

GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL (GAC)
ON SERVICES FOR AGING AND ADULTS WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES

April 4, 2016
10:00 am – 12:00 pm
Smyrna Rest Area Conference Room
Smyrna, Delaware

PRESENT: Bob Brown; Carolyn Fredricks; Suzanne Howell; Arlene Littleton; Karen McGloughlin; Mary Miller; LaVaida Owens-White; William Payne; Debra Veenema; James Young

EXCUSED: Evelyn Hayes; Bonnie Hitch; Katie Macklin; Lelia Perkins; Jalpurnia Trader; Barbara Willis

VACANT SEATS: (1) Consumer Disabled – Wilmington; (2) Consumer Disabled – Kent; (3) Consumer Disabled – Sussex; (4) Consumer Disabled – At-Large; (5) Consumer Disabled – At-Large; (6) Disabled Public/Non-Profit – At-Large; and, (7) Disabled Public/Non-Profit – At-Large

DSAAPD (Division of Services for Aging and Adults with Physical Disabilities) Staff Present: Cindy Mercer, Planning Supervisor; Susan Bailey, Executive Secretary

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Review of Minutes March 1, 2016
- III. State Plan on Aging
- IV. Absence Procedure
- V. Work Plan
- VI. Code Change Process/Timeline
- VII. Vacancies/Marketing
- VIII. Advocacy Committee
- IX. Old Business
- X. New Business
- XI. Roundtable
- XII. Next Meeting: May 3, 2016
- XIII. Adjourn

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:06 am by Co-Chair Arlene Littleton.

II. Review of Minutes

The minutes from the March 1, 2016, were reviewed and unanimously approved.

III. State Plan on Aging

Julie Miller and Cindy Mercer updated the committee on the State Plan on Aging. There is no way to summarize the difference between the current and the last reports. Some strategies have been kept in even though progress has been made. Elder justice is a new strategy that was updated by the Fed. It was mentioned that this plan is different from the Alzheimer's plan.

Question was raised on sending out a synopsis to legislators to review plan. They currently do not get minutes or comments from public meetings.

IV. Absence Procedure

Susan reviewed the draft absence procedure with the committee. The council recommended revised wording in the definition of "Unexcused" to clarify meaning. With that change, the procedure was voted on and approved.

V. Work Plan

VI. Code Change Process Timeline

VII. Vacancies/Marketing

These three agenda items were discussed together.

Cindy reviewed the timeline of restructuring the work plan as created.

Current recruitment strategies are focusing on the disabled as that is where the committee is lacking members. Recruitment information will be set up at different conference venues that the Division supports.

VIII. Advocacy Committee

Subcommittee has not met since January. LaVaida will be forwarding those notes to staff as soon as possible.

The legislative session ends in June – if the committee wishes to push anything, it needs to be put out now. Suggestions were accessible parking, the CARE Act, and oral health.

The committee also discussed the Senior Trust monies.

Discussion was also held on how to compile information on accomplishments to the legislature and governor.

IX. Old Business

Look into difference conferencing equipment and software, such as Blue Jeans (similar to Skype) or different videoconferencing equipment throughout the state.

Discussed HB200-Accessible Parking Bill was discussed. This was sent back for revision and modified as HBS1. Bill Payne would like for committee to send its blessing on the bill to the legislature. Members would like to review before committing support. Susan will email copy of HBS1 to committee to review and Advocacy subcommittee to send their recommendation to the committee for electronic vote. LaVaida will set up the call for the subcommittee.

Letters were sent out to the legislators regarding increasing funding for the waitlist.

Request was made to schedule Dava Newnam in to discuss the waitlist and explain some of the data, i.e., weekly usage definition.

Update was requested on the new daycare information.

X. New Business

Advocacy subcommittee met with legislators to discuss importance of senior services.

May 27 is Older Americans Day; can we possibly have someone from the legislature come talk after the legislative session to discuss their priorities for older Americans. Would also like someone from DART to come in and discuss issues in Sussex County.

XI. Roundtable

DVeenema – This is MS Walk season – all sites are listed on the [website](#).

ALittleton – April is Volunteer Month; May is Older Americans Month. Patsy Bennett-Brown is recovering and thanks everyone for their prayers.

LOWens-White – Senior Fitness Day in May. April 15 there is a Conference on the Elderly and Domestic Violence at St. Patrick's Church. There is an office of Faith-Based Partnerships appointed by the Governor that is having a conference May 18 and inviting the council to speak about benefits of congregational heal-based ministries to those they see. She will also receive the Katherine Catts Award from the League of Women's Voters. She is also planning on attending a Nursing Symposium.

BPayne – New Governor's Council – Advisory Council on Walkability and Pedestrian Awareness – used to assist DeIDOT with re-evaluation, implementation and recommendations regarding the Statewide Pedestrian Action Plan and prioritization of pedestrian infrastructure improvements.

XII. Next Meeting

Next meeting is scheduled for May 3, 2016. It will be held at the Smyrna Rest Area Conference Room, Smyrna, DE.

XIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:44am.