilities into their own home, or a home for the aged with MIChoice services.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wright for approval to distribute grant funds from MFP Project, Option C to MDRC as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bieber.

Discussion followed and the Commission approved with an 11-0-1 vote.

INFORMATION AND COMMENTS

Overview of Senior Project Fresh

Sherri King, OSA staff, provided handouts and an overview of Senior Project Fresh, a program of the Federal USDA, and part of the Farm Bill to help promote Michigan's agriculture, farmers, and to provide quality nutrition for older adults, noting this program allows purchase of locally grown produce for those 60 years or older; lives in a county that participates; and has a total household income of up to 185 percent of poverty.

Clarify Five Percent Adjustment Clause on CSA Memos

Bonnie Graham, OSA staff, stated OSA has recently started to include language in the Commission memos asking for flexibility to adjust funding levels for some of the grants by five percent. OSA tends to bring approval requests early, so when Federal Notice of Grant Awards are received and are different than indicated earlier, then it must come

back to the Commission for re-approval. At times, grants may come in a timeframe that doesn't allow OSA to bring the allocations before the Commission prior to funds needing to be spent on services in the community, so the five percent flexibility rule allows OSA to adjust accordingly without having to bring it back to the Commission again.

Overview of the Governor's Dashboard

Director Kari Sederburg provided handouts addressing how OSA is accountable, what is reported, and who we report to, noting OSA reports progress to the Governor's office once a month. The Governor is launching Open Michigan, a website that contains his metrics and will be open to the public. Director Sederburg will update the Commission on OSA's progress as well, and add an overview of the Aging and Disability Resource Centers to the May agenda.

SAC Bylaws Revisions Review

Wendi Middleton, OSA staff, provided the newly drafted State Advisory Council (SAC) Bylaws revisions as proposed by a committee composed of Commissioners Pawelski, Mast and Sheehan, and SAC member, Michael Bartus, with OSA staff, Sally Steiner.

Ms. Middleton stated the rules say they must be presented to the Commission and allow 30 days for input, and then the revisions will come up for vote at the April meeting.

Commissioner Sheehan reviewed the changes and clarified the issues they addressed.

Ms. Middleton stated she handed out SAC applications for the upcoming appointments to the CSA's SAC nomination committee, which will be voted upon at the May meeting.

Commissioner Kennedy touted the importance of the work the SAC does and Director Sederburg offered to provide previous reports to highlight their role.

Additional discussion followed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Kennedy announced following this meeting, the Commission will hold a public hearing on the State Plan from 1:30 – 3:00 PM.

Commissioner Kennedy noted at a previous hearing, there was strong testimony related to educating Legislators on the need for assisted living and adult foster care homes to be regulated to address abuse in those settings, and asked the Commission to be proactive in advocating for this.

Director Sederburg noted licensing is handled through the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.

Ms. Slocum stated there are a number of system changes that OSA staff and the Commission can pursue for advocacy planning on what goals would be most helpful for those living, and people working, in unlicensed settings to ensure quality and safety,

which is related to future elder abuse prevention planning, noting the Ombudsman is currently very involved in that, as well as elder abuse prevention and how to coordinate better with adult protective services.

Commissioners Kennedy, Irby and Mast volunteered to be on a committee to begin this process.

The Commission on Services to the Aging and the Council on Aging will hold a joint meeting at 10:00 AM on Friday, April 20, 2012, at the Ramada Lansing Hotel and Conference Center located at 7501 W. Saginaw Hwy., in Lansing.

The Senior Citizen of the Year Award event will be held on Wednesday, June 20, 2012, on the lawn of the State Capital in conjunction with the 5th annual Older Michigianians Day, noting nomination forms are being sent, are available through OSA, and can be found on OSA's website at www.michigan.gov/miseniors.

Commissioner Irby requested discussion on Meals on Wheels at a future meeting.

Commissioner Wilson discussed a very important public hearing she attended, held by the AAA 1-B and Community Mental Health with senior services on dual diagnosis with state Representative Lesia Liss to address drug abuse by those of all ages.

Director Sederburg stated the draft plan of Integrated Care for those who are dually eligible for Medicare and Medicaid was released last week, which she sent to the Commissioners, noting there are two public hearings on this; one on March 20th in Lansing, and one on March 29th in Detroit, and she'll e-mail the info.

Director Sederburg stated OSA provided a large packet on Communications, and asked if it was helpful. The Commission agreed it is.

Commissioner Sheehan stated Director Sederburg's editorial appeared in the Traverse City Record Eagle.

Commissioner Kennedy thanked Director Sederburg for following through all on the Commission's concerns, and asked to include a discussion on AIDS and seniors at a future meeting.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Kennedy asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Irby. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sheehan. The motion to adjourn was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Commissioner Kennedy adjourned the meeting at 12:38 A.M.