

MICHIGAN COMMISSION ON SERVICES TO THE AGING MEETING
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services
Aging and Adult Services Agency
South Grand Tower, 333 S. Grand Avenue, Conf. Room 1L; Lansing, MI 48933
March 17, 2017 @ 9:00 AM

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Wishart called the meeting to order at 9:03 A.M. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Commissioner Mast.

COMMISSION ROLL CALL

The Commission roll call was taken and a quorum was present.

COMMISSION MEMBERS PRESENT

Dona Wishart, Matthew Adeyanju, John Briggs, Joan Ilardo, Gerald Irby, Kathleen LaTosch, Peter Lichtenberg, Harold Mast, Laura Newsome, Margot Roedel, Michael Sheehan, Linda Strohl, Amy Tripp and Kristie Zamora.

COMMISSION MEMBERS ABSENT (excused)

Donna Murray-Brown.

AGING AND ADULT SERVICES AGENCY (AASA) STAFF PRESENT

Richard Kline, Scott Wamsley, Phil Lewis, Cindy Albrecht, Lauren Swanson-Aprill, Tari Muniz, Emma Buycks, Hema Malavia, Amy Colletti, Becky Payne and Sally Steiner.

VISITORS/GUESTS PRESENT

Mary Ablan, retiring Executive Director, Area Agency on Aging Association of Michigan (AAAAM), Linda Burghardt, newly hired Executive Director, AAAAM, Salli Pung, State Long Term Care Ombudsman, Wendi Brightmore, URMIC, Amber Slichta, Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, Erin Scott, MSU Student, and other members of the public.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Commissioner Wishart requested a motion to approve the agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Sheehan to approve the agenda. Commissioner Irby seconded the motion. This motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF COMMISSION MINUTES

Commissioner Wishart asked for a motion to approve the February 17, 2017 minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ilardo to approve the minutes. Commissioner Briggs seconded the motion. This motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS

Salli Pung, the recently appointed State Long Term Care Ombudsman, provided a handout and PowerPoint presentation detailing her background, her staff, transition of this program from AASA to the Michigan Elder Justice Initiative, and their long range goals.

A historical report on statistical data with trends, how many complaints made against nursing facilities were resolved, and a more formal report were requested.

Ms. Pung stated their quarterly report and the National Ombudsman Reporting System (NORS) data could be sent, and Mr. Wamsley stated he would provide that federal data.

COMMISSION CHAIR REPORT

Commissioner Wishart acknowledged and honored Mary Ablan for her work, and thanked her for being a champion on behalf of the State of Michigan and those she's served as the Executive Director of the AAAAM, and Mr. Lewis read a congratulatory letter thanking her from the Governor.

Ms. Ablan introduced Linda Burghardt, the new executive director of the AAAAM.

Ms. Burghardt thanked Mary and provided an overview on her extensive background.

The CSA took a break at 9:45 AM, and resumed business at 10:03 AM.

Commissioner Wishart stated Connect Michigan and Charter Communications are unable to present at this meeting, but will return in the future.

Commissioner Wishart stated the SAC met the day before and came up with suggestions on ways to strengthen their work. Additional information will be shared with the CSA.

Commissioner Wishart encouraged commissioners to attend the Older Michiganiaan's Day event on May 17, 2017, on the capitol lawn, with additional information to follow.

Commissioner Wishart stated in regards to the Norway Senior Center meals program, they signed a contract with DISCA and UPCAP to provide their own AASA-funded congregate meals, which has been in place since January. The UPCAP nutritionist has been working with the senior center's director to remain in compliance with AASA's requirements, and she thanked AASA staff and those involved for all their efforts.

Commissioner Wishart thanked those commissioners who participated on an informational conference call to learn more about the fiscal and programmatic assessment policies and procedures, noting additional information will be provided at today's meeting.

Commissioner Wishart stated Commissioner LaTosch raised a question and concern on ways the CSA can learn more about the AAA plans and processes with regard to categories of service, and how they may be able to influence that. More information will follow.

Commissioner Wishart stated the disease prevention, evidence-based programs and services article AASA's Sally Steiner co-authored is gaining attention across the service

provider network.

AGING AND ADULT SERVICES AGENCY SENIOR DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORT

Deputy Director Kline stated in his first year in his role, it's been his honor to serve, and he thanked the CSA and AASA staff for their support in all their work across the state.

Director Kline stated AASA has posted the deputy director and executive support positions.

Director Kline stated he testified in front of the Senate and House.

Director Kline stated there was an audit finding in the Adult Protective Services area, and with policy under AASA, and with a portion of this area under the Field Operations unit, the audit looked at the entire program and found eight material audit findings, with seven under Field Operations, and one under policy related to quality and its effectiveness of how it's measured, noting with his strong background in quality, he has a good handle on what needs to be done, and he detailed next steps.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Scott Wamsley, AASA's Acting Deputy Director, provided a handout and detailed overview of AASA's 1st quarter grant and services expenditure report.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Phil Lewis, AASA's public affairs and legislative liaison, provided an Administration on Aging, Administration for Community Living report, "*A Profile of Older Americans: 2016*," noting it contains detailed information on the nation's older population and trends.

Mr. Lewis also provided a detailed overview on AASA's recommended state budget, the federal budget, and on current and ongoing aging-related bills and legislation, and offered to provide the associated reports.

Commissioner Wishart requested the letters of analysis on the American Health Care bill, which is the proposed replacement of the Affordable Care Act.

Mr. Lewis encouraged Commissioners to continue to advocate through conversations, send letters, make phone calls, and talk to legislators to help them have a better understanding.

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner LaTosch stated the Advocacy Committee created a strong framework on how they will operate, noting their values reflect they are learning-based and all information and action will be permanently rooted and grounded in research and facts, with the intent to be action-oriented to move issues forward.

Commissioner LaTosch stated their guiding principles reflected the advocacy work they do will directly impact seniors, and have broad implication for all of Michigan, and the issues identified were based on an analysis and synthesis Mr. Lewis put together through a review of the AAA plans, and public hearings input showing trends and themes.

Their strategy is to support a strong eco system by focusing on recurring, critical issues that are very broad-based, affect seniors in every region of the state, and to advocate by sharing information and knowledge gained with legislators and policy makers.

Commissioner LaTosch stated if issues come up between CSA meetings, they should be sent to the Advocacy Committee Chair, Donna Murray-Brown, with a copy to Commissioner Wishart.

Commissioner Wishart asked for a motion to table approval of the Advocacy Committee's documents, as some of the commissioners did not receive materials sent, and requested it be resent to the entire Commission.

Commissioner Mast made motions to table the approval of the Advocacy Committee's documents until all commissioners receive them; to approve a letter of appreciation to MDHHS Director Nick Lyon for his action and support of those affected by the Flint water crisis; and to approve a letter of appreciation to Governor Rick Snyder for his support of senior services, and for his commitment to the health and well-being of seniors. Commissioner Adeyanju seconded the motion. These motions were approved unanimously with a voice vote.

Commissioner Wishart requested adding a bullet point to the Advocacy Committee agenda item in April's, to revisit and seek a motion on their legislative agenda.

Commissioner Sheehan stated Commissioner Ilardo presented to the SAC at their meeting, and explained in detail the advocacy group that's being formed, and the SAC was extremely excited about it and eager to participate.

Commissioner Wishart asked to add this as an agenda item to discuss at the April meeting.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Request for Approval of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2017 State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)/Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAP)

Tari Muniz, AASA staff, stated AASA is pending receipt of year one of a three-year federal SHIP grant, and requested approval to award it to MMAP, and to allow AASA's Senior Deputy Director approval to adjust the grant award by five percent based on project fund availability.

A motion was made by Commissioner Irby to approve the FY 2017 SHIP/MMAP grant award, as presented. Commissioner Lichtenberg seconded the motion.

This motion was approved with a 13-1-0 vote.

The CSA took a break at 10:23 AM, and resumed business at 10:44 AM.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation Introduction

Amber Slichta, Vice President of Programs for the Ralph C. Wilson, Jr. Foundation, provided history and background on Mr. Wilson and his foundation's vision. His requirement

was that funding be spent within 20 years, and through his appointed trustees, to focus the funding in seven counties in SE Michigan, and nine in New York State, with emphasis in the four areas of children and youth; young adults and working class families; caregiving; and healthy communities, noting their website has an application portal.

The CSA took a break at 11:15 AM, and resumed business at 11:34 AM.

OTHER

Financial Assessment of Area Agency on Aging (AAA) 1-B

Scott Wamsley, AASA Acting Deputy Director, provided an overview of AASA's procedures of both financial and programmatic AAA assessments, and an update on AASA's ongoing monitor and oversight of the AAA 1-B, the largest AAA in the state. Mr. Wamsley stated with the recent turnover of key AAA personnel, AASA has conducted a financial assessment and met with current AAA leadership to discuss their management and financial situation. AASA reviewed and discussions have indicated that services continue to be delivered as planned, and several changes and corrective actions resulting from AASA's financial assessment have been initiated, but AASA found that AAA 1-B's processes to submit required reports and documentation have not been accurately complete or timely. AASA will continue to assess and monitor AAA 1-B's processes to ensure corrective actions are fully implemented to ensure the AAA is brought into compliance.

Demonstration of the Dementia Knowledge Assessment Tool V2

Sally Steiner, AASA staff, provided a handout to help measure knowledge of dementia, associated signs and symptoms, noting this test is completely anonymous and a good opportunity to become better educated. Ms. Steiner stated she would follow up with the results soon.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Commissioner Wishart stated the next CSA meeting will be a joint meeting with the SAC and is scheduled for 9:00 AM on Friday, April 21, 2017, at the Ramada Lansing Hotel and Conference Center located at 7501 W. Saginaw Hwy. in Lansing, in the American Room. These meetings are open to the public and anyone needing accommodations to attend should contact Carol Dye at least five (5) days prior to the meeting.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Wishart asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

A motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Irby. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Adeyanju. This motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

Commissioner Wishart adjourned the meeting at 12:00 PM. This was followed by a working lunch for Q & A and to debrief.