

**MICHIGAN COMMISSION ON SERVICES TO THE AGING  
CONFERENCE CALL MEETING**  
Office of Services to the Aging, 300 E. Michigan Ave., 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor; Lansing, MI  
December 13, 2013 @10:00 AM

**MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Commissioner Mast called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M.

**COMMISSION ROLL CALL**

The Commission roll call was taken and a quorum was present. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT**

Harold Mast, Douglas Chalgian, Shannon English, Joan Ilardo, Gerald Irby, Donna Murray-Brown, Donald Newport, Richard Ortega, Renee' Parnell, Patricia Rencher, Jeffery Schade, Michael Sheehan, and Kristie Zamora.

**COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT**

Michael Burri.

**OFFICE OF SERVICES TO THE AGING (OSA) STAFF PRESENT**

Kari Sederburg, Rhonda Powell, Wendi Middleton, Sarah Slocum, Sally Steiner, Scott Wamsley and Carol Dye.

**VISITORS/GUESTS PRESENT**

None.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Commissioner Mast asked to add, "Discuss Senate Bill 636 AT&T Landline Bill" to the agenda, and asked for a motion to approve the amended agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Schade to approve the amended agenda. Commissioner Parnell seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

**APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES**

Commissioner Mast asked for a motion to approve the November 15, 2013, CSA minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ortega to approve the minutes. Commissioner Sheehan seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

**INFORMATION FROM INDIVIDUALS OR DELEGATIONS CONCERNING AGENDA ITEMS**

None.

**COMMISSION CHAIR REPORT**

Commissioner Mast attended a meeting of the Michigan State Housing Development Authority, Affordable Assisted Living Subcommittee, to analyze two projects going on, and they inquired about the Commission letter to the Governor recommending a committee be convened to define "Assisted Living." He will notify the CSA if the Governor decides to form a committee.

Commissioner Mast recognized Sally Steiner for her service to the State Advisory Council, and presented her with a letter of appreciation on behalf of them and the Commission, and Ms. Steiner thanked everyone for the honor and privilege of working with them.

Commissioner Mast stated the next CSA meeting will be held at the Lansing Ramada Inn on January 17, 2014, when the Ombudsman issue will be addressed.

**OSA Director Report**

Director Sederburg stated Ms. Slocum had discussion with the Area Agencies on Aging regarding the State Long Term Care Ombudsman program, and there will be continued discussions into the new year. The AAAs expressed they'd like to see their local programs grow. Additional information will be sent in advance of the next CSA meeting, so if anyone has questions or additional dialogue, they will be able to share prior to the meeting.

Director Sederburg stated there is still no proposed Federal budget past January 15<sup>th</sup>, and there has been no word on what the sequestration may look like. OSA will be monitoring the situation and keep the CSA updated.

Director Sederburg stated the Governor plans to announce the proposed state executive budget in February, and she has heard many positive things on OSA's budget for elder abuse prevention and service funding.

Director Sederburg stated OSA convened several State departments to address what can be done with regard to long term care supports and services, with the goal of forming recommendations for the Governor on how everyone should coordinate and collaborate in an effort to streamline services and look for areas of improvement.

Director Sederburg stated OSA convened a meeting with the AAAs and service provider association to discuss how to coordinate and work more cohesively as a network.

Director Sederburg stated Senate Bill 636, related to phasing out traditional land lines, did not pass out of the legislature and will be tabled to the next year. A list will be provided of all the bills that did not make it out of the legislature this year.

**BUSINESS ITEMS**

**Approval of Fiscal Year 2014 Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA) Grants**

Wendi Middleton, OSA staff, stated this is OSA's fourth year receiving this grant. A portion went to Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program, Inc., Michigan's State Health Insurance and Assistance Program, and the Area Agencies on Aging. This year, it will go to the Aging and Disability Resource Collaboratives, and be designated for outreach to locate low income people in rural areas who are eligible for Medicare Part D, and to market to other qualified people who may be difficult to reach.

A motion was made by Commissioner Irby to approve the FY 2014 MIPPA grants, as presented. Commissioner Ilardo seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved with a 13-0-0 vote.

**Approval of State Advisory Council on Aging (SAC) Appointment**

Commissioner Michael Sheehan, SAC Chair, stated Commissioners Mast, Zamora and he reviewed the application for the appointment of Kathleen Johnston-Calati to the SAC for a term beginning on January 1, 2014 to represent Region 6, who's term will expire in 2016.

A motion was made by Commissioner Sheehan to approve the SAC appointment, as presented. Commissioner Ortega seconded the motion.

The motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

**Request for Approval of Carry-Over Funding for Year One Administration on Aging (AoA) Grant for Expansion of Chronic Disease Self-Management Education (CDSME)**

Wendi Middleton, OSA staff, stated OSA is seeking advance approval, pending Federal government approval, to allow this carry-over. Once it is Federally approved, OSA will move quickly to continue the work of establishing relationships with the disability community and to do outreach. Five grantees are ready to schedule educational classes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ilardo to approve carry-over funding for year one AoA grant for expansion of CDSME, based on approval from the Federal government, as presented. Commissioner Murray-Brown seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed and the motion was approved with a 13-0-0 vote.

**Discuss Senate Bill 636, Which Amends the Michigan Telecommunications Act**

Commissioner Mast asked if the Commission would like to draft a letter to legislators to bring several concerns affecting the wellbeing of seniors to their attention, should Senate Bill 636 pass.

Commissioner Mast stated he will work with OSA on the letter and ask Commissioners Parnell, Sheehan and Irby to look it over, and present the final draft to the Commission at the January 17, 2014 meeting.

Commissioner Irby asked to include testimonials from those throughout the state reflecting what they feel the impact to seniors would be if the bill should pass.

A motion was made by Commissioner Parnell to draft a letter to legislators to bring several

concerns affecting the wellbeing of seniors to their attention, should Senate Bill 636 pass. Commissioner Sheehan seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed, and this motion was unanimously approved by voice vote.

Commissioner Parnell offered to inquire with her local hospital systems how telemetry services may be affected by this legislation.

### **INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**NONE**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Commissioner Mast stated the next meeting will be on January 17, 2014, with the next conference call meeting tentatively scheduled for February 21, 2014, and the meeting following that will be held on March 21, 2014, at the Region IV Area Agency on Aging.

### **ADJOURN**

Commissioner Mast asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Murray-Brown. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ortega.

The motion to adjourn was approved unanimously by voice vote.

Commissioner Mast adjourned the meeting at 10:56 AM.