

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

October 4, 2016
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Video Conference (2 locations)

1901 N duPont Hwy, Main Bldg., CR 198, New Castle, DE 19720
18 N Walnut Street, DSAAPD CR, Milford, DE 19963

Council Member	Attendance		Staff	Attendance
Bob Brown	Present		Lisa Bond	Present
Carolyn Fredricks	Present		Cindy Mercer	Present
Evelyn Hayes	Excused		Susan Bailey	Present
Bonnie Hitch	Excused			
Suzanne Howell	Present			
Katie Macklin	Present			
LaVaida Owens-White	Present			
William Payne	Unexcused			
Lelia Perkins	Present			
Debra Veenema	Present			
Barbara Willis	Unexcused			
James Young	Present			

VACANT SEATS: (1) Aging Consumer-Wilmington; (2) Aging Public/Non-Profit Agency-At-Large; (3) Disabled Consumer-At-Large; (4) Disabled Consumer-At-Large; (5) Disabled Consumer-At-Large; (6) Disabled Consumer-Wilmington; (7) Disabled Consumer-Kent County; (8) Disabled Consumer-Sussex County; (9) Disabled Public/Non-Profit Agency-At-Large; and, (10) Disabled Public/Non-Profit Agency-At-Large.

Agenda

- I. Call to Order
- II. Review of Minutes June 7, 2016 & September 6, 2016
- III. Presentation – Update to Governor’s Advisory Council on Services for Aging & Adults with Physical Disabilities Statute (29 Del Code § 7915)
 - Lydia Prigg, Director & Monique Hampton, Deputy Director, Boards & Commissions
- IV. Vacancies/Marketing
- V. Attendance
- VI. Advocacy Committee
- VII. Old Business
- VIII. New Business
- IX. Roundtable
- X. Next Meeting: October 4, 2016 (Video Conference Call Between New Castle & Milford)
- XI. Adjourn

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:13am by Carolyn Fredericks. Videoconference equipment wasn't connecting and therefore had to have the meeting via regular conference call.

II. Review of Minutes June 7, 2016 and September 6, 2016

The minutes were distributed prior to the meeting. Suggestions for edits were made. Deborah Veenema was noted as attending the September 6 meeting when she did not.

III. Presentation – Update to Governor's Advisory Council on Services for Aging & Adults with Physical Disabilities Statute (29 Del Code § 7915)

Lydia Prigg provided suggested changes in code and explained that these changes would parallel those made for other councils. Discussion was held with council members on what changes they want made.

She stated the council should be made smaller as there has been difficulty in filling empty seats for a while. Also, it is difficult to get a quorum when the council is large. It can also be written so that if there is a vacancy, it doesn't count towards quorum for voting.

Discussion was held on the definition of public/non-profit agencies. Lydia saw it as a public person or non-profit agency. It actually is meant that they are public agencies or non-profit agencies – any agencies that received funds from the state. Seems like a conflict with having agencies who receive state monies (via contract) on this council.

The council would like to combine lines 15 and 17. Not sure why there are at-large positions when you have one from each county plus one from Wilmington. This would decrease the number of Aging Consumer and Disabled Consumer from seven each to four each. Also, instead of designating counties, make them at-large as all boards throughout the state are having problems with getting volunteers. Since it is hard to get applicants/members from Sussex County, we can word the code so it states that an effort would be made to get applicants from each county, but wouldn't HAVE to have them if there were none available. Members still think it should be designated with the counties and Wilmington. More time is needed for board to discuss how the wording should be. Lydia will write it so that the search will include all counties; however, if applicants cannot be found for a specific county and there are other applicants from other areas that can fill the position, they will be used.

Accommodations need to be made for those physically disabled – no money has been set up for transportation – would have to be made by the organization. Possibly work with Paratransit to get free passes to get council members her. How would we get to applicants?

It was determined that the code has to state that there is equal numbers of Aging and Disabled members; it cannot be weighted more on either side.

If the number of members was taken to 12, seven would make a quorum. If add one member representing a veteran (as defined by the Governor) to line 44, this would bring the membership to 13 and wouldn't have tie votes.

Currently have a bi-annual election – co-chairs switch each year running the meeting. Will be put in the by-laws and remove from code. Code only needs to state that the council elects co-chairs.

A member's lengthy absences will have to be assumed to be a resignation. Should set up an executive committee to discuss these. Can also put into the by-laws.

Line 13-term limits – needs to change to no more than five members or say ¼ of the members – to keep the board on a staggered basis. Drop the vacancy part.

Contact Regina Byers as a resource to show us how to tap into network.

Lydia to make draft of their changes and resend out to committee before next meeting on November 1. She will call into meeting to discuss and answer any questions before deciding whether to take to legislature. We will wait until after the election to find the best sponsors.

According to the current code-the council is to advice DSAAPD division, not the governor. If we want it changed, can possibly change the beginning of the code to state who we advise. Since the council is TO the division, the cabinet secretary doesn't have to approve but should be reviewed by her.

IV. Vacancies/Marketing

Applications received for positions not vacant are held for a year in case any positions open. They are also contacted to see if they might be interested in serving on other boards. Members also have to reapply before their term is up.

Requests were again made for marketing volunteers at the Dementia Conference being held on November 16 at Dover Downs.

V. Attendance

Since this was discussed along with the code discussion, this item was skipped.

VI. Advocacy Committee

The committee has not met since the last Council meeting.

VII. Old Business

Lisa reviewed the most recent waitlist. Stated that with the new system being installed will have better, more accurate data to go by. Lisa also gave some information regarding the Department of Justice Lawsuit.

VIII. New Business

No new business.

IX. Roundtable

BB-Video didn't work today; suggest we try another conference room (will try the DSAAPD CR105)

KM-Alzheimer's Plan-thanks to Cindy Mercer, Julie Miller, and Carol Barnett for assistance. Walks are scheduled for October/November. Will also be having a town hall election. Will provide information to council.

SH-Liked Lydia's Presentation

JT-Discussed representation

DV-Mentioned Conference on History of Disabilities at Hagley on October 28.

LP-liked meeting – cycling off – term ends in 2017

LB-Thanks to all your efforts and patience; taking back transportation issue to division to see what we can do.

CM-Happy to have Lydia assist with changes

SB-provided draft of 2017 Meeting dates-let her know if any changes need to be made

X. Next Meeting: November 1, 2016

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 1, 2016. We are currently looking for changing the date and location to have video-conferencing in all counties.

XI. Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 12:10pm.