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**COMMISSION ON AGING**

**MEETING MINUTES**

Name of Organization: Nevada Commission on Aging

(Nevada Revised Statute [NRS] 427A.034)

Date and Time of Meeting: April 18, 2019

1:00 p.m. until adjournment

This meeting will be in person at the following locations:

Carson City: Aging and Disability Services

3416 Goni Road, Building H Conference Room

Carson City, NV 89706

Las Vegas: Aging and Disability Services

18/20 East Sahara Avenue

Las Vegas, NV 89104

1. Roll Call and Verification of Posting – Dena Schmidt called the meeting to order at 1:09 pm

Members: Niki Rubarth, Stacy Gilbert, Mary Liveratti, Chris Giunchigliani, Joe Tinio, Lelani Kimmel Dagostino

Staff: Dena Schmidt, Rique Robb, Cissy Garic, Shannon Sprout, Cheyenne Pasquale, Kate Lucier

Guests: Lisa Segler, Three Square

1. Public Comment – No public comment
2. Discussion of Membership – the two open spots for member of governing city, member of governing county was discussed. Joe is terming out in July. Dena asked the members for recruiting ideas. Joe stated that he will think of recommendations and will bring them to the next meeting for introductions. Chris Giunchigliani stated that after the June elections there may be some people interested. She will send Dena and Kate an e-mail with the names of people who want to apply. They will have to go to the Governor’s website to apply.
3. Approval of the Minutes from January 8, Meeting – Mary Liveratti moved to approve, Niki Rubarth seconded. There were no changes
4. Subcommittee Updates and Recommendations for action by the Commission

Legislative Subcommittee - Jeff Klein, NV Senior Services, Subcommittee Chairperson was out-of-town and asked that the Legislative Subcommittee meeting minutes be used for his updates.

Mary stated that AB90 is the caregiver sick leave bill. Dena stated that AB480 (supportive decision making) passed out of the Assembly yesterday. The three appropriations bills were discussed: AB414 (respite), SB269 (211/No Wrong Door funding) and SB443 (congregate meals) could be up for grabs depending on funding. Mary stated that the Committee should be supporting. Niki stated that the Alzheimer’s Association is supporting AB414. Mary asked that staff send e-mails to the Commission when ADSD bills are being heard. Kate will send out the Legislative agendas. SB500 was discussed - $200,000 was originally set aside annually for assisted living facilities. The funds have not been used since 2011. There has only been one provider that received funds. It is proposed that the funds be moved to be used for independent living to address the waitlists for home modifications, etc. The Nevada Assisted Living Association agreed to an amendment that changes the certification to require them to be Medicaid providers which protects low income but removes the tax credit requirement. Dena stated that if the amendment helps that is good, but they will still have the flexibility to move the funds for home modifications and adaptive technology because they always have a waitlist. Chris Giunchigliani said that some unions help with ramps and we should explore with the Apprenticeship Council to see if they can add ramps as part of the training. Dena said she would reach out to the Apprenticeship Council. Mary asked if they are still using portable ramps. Shannon Sprout will verify with John. Mary asked about AB311 which is an interim study for training of direct care providers. It is an extension of last session’s interim discussion for training for direct care providers and AB311 is to extend the study. Mary also asked about SB446. Dena stated that it is Senator Settelmeyer’s bill to provide self-directed care options. Dena met with the Senator after testimony and with constituent and Medicaid to figure out the solution. The process can be done with a 1915J waiver. The option allows for the individual to choose who will provide their care. Bills that ADSD had concerns about were discussed with the sponsors and will be amended or have clean up language. There was a discussion about the bills that ADSD is tracking and it was suggested that ADSD send the spreadsheet out weekly to the Commission members.

1. COA and Governor’s Council on Food Security Workgroup Discussion. There was a discussion that it would be a workgroup with one member from the Commission and one member from Food Security and other interested parties. Mary moved to create COA liaison and Food Security liaison. Chris seconded the motion. There was a discussion about who from the Commission would be part of the workgroup. Mary stated that she didn’t believe they would meet until after the session ended. Stacy Gilbert will be the member and Chris will be the alternate. Dena asked for a motion to appoint Stacy as the primary member and Chris the alternate. Joe motioned; Mary seconded the motion. Kate will send an e-mail to Chris and Stacy and Laura Urban to get the workgroup going. Mary stated that there are bills at the legislature regarding food security. Mary asked Lisa Segler if she would get the number of the bill regarding food security.

1. Administrator’s Report – Dena stated that the ADSD budget closing was scheduled for May 8th at 8:00 am. The only concern is the APS expansion BDR 14-1201 has not been dropped as a bill yet. This would give ADSD the authority for investigations for all vulnerable individuals. It is considered a budget bill, but not tied dollars because expansion is cost neutral due to grant funding and Medicaid administrative costs. Chris suggested that the 211 line have information on reporting for APS. They are already doing it for CPS and EPS. Dena stated that ADSD would partner with 211.

Staff Updates: Administrator for DPBH resigned. Lisa Sherych is the acting administrator until the end of session. Jessica Adams, QA Manager is the interim deputy. Travis Lee took a position in IT at DWSS and starting Monday, Jeff Haag will be the new Deputy Administrator taking Travis’ position. Wanda Brown is retiring in June after 30 years of state service. Chris asked if the Commission does a letter of recognition. Shannon will draft a letter for the Commission’s signature recognizing Wanda’s contributions over the years.

1. COA Budget and Intern Discussion – Dena put out an idea to the Commission. COA has a small budget for per diem that most don’t use. She suggested that the funds be used to hire an intern through the university and give the intern projects directed by the Commission. Chris asked what the cost is for an intern. Dena stated that they get a small stipend and mileage reimbursement. Chris stated that she is raising funds for a leadership academy. She stated that she would be happy to sponsor interns to help offset the cost. Dena will follow up with the social work contacts and look at developing project ideas and will get more information for the Commission.
2. Grant Administration and Five-Year Strategic Plan for OAA Funds – Jeff Klein asked to have a discussion on this. A notification went out regarding the ADSD competitive grant process and the changes that were made. Cheyenne Pasquale discussed the State Plan for Aging Services and the grant process and that the grant process should align with the State Plan. She discussed aligning grant planning, the competitive cycle, and the different phases of the timeline. They have done a review of community needs assessments and identified the top needs of the population. The goal is to be more strategic in how we are making funding decisions. Mary asked when the State Plan needs to be done. Cheyenne stated that it needs to be done in a little over a year. Dena asked about the community partner meetings. Do we go to other agency meetings to give updates and gain input. Cheyenne stated that we haven’t, but that it is a good idea. Mary asked how the COA would be involved. Cheyenne stated that the COA presence at town halls and other meetings would be helpful. Also, it would be good to have the COA assist with the competitive grant process. Another option would be the GMU model. Some changes in the competitive process are scoring criteria and regional allocation policy.
3. HCBS Caseload and Waitlist – Dena asked if there were any comments on the caseload document. Mary asked why some data was missing. Cissy stated that she got the information late and instead of using old data, she left it blank. Mary is concerned about the 90-day waiting period for services. She asked if the ADSD budget would address these programs. Mary stated that she would like to have a summary of the data points. Dena stated that for SRx, ADSD is doing a deep dive and really looking at what makes sense as the gap gets smaller and federal regulations change. We are looking at moving to subsidy only, which would give people an option. As for the waitlists, we are also working on doing a better job of projecting beyond two years.
4. Interim Policy Priorities – Dena stated that ADSD has meet with Senator Ratti regarding policies, what’s doable and what’s not. She has requested that ADSD give her a list of bills that are too much now that need to be talked about during the interim – SB455 is an example which was discussed earlier. Dena asked the commission if they had topics that they would like discussed during the interim. Mary suggested that the cognitive needs and mental health needs should be a topic. Joe suggested Community Based Living Arrangements as a topic. Chris suggested a project that projects out ten years for waiting lists. It could perhaps be something we could partner with the Guinn Center. Dena stated she would like to see long term planning needs for the aging in Nevada. The Commission agreed to support the above topics for the interim. There was a discussion about what the Data Analytics group is doing to capture the aging needs in Nevada. Chris motioned that the above be addressed during the interim. Lilani seconded the motion.
5. Next Meeting Date – July 16, 2019 – There was a discussion about having an in-person meeting in Carson City.
6. Approval of Agenda Items for Next Meeting

* Notes from two-day debriefing after the Legislative Session
* What can COA do to assist ADSD
* Guidance for State Plan
* Good-by for Joe

1. Public Comment – Niki Rubarth discussed the Alzheimer’s Association community forum scheduled for June in Carson City. Lisa Segler stated that SB178 is the food rescue bill.
2. Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 2:55 pm