

MICHIGAN COMMISSION ON SERVICES TO THE AGING

Holiday Inn West Conference Center

7501 West Saginaw Hwy., Lansing

October 20, 2006

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER

At the request of Chairperson Kennedy, who was unable to attend today's meeting, Commissioner Guilfoyle will be acting Chair. Commissioner Guilfoyle called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. and reiterated the role of the Commission. Commissioner Guilfoyle led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

The roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Cheryl Bollinger, Rose Gill, Annette Guilfoyle, Chun-Keung Leung, Donald Newport, Anthony Pawelski, Thomas Rau, William Walters IV, Janice Wilson, and James Wright

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT (Excused)

Owen Bieber, Jerutha Kennedy, Albert Lewis, Ramesh Verma, and Sonia Harb

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT (Un-excused)

None

OSA STAF PRESENT

Bonnie Graham, Cindy Albrecht, Steve Betterly, Janis Bowlin, Peggy Brey, Sharon Gire, Pamela Hall, Sherri King, Laura McMurtry, Wendi Middleton, Holliace Spencer, and Sally Steiner

VISITORS/GUEST PRESENT

Jim McGuire, Alice Andrews, Karla Fales, Conrad Kramer, and Tom Horwath

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Wright made the motion to approve today's agenda. Commissioner Newport 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 September 15, 2006, meeting. Commissioner Bollinger seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously by voice vote.

INFORMATION FROM INDIVIDUALS CONCERNING AGENDA ITEMS

None.

OSA DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Gire shared the following:

EVENTS

- Attended the U.P. Women's Summit in Marquette
- Attended the U.P. Senior Day Convention and Expo in Escanaba
- Attended RSVP recognition dinner in Houghton
- Traveled to Saginaw and visited a senior center
- Traveled to Waterford for the grand opening of Waterford Senior Center
- Traveled to Monroe for the National Adult Services Week at Frenchtown Senior Center
- Spoke at UAW Local 1231 in Grand Rapids
- Spoke at UAW Local 160 in Warren
- Spoke to MEA Retirees for St. Clair/Macomb and Livingston Counties
- Attended Older Workers Workshop in Macomb sponsored by AARP
- Visited RSVP Catholic Social Services of Wayne County
- Attended Senior Appreciation Day at Cobo Hall in Detroit
- Senior Empowerment Day 2006 was held in Traverse City
- Spoke to seniors from Independence Village Retirement Community in East Lansing regarding healthy living
- Valley Area Agency on Aging invited Director Gire to speak on their Healthy Aging Show
- Attended the Governor's Tea

UPDATES

- Reauthorization of Older Americans Act was signed into law. Sally Steiner will expand on this later in the meeting.
- The Advisory Commission on Long Term Care Support and Services will be meeting Monday, November 23, 2006, the public is welcome.
- The Elder Abuse Task Force Report should be available by the end of the calendar year.
- The White House Conference on Aging Final Report has been received.

Commissioner Guilfoyle updated the Commission on the status of the resolution adopted last month regarding the Michigan Senate's refusal to consider board and commission appointments made by the Governor. Commissioner Guilfoyle stated upon further research by OSA staff, it was determined the issue only affected appointments for terms of office that had not yet expired. In addition, similar to our own Commission, members remain active until such time a replacement is named for them. Therefore, it was determined that a letter to the Legislature citing the resolution would serve no productive purpose.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Approval of FY 2007-09 Multi-Year Plan (MYP)/2007 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) for Region 3-B Area Agency on Aging

Steve Betterly, OSA staff, introduced Conrad Kramer, Region 3-B AAA Executive Director, Karla Fales, Program Administrator, and Tom Horwath, CFO.

Mr. Betterly stated that Region 3-B is in compliance with OSA's operating standards and policies. Public hearings regarding the plan were held on May 10 and 11, 2006. Included in the MYP/AIP is a summary of the public hearings. In addition, the area agency submitted a copy of the MYP/AIP to each local unit of government within the planning and service area. No local governments raised any issues of concern regarding the plans.

Mr. Betterly reviewed the special conditions recommended for approval of the MYP/AIP. These special conditions include: 1. AAA 3-B shall complete development and implement its 2006-2009 Strategic Plan in order to stabilize the organization's long term financial health; 2. AAA 3-B shall maintain the Burnham Brook Corporation, which includes the Burnham Brook facility as the designated AAA; and, 3. AAA 3-B shall maintain a balanced budget for FY 2007.

Several appendices were presented that require Commission approval: Appendix F – Regional Service Definitions for guardianship and gap filling and Appendix J – Waiver for Direct Provision of Service for care management, case coordination and support, information and assistance, transportation, disease prevention/health promotion, senior center staffing, elder abuse/exploitation prevention, and National Family Caregiver Support (NFCS) program.

Mr. Betterly stated that OSA has also determined, and incorporated into its FY 2004-2007 State Plan, that access services, including outreach, information and assistance, care management, and case coordination and support services are directly related to area agency functions, and may be provided directly by area agencies in Michigan.

Mr. Betterly requested Commission approval of the FY 2007-09 MYP and 2007 AIP for Region 3-B Area Agency on Aging.

A motion was made by Commissioner Wright to approve the FY 2007-09 MYP and 2007 AIP for Region 3-B Area Agency on Aging and seconded by Commissioner Wilson. The Commission approved with a 10-0-0 vote.

A brief discussion followed with Commissioners requesting information on their transportation program. Ms. Fales gave a summary of their program. It was also noted that their senior mileage passed, which allows 3-B AAA to expand their services.

INFORMATION AND COMMENTS

Senior Community Services Employment Program (SCSEP) – Revised Allocations for Program Year (PY) 2006 Award

Laura McMurtry, OSA staff, presented a summary of the revised SCSEP PY 2006 Allocations.

Ms. McMurtry stated that the Commission approved the continuation awards for three (3) months (7/1/2006 – 9/30/2006) and the remaining nine (9) months (10/10/2006 – 6/30/2007), which were calculated based on estimated budget figures for the program year.

The Office of Services to the Aging (OSA) received notification from the United States Department of Labor (USDOL) the PY 2006 allotment was being adjusted in the amount of \$19,989, which resulted in adjustments to all of the PY 2006 funding allocations awarded to SCSEP sub-grantees. As the Commission has already approved the PY 2006 funding allocations at the higher level, the revised allocations are informational only given OSA cannot allocate funds in excess of the federal Statement of Grant Award.

October 5, 2006 State Advisory Council Meeting Report

Commissioner Rau gave the State Advisory Council report from the meeting conducted October 5, 2006. Mr. Paul McConaughy, Program Leader for Family & Consumer Sciences, MSU Extension, gave a presentation regarding the certification process for the Michigan Community Lifetime Award Recognition Program. MSU Extension would like the SAC to be involved in the process and forward recommendations to the Commission for approval. Mr. Rau stated there are two counties participating as pilot programs for the process, Otsego and Ottawa. Commissioner Rau also expressed concern that MSU Extension is not sure of what role it will play in the future of this process given changing priorities within the organization. He encouraged the Commission to look at what alternatives might exist to maintain the program, as it is a worthwhile activity.

Other topics of discussed at the SAC meeting were the Vision/Mission/Values Statement for the Michigan Recovery Council, and an overview of the roles and responsibilities of partners in the Michigan aging network.

Older Americans Act (OAA) Reauthorization

Sally Steiner, OSA staff, provided a handout on the changes to the Older Americans Act (OAA) and briefed the Commission to the changes to the Act resulting from the reauthorization process. A major change to how the federal funding formula will affect Michigan although a “hold-harmless” clause was inserted as a compromise allowing the reauthorization to pass. Ms. Steiner also highlighted several major changes to the Act including the expanded authority of the Assistant Secretary, as well as, expanded emphasis on Aging and Resource Disability Centers, self-directed care, mental health services for older adults and evidence-based health promotion programs.

Region 1-B Senior Center Enhancement and Promotion Task Force Report

Jim McGuire, Director of Planning and Advocacy, AAA 1-B and Alice Andrews, Director of Hartland Senior Center, presented the Senior Center Enhancement and Promotion Task Force Report.

Mr. McGuire did an overview on how senior centers have changed over the years to a multipurpose senior center and how that affects the role of senior centers. A multipurpose senior center is defined by the Older Americans Act as a “community facility for the organization and provision of a broad spectrum of services, which shall include provision of health (including mental health), social, nutritional, and educational services, and facilities for recreational activities for older individuals.” The Task Force believes that a multipurpose senior center is an important component of an elder-friendly community’s infrastructure, and necessary to sustain a high quality of community life for older residents as well as promote healthy independent lifestyles.

The charge of the task force was to:

- Examine ways that senior centers can be enhanced to more closely address the interests of today’s diverse older adult population and meet the expectations of a multipurpose senior center.
- Consider strategies to increase the visibility of senior centers.
- Increase the public’s understanding of what senior centers have to offer.
- Identify ways that the AAA 1-B and senior centers can contribute to and benefit from the strengthening of Region 1-B senior centers.

Mr. McGuire stated that although the Task Force focused on the senior centers in PSA 1-B, the work and recommendations could also benefit senior centers statewide. The Commissioners thanked Mr. McGuire and Ms. Andrews for a very informative presentation and indicated they would take the report and recommendations under advisement. Commissioner Guilfoyle reminded everyone that local governments are facing very serious financial concerns given the issues surrounding revenue sharing and the elimination of the SBT.

Transportation for Older Adults

Pamela Hall, OSA staff, presented a synopsis of the Michigan’s Senior Transportation Network Report. Ms. Hall stated that transportation should be available, accessible, acceptable, affordable, and adaptable. Ms. Hall covered national senior transportation statistics, demographics, current modes of transportation, public transit/specialized services, volunteer driver programs, AAA data, and OSA advocacy efforts. Also covered were the Michigan’s Senior Transportation Network Report recommendations.

Other

Commissioner Walters, Kennedy, and Pawelski visited the Council on Aging, Gladwin/Clare Counties on October 6. Commissioner Walters also announced that on October 13 Blue Cross/Blue Shield had their Advisory Council Annual meeting, which

was very informative. On November 8, the annual senior prom in Sanilac County will take place.

Commissioner Bollinger stated that she has been able to distribute many of the State Advisory Council Report on Mental Health Services for Older Adults to organizations that she works with across the state. Comments regarding the report have been very favorable.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A copy of the September Corrective Plan of Action progress report from The Senior Alliance is included in the Commission folders.

The next meeting of the Commission on Services to the Aging will be held at 10:00 a.m. on November 17, 2006 at the Holiday Inn West Conference Center, Lansing. Following this meeting a strategic planning session for the Commission will be held.

The next meeting of the State Advisory Council will be held on December 7, 2006, 9:30 a.m. at the Holiday Inn West Conference Center, Lansing. Commissioner Bollinger volunteered to attend the next State Advisory Council meeting.

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Pawelski and seconded by Commissioner Rau. Acting Chairperson Guilfoyle adjourned the meeting at 12:30 p.m.