

BRIAN SANDOVAL
Governor



RICHARD WHITLEY, MS
Director

DENA SCHMIDT
Administrator

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
AGING AND DISABILITY SERVICES
3416 Goni Road, Suite D-132
Carson City, NV, 89706
Telephone (775) 687-4210 • Fax (775) 687-0574
<http://adsd.nv.gov>

COMMISSION ON AGING

MEETING MINUTES

Name of Organization: Nevada Commission on Aging
(Nevada Revised Statute [NRS] 427A.034)

Date and Time of Meeting: November 28, 2017
9:00 am 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
1860 East Sahara
Las Vegas, NV 89104

Call to Order/Roll Call
Dena Schmidt, ADSD Administrator

Members: Assemblywoman Ellen Spiegel, Chris Giunchigliani, Daniel Corona, Joe Tinio,
Travis Lee, Jeffrey Klein, Mary Liveratti, Leilani Kimmel Dagostino

Guests: Connie McMullen, Kelly Marschall

Staff: Jill Berntson, Kate Lucier, Wendy Thornley

- I. Welcome and Introductions - Dena Schmidt opened the meeting at 9:05 am. She introduced herself and gave a brief description of her background. Each of the new members introduced themselves and also gave their backgrounds: Assemblywoman Ellen Spiegel, Daniel Corona, Jeffrey Klein, Leilani Kimmel Dagistino and Mary Liveratti.

Mary Liveratti talked about the dementia friendly Nevada project. They received a \$1.1 million grant to support this project.

After the introductions, Dena Schmidt read the Mission Statement and the Vision Statement for the Commission.

- II. Verification of Posting – The agenda was posted November 14, 2017
- III. Public Comment – No public comment
- IV. Membership and Bylaw Review – Dena clarified that there are two open spots for members, one of a governing city and one for a governing county. Chris Giunchigliani recommended that we reach out to NACO and the League of Cities for candidates.

There was a discussion about the bylaw rule that a member can be voted off if they do not attend two consecutive meetings. It was agreed to send that member a letter.

- V. Approval of the Minutes from June 26, 2017 Meeting – Chris Giunchigliani motioned to approve the minutes and Travis Lee seconded the motion. Assemblywoman Ellen Spiegel abstained as she wasn't at that meeting. The minutes were approved.
- VI. Discussion and Recommendations on Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services proposed rule to revise requirements for Long-Term Care Facilities – Jeff Klein, NV Senior Services discussed the letter he sent to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services on behalf of the Commission on Aging. The letter has been in Federal comments. There are continuing rollbacks to regulations that the state has adopted. We should stand firm and make Federal comment when necessary. The arbitration issue with nursing homes is one example where there is an attempt to force seniors to sign away their rights when entering a nursing home. Nevada prohibits that. It was a very heated discussion at the legislature. Jeff will continue to brief the Commission when issues come up and will write position papers. The Governor also supports this issue. Chris Giunchigliani asked for clarification that the Commission will continue to address these issues. Mary Liveratti stated that we need to comment on these issues as the Federal Government will attempt to overrule state law. She will be checking with AARP to find out their stand on these issues.

Jeff Klein said that he is waiting for the shoe to drop on the issue of dementia care. He stated that the Alzheimer's Association has done a good job of taking a position on this so has ASA and LCAO and several national organizations. He is expecting that there is going to be long term care and dementia language introduced and that they will take the public comment and slide it in the regs as if it was in the original proposal. He believes we need to be very diligent. Chris Giunchigliani suggested

that the Commission submit a letter to the Legislative Committee so that they are aware of what is happening. Assemblywoman Ellen Spiegel agreed. Dena had a motion that the Commission send a letter to the Legislature, NACO and local jurisdictions with a citation of the Nevada statutes we are concerned with protecting and meet with the Chairs of the two Legislative Committees. Chris Giunchiglini made the motion and Mary Liveratti seconded the motion. Vote taken. Motion passed.

Dena asked the Commission how they wanted to continue to support the issue of dementia care. It was discussed that the subcommittee will follow and will advise, and a consensus can be gotten by a phone call.

Chris Giunchiglini was getting ready to leave the meeting and asked about the Abuse in Later Life: Cross Training for Victim Service Providers flyer that was part of the meeting package. Jill Berntson indicated that the Attorney General's office was the lead and that she didn't know who they sent it to. She indicated that ADSD would be participating. Jeff Klein asked if it would be worthwhile for the rural areas to have this training. He said that there are ADRC events coming up and suggested that maybe they should partner up. Jill Berntson indicated that the training has an elder protective service manager, victim service advocate, and a law enforcement person for each training session. She suggested that the ADRC people could attend, but if he would like something separate, she would have to check with the Attorney General's office to see if they had the funding to provide additional training, or ADSD's Elder Protective Services staff could provide training.

VII. Administrator's Report - Dena Schmidt, ADSD Administrator

Staffing Changes: Rique Robb - Deputy Director for Children's Services (EI & ATAP); Lisa Sherych – Deputy Director for Developmental Services (SRC, RRC, DRC); Jill Berntson – Deputy Director for Aging and Physical Disabilities, Planning, Advocating and Community Programs; Jennifer Frischmann – QA Manager; Homa Woodrum – Advocacy Attorney. Dena stated that we would send the Commission members a list of staff and their contact information.

Home Delivered Meals Update – Dena Schmidt stated that at the last legislative session there was some extra funding was appropriated to address the waitlist and a rate increase. Since the closing of session there has been a lot of discussion and confusion about what the actual intention was – whether it was a waitlist reduction or a rate increase or both and what that would like. Staff have met with the Governor's Finance Office, the Legislative Finance Office, and the two Chairwomen to figure out what the intent really was. We will be going to IFC December 7th to give them as an informational item that we are going to do a rate increase to all fixed fee providers January 1st. We were able to balance the waitlist reduction and the rate increase.

ADSD Discretionary Grant received in October 2017: Dena Schmidt gave an update on the following:

- Lifespan Respite Grant – The Nevada Aging & Disability Services Division in partnership with the Nevada Respite Coalition, the Department of Health & Human Services, Office of Community Partnerships and Grants will work to coordinate efforts and policies to support respite services across the lifespan.

The goal of the project is to strengthen support and services for family caregivers in Nevada through advocacy and capacity building.

- Stay Strong, Stay Healthy Grant – In partnership with the Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS), ADSD has received a SNAP-Ed grant to fund an eight-week physical activity program for older adults. The goal of this evidence-based program is to improve health and quality of life through strength training. Sessions include warm-up stretches, simple strengthening exercises with or without weights, and cool-down stretches. Twelve participants enrolled at Nevada Senior Services' Adult Day Care Program. Jeff Klein stated that it is the first cycle and they are trying it out in two adult day care centers and the second cycle is getting ready to go. There is also a community setting in Henderson and Las Vegas. They are getting great results, no drop off and there is a high level of enthusiasm. They will be analyzing how it works with the frail population (adult day care) and healthier population (senior centers). They will be looking at secondary benefits and expansion. Leilani Kimmel Dagistino asked if they would incorporate statistics from the Silver Sneakers Program which she believes Medicaid Advantage offers for strength training. Mary Liveratti stated that she didn't know all the information, but they encourage exercise, walking groups. Travis Lee agrees that the Silver Sneakers Program is a good one – gyms, aquatic centers, community centers give free passes for being active. Connie McMullen stated that the Stanford Center for Aging can't keep up with the demand. It's a great opportunity to get statistics from them. Leilani Kimmel Dagostino stated that there are a lot of this type of programs in California. Dena Schmidt stated that ADSD would follow up with senior centers to see what type of programs and activities they have for strength training. She said that she was in a meeting the prior day where the NNAMHS campus and underutilized buildings, one being a gym. There was a discussion about the need in the community for physical fitness activities for people with disabilities, but the senior population wasn't discussed. She said that she would look at program opportunities to fund additional programs for the senior population.
- Medicare Improvement for Patients and Provider Act (MIPPA) – ADRC received a new MIPPA grant to enhance efforts to provide assistance to Medicare beneficiaries through statewide and local coalition building. Specifically, ADSD will be focused on intensified outreach activities to beneficiaries likely to be eligible for the Low-Income Subsidy Program (LIS) or the Medicare Savings Program (MSP) to assist those beneficiaries in applying for benefits. ADSD will sustain Southern Nevada activities and expand strategies learned in Northern Nevada.

PACE event held in September – Katie Pace at Senator Heller's office was working to coordinate a workgroup to move the concept forward, there seemed to be a lot of interest and Dena Schmidt believes that it is a long-term goal. Jeff Klein stated that they signed up to participate, but haven't heard anything back yet.

Dementia Capable Grant – Jeff Doucet provided an update on the three Alzheimer's Projects underway at ADSD.

- Alzheimer's 1, Dementia Capable Project ended August 31, 2017. Activities accomplished in the project include delivery of Early Stage Partners in Care (EPIC) and Benjamin Rose institute for Caregiver Care Consolation

Program. The project also made changes to identify cognitive impairment through the level 1 screen and ensure they get to appropriate services.

- Alzheimer's 2, Dementia Capable Expansion, ends February 2018. ADSD is requesting a no cost extension. This project focused on early engagement activities to help improve the recruitment into the EPIC program. The project also implemented a Care Transition Program (I forgot to mention this point on the call).
- Alzheimer's, ADI SSS project funded 4 Community Action Group sites in March of 2017. The new Request for Proposal to identify and additional 3 or 4 community action groups will go out after the first of the year until February 5, with new sites announced in March. The current sites are at differing levels, but all are distributing a community needs assessment survey which is even available in Spanish, thanks to the Sanford Center for Aging.

Dena Schmidt discussed that the NRS prohibits people with dementia from being served at a mental health hospital. People in crisis don't have a place to be served and wind up in the ER or jail. Do we as a state need to look at this. Jeff Klein stated that in emergency they don't know how to treat a dementia issue and they have a delirium episode. They then are shipped off to a psychiatric center. So, there are medication management issues. Also, people with dementia who have a change in behavior. They are getting inappropriate treatment. The third group is the care giver has a problem and there is no care given to the person with dementia. Mary Liveratti believes there is a fourth group. Those that have had a mental health issue most of their lives and now have dementia and are now not able to get care. We need to look at resources for these issues. There needs to be places where those with a dementia episode can go for the day, but then go home in the evening. Connie McMullen stated that Nevada statutes define who has dementia and who can be treated with mental illness. Daniel Corona agreed with Jeff Klein's comments. Jeff Klein stated that he would be willing to put some models together to frame these issues to see where the needs are across divisional projects so that individuals get the proper care. It was discussed that this should get on the Legislative calendar. Jeff Klein also stated that we should get county input as well.

MOU Partnership with the Attorney General's office – End Abuse Later in Life
Creating Coordinated Community Response (CCR) teams to address elder abuse. Coordination meetings and training have been held which included EPS, law enforcement, public guardian's offices, Medicaid Fraud unit, and providers. (Flyer was provided). Jill already walked us through this.

Both Strategic Plan (for Federal funding) and State Plan (Divisional) have action items to combine waiver services for frail elderly waiver and physical disability services. Ongoing meetings with DHCFP to complete a fiscal analysis for future budget concept. We are reaching out to Wyoming who has recently merged these two waivers. The benefits allow individuals to access all services within the two waivers rather than limit the services by waiver enrollment. Waiver slots can still be designated to protect each group and ensure access for both populations. Mary Liveratti asked if the COA looks at the State Plan. Jill Berntson indicated that the COA did look at the last State Plan. Dena Schmidt stated that we can do a presentation on the State Plan at the next meeting about where we are in the process.

- VIII. Member Announcements –
Travis Lee discussed the NFPA conference he attended with fire marshals to educate seniors on reducing falls. Fire departments throughout the country are partnering with senior services to create awareness and to provide inspections, free smoke detectors, etc. and focusing on behavioral interviewing to get to know the senior before they come in and fix the problem.
- Mary Liveratti stated that the Governor’s Council on Food Security has come out with a senior gap analysis and since the COA is mentioned in the document, she thinks that the members should have a copy and read it. Dena Schmidt stated that she would get a copy and send it to the members.
- Joe Tinio discussed waiver programs and the issues involving the people that receive these waivers. Dena Schmidt stated that we will do an update on pending Medicaid referrals and the process at the next meeting.
- Jeff Klein discussed the ACL grant they received for just under a million dollars for an evidence based cognitive care program.
- IX. Presentation on integration of ADSD plan to guide services for older Nevadans and persons with disabilities with the Behavioral Health Integration Plan
Kelly Marschall, Social Entrepreneurs, Inc. We are working cross divisional efforts to ensure we are working toward the same goals. A future meeting will include updates from the Strategic Planning Subcommittee. Staff have developed a tracking tool which will be populated for our next meeting. State Plan – Specific to the Older American Act Funds and is a requirement of the funding. It is a four-year plan and we are in year one. Strategic Plan – Entire Division. Kelly Marschall did the presentation and there was a discussion and recommendations for next steps.
- X. Next Meeting Date – February 27, 2018
- XI. Agenda Items for Next Meeting
State Plan & Strategic Plan Funding Process
Medicaid Waiver Pending & Eligibility Lists & Process
Subcommittee Updates – Legislative and Strategic Planning Subcommittees
Member Announcements
Membership
Administrator’s Report
Update on Dementia Grants
Nutrition Gap Analysis
- XII. Public Comment – No public comment
- XIII. Adjournment – Joe Tinio moved to adjourn the meeting, Dena Schmidt seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 12:22 pm.