

Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA) and
State Advisory Council (SAC) Joint Meeting
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)
Aging and Adult Services Agency (AASA)
South Grand Building, Grand Conference Room
333 S. Grand Avenue; Lansing Michigan 48933
Public Meeting 9:00 a.m. – Noon
Public Hearing and Executive Committee Meeting following
Friday, April 19, 2019

APPROVED MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Commissioner Wishart called the meeting to order at 9:00 A.M.

State Advisory Council Co-Vice Chair Wendy White led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CSA ROLL CALL

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

CSA MEMBERS PRESENT

Dona Wishart, Matthew Adeyanju, Mark Bomberg, John Briggs, Nancy Duncan, Jean Hall, Joan Ilardo, Peter Lichtenberg, Laura Newsome, Michael Sheehan, Linda Strohl, Amy Tripp, and Kristie Zamora.

CSA MEMBERS ABSENT (excused)

Renee Cortright and Kathleen LaTosch

SAC MEMBERS PRESENT

Commissioner and Chairperson Kristie Zamora, Co-Vice Chairperson Wendy White, Co-Vice Chairperson Donald Ryan, Edna Albert, Alan Bond, Dennis Brieske, Charles Corwin, Sandra Falk-Michaels, Audra Frye, Marjorie Hobe, Ruby Kickert, Victoria Laupp, Kirk Lewis, Gerald McCole, Ann Randolph, Patricia Rencher, Joseph Sucher, Elizabeth Thompson, Teresa Veer, Jo Ver Beek, Mark Weber, Lori Wells, Karen Wintringham, and Ex-Officio Member: Robyn Ford

SAC MEMBERS ABSENT/EXCUSED

Excused: Glenn Clemence, Sara Damiano, Debra Johnson, Mary Jones, Angela Perone, Joseph Sowmick, Susan Vick, Lillie Williams-Grays, John Zimmerman. Absent: Mary Engelman

AASA STAFF PRESENT

Scott Wamsley, Phil Lewis, Shirley Bentsen, Kelly Cooper, Dan Doezema, Cynthia Farrell, Dawn Jacobs, Sherri King, Laura McMurtry, Tari Muniz, Becky Payne, Miranda Pearson, Lauren Swanson-Aprill

VISITORS/GUESTS PRESENT

None

APPROVAL OF CSA AGENDA

Commissioner Wishart requested a motion to approve the CSA agenda.

Motion by Commissioner Sheehan to approve the agenda. Commissioner Adeyanju seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously with a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF CSA MINUTES

Commissioner Wishart asked for a motion to approve March 15, 2019, CSA minutes.

Motion by Commissioner Adeyanju to approve the minutes. Commissioner Newsome seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved with no amendments with a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF SAC MINUTES

Commission Chair Dona Wishart asked for a motion to approve the March 21, 2019 SAC Meeting Minutes.

Motion by SAC member Gerald McCole to approve the minutes. Member Marjorie Hobe seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved with no amendments with voice vote by the State Advisory Council.

PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS

No public comments.

CSA CHAIR REPORT

Commission Chair Wishart welcomed all CSA and SAC members and thanked them for their time and travel and the passion they bring to this work and, most importantly, their expertise. She reminded all that they are charged to advocate for older adults together and be a team in support of programs and services that are meeting the needs and maintaining the dignity of older adults. She stated that she is very proud of all and very thankful for their gifts of time and talent.

She also thanked the AASA staff and their ongoing commitment and excellence, particularly during a time of transition of leadership in government and also within the department and the agency. The support provided to those served is critical and the commission appreciates the leadership.

Intra State Funding Formula Committee Update Report

Commissioner Sheehan reported on the Intra State Funding Formula's (IFF) next steps and gave an overview of a group of University of Michigan doctoral students involved in statistics who provide pro-bono work on projects for non-profit entities and are referred to as "Stat Com". The Stat Com team, comprised of five graduate students and led by a faculty advisor, have met several times. One of the things they are starting with is how to define "equity" and how it can be assessed. Another thing they are reviewing is other states and how they have used the geographic component and how it compares to our formula. Also, they are working on what the effects on each of the 16 regions would be if changes were made in various

scenarios. They will try to be finished with this pro-bono project by early July. This will be the first time we have had an outside student academic view of our formula.

Commissioner Wishart noted that there was a special guest in attendance and welcomed former Aging and Adult Services Senior Deputy Director, Lynn Alexander and thanked her for her expertise and continued support.

Senior Volunteer of the Year Award Update

Commissioner Hall thanked the commission for letting her be a part of this process. She reminded all that May is Older American's Month and that this year's theme is Connect, Create, Contribute, which encourages older adults and their communities to:

- Connect with friends, family, and services that support participation.
- Create by engaging in activities that promote learning, health, and personal enrichment.
- Contribute time, talent, and life experience to benefit others.

She announced that the 2019 Senior Volunteer of the Year meets all of these criteria. There were applicants from all over Michigan, who were all very worthy of the award. There were 3 judges, Commissioner Hall, SAC Member Dennis Brieske, and Shirley Bentsen from AASA. The winner will be announced on Wednesday, May 15, 2019 at the Older Michigianians Day celebration at the State Capitol in Lansing.

Commissioner Wishart wanted to give special thanks to Shirley Bentsen for all her help and support on this project. She also encouraged and welcomed all to attend this great event in celebration of the winner and all seniors in Michigan.

Reminder about Reimbursements: Commissioner Wishart also encouraged all CSA and SAC members to be in touch with Kelly Cooper at AASA regarding any questions or concerns about travel and mileage reimbursements.

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE REPORT

Commissioner Joan Ilardo wanted to give kudos to Chair Wishart for her work at the Aging in America Conference, where there were over 100 people in attendance at her session. Commissioner LaTosch was also in attendance at this conference.

She went over letters that were drafted to be sent to Governor Whitmer and Senators and Representatives letting them know that AASA and the Aging Network is here and very active in providing services to Michigan's older adults and their families. The letters also addressed the fact that while the proposed investment in the Medicaid Adult Home Help program is crucial for older adults to remain living safely in their homes, the aging network provides very similar in-home services that are non-Medicaid funded. They were urged to consider that these services are equally impacted by adequate funding for the providers who deliver those services.

Commissioner Wishart asked for a motion to approve the advocacy letters.

Motion by Commissioner Strohl to approve the letters. Commissioner Duncan seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved with a voice vote.

She also added a thank you to all who helped draft the letters with a special thank you to Phil Lewis for being the liaison with the MDHHS administration and keeping them apprised of the commission's advocacy efforts.

Commissioner Ilardo reported they have invited SAC members to work with the commissioners in all four advocacy areas. Don Ryan has been working actively with the in-home supports and services with lead commissioner LaTosch. Terry Vear, Elizabeth Thompson, and Kirk Lewis have been working with the direct care workforce committee with lead commissioners Adeyanju and Bomberg. SAC member Joseph Sowmick has agreed to serve on the elder abuse and prevention committee with lead commissioners Duncan and Tripp. And finally, SAC members Joseph Sucher, Gerald McCole, and Mark Weber will be working on the transportation committee with lead commissioner Ilardo.

Commissioner Lichtenberg reported on the Elder Abuse Task Force assembled by the governor. There are about 70 members on this task force. Lichtenberg is also a member of the Dementia Coalition. Commissioner Ilardo stressed that it would be beneficial moving forward to make connections with those groups in our advocacy efforts so that everyone is working in concert. Commissioner Duncan commented that there are also AASA staff on the Task Force.

SAC Chair Report

March Meeting Report: Kristie Zamora, Chair of the State Advisory Council, thanked guest commissioner Adeyanju for his commission update and guest commissioner LaTosch for her advocacy committee update at the March SAC meeting. The SAC also received great information from AASA staff Scott Wamsley, Phil Lewis, and Rachel Telder.

Don Ryan and Wendy White explained a little about the SAC charge and how they have approached this charge. They first divided into four workgroups. They then scheduled advocacy-related guest speakers to give information to SAC members for a better understanding of the challenges facing each advocacy area. At the October 2018 SAC meeting, Dr. Lichtenberg presented on Financial Exploitation and financial capacity assessment tools.

Wendy White reported on the presentation at the March 2019 SAC meeting by Jean Ruestman, administrator for the Office of Passenger Transportation at MDOT. She gave an update on the \$8 million Michigan Mobility Challenge Grants. This challenge is a grant that was developed to solve mobility gaps for seniors, those with disabilities, and veterans.

The other portion of the SAC charge efforts was to survey the AAAs (Area Agencies on Aging) about innovative ideas they have used in three of the four areas of advocacy identified and how they worked, as well as what challenges they faced. They have received responses from all 16 AAAs and have begun reviewing those results.

ACTING AASA SENIOR DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORT

Aging and Adult Services Agency (AASA) Acting Senior Deputy Scott Wamsley reported that Dr. Joneigh Khaldun has joined MDHHS as the director for the health administration. He will be meeting with her next week to talk to her about the aging network. There has been no word on the Senior Deputy position for AASA.

He reported that on April 10 he made a presentation to house appropriations committee, and that we are looking at flat budget for 2020. He presented the house with some information about the AASA office and some activities we are involved in. There was a good representation from our partners in the aging network.

We are monitoring the federal budget very closely as well as the state budget. If there is no federal budget by October 2019, we will most likely be working under a continuing resolution until a budget is passed.

He shared that AASA staff Cynthia Farrell and Dawn Jacobs were invited by both MDHHS Director Gordon and the Attorney General's Office to be on the Elder Abuse Prevention Task Force. AASA will provide updates to the CSA as the task force convenes and starts work.

The AASA staff is reviewing some possible policy updates and services and operating standards to be sure that they are still relevant to the present. He will be looking to the CSA to have discussion regarding recommended updates prior to the presentation of the AIP review process.

Scott met with the Area Agencies on Aging Association of Michigan (4AM) at their meeting and there is ongoing discussion about trying to meet with the MDSA, possibly this summer, to talk about common issues and approaches to network challenges.

Scott gave updates on meetings with the MDHHS and the Marquette County Ambassadors as well as meetings with the Health Endowment Fund. He also indicated that AASA will be having their All-Star Meeting soon where they meet with all AAAs to talk about financial issues, contracting, service delivery, challenges they are having, direct care workforce issues, and any other current issues in terms of service delivery. This is a great opportunity for AASA to make sure they are staying ahead of any arising issues.

Commissioner Wishart wanted to be sure that the AASA staff involved in the Elder Abuse Task Force keep the CSA elder abuse prevention advocacy group current on their work. She also wanted to mention that at the Michigan Health Endowment Fund Conference there was a theatrical performance by a group of students at EMU with a focus on "the burden of caregiving" that was very powerful and thought-provoking and emphasized the fact that we must support family caregivers. She also had a conversation with the director after regarding both "the burden" as well as "the blessing" of caregiving and that they could possibly do a whole new performance relative to the blessing and in support of caregivers. She encouraged all to keep an eye out for this performance and to see it if given the chance.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Phil Lewis shared that Scott gave his second sub-committee appropriations report to the house on April 10. He noted that the house testimony took place on a previous day, which is not typical historically. The senior volunteer programs committee arrived on the day of Scott's report, thinking they would be allowed to testify. Even though testimony was not being given, the chair gave them the opportunity since they had traveled so far.

The budget process is expected to be a slow and long process that will likely go well into the summer as the government works through some of the different parts of the budget that are looming, to include auto insurance reforms and road funding issues. He shared some additional information about the Elder Abuse Task Force that was introduced on March 25, and he shared a news release with detailed information. AASA staff has provided some technical assistance to their website. There is an elder abuse package of bills that has been introduced. AASA provided an internal analysis to the department regarding these bills. The general theme of the bills is to add a definition of older adult (65 and over) and to increase some penalties for those who commit crimes against this population, also including some protections against financial exploitation.

Commissioner Wishart asked Phil to let the commission know if and when he would recommend their testimony in relation to these bills.

Discussion ensued about the involvement of public safety organizations in the Elder Abuse Task Force and also about whether Adult Protective Services would be involved. It was shared that there is a presence of law enforcement organizations in the talks. Also, AASA staff members from the Adult Services policy unit, Cynthia Farrell and Rachel Richards, are involved.

FINANCIAL UPDATES

Scott Wamsley shared a report handout for 2nd quarter expenditure reporting for AASA grant funds. He is starting to see trends in expenditure levels that are consistent with where we should be for the year.

BUSINESS ITEMS

CSA Scheduled Meetings and Public Hearings

Commissioner Wishart reviewed the revised calendar of scheduled meetings and public hearings. She noted a reminder that on May 17, 2019, the commission would be traveling to Region 11 to the Negaunee area and that there will be a public hearing after the meeting at 1:00 pm. at the same location. The public hearing portion was not noted on the original approved calendar. She stated that we have been working, and will continue to work, on fostering as much attendance as possible at these public meetings throughout Michigan. She also noted that there was an address correction on July 19 commission meeting and that the meeting in December would be back in Lansing at the same location as today's meeting.

Commissioner Wishart asked for a motion to approve the revised CSA Scheduled Meetings and Public Hearings calendar.

Motion by Commissioner Strohl to approve the amended schedule. Commissioner Ilardo seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved with no amendments with a voice vote.

Discussion ensued about the possibility of providing suggested topics for each meeting in an effort to foster more attendance at Public Hearings. The commission would, of course, take any testimony at a Public Hearing, but there may be more interest and attendance if a special topic were suggested, possibly related to a particular issue in the region in which the meeting is held. Commissioner Wishart asked Phil to be sure that we would share the topic in any press release prior to meetings. She also noted that we should be sure to make mention of the four advocacy areas of focus when asking for public testimony.

Request for Approval to Reallocate Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Grant Funds

Scott Wamsley reported that the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Adult Services Agency (AASA), requests commission approval to reallocate FY 2019 RSVP grant funds as described on the chart provided. RSVP grant awards are intended to support local volunteer program activities. This unallocated funding is available due to a decision by the Western Upper Peninsula Health Department to cease their RSVP sponsorship. For FY 2020, AASA will make a recommendation to the commission to seek a new RSVP sponsor for this area or redistribute these funds to current RSVP project sponsors. Based on the information provided above, Scott recommends that the commission approve the revisions to the FY 2019 RSVP state allocations.

Scott added that there is an effort underway to see if there are some other agencies who would be willing to sponsor the program, but the struggle is that with the amount of money that is available, we haven't had agencies step forward.

Motion by Commissioner Sheehan to approve request. Commissioner Hall seconded the motion.

Motion approved with a 12-0-1 vote.

Request for Approval to Reallocate Program Year (PY) 2018-2019 Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) Funds

Laura McMurtry reported that the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, Aging and Adult Services Agency (AASA), requests commission approval to reallocate a portion of PY 2018-2019 SCSEP funds in the amounts noted on memo provided.

AASA has received requests from two SCSEP subgrantees to reduce their grant award due to a projection of unspent SCSEP funds by the end of the program year. Because unspent SCSEP funds cannot be carried over from one PY to the next, AASA requests that any funds from SCSEP subgrantees projected to be unspent by the end of the PY be reallocated to other SCSEP subgrantees where possible.

As no SCSEP subgrantees have requested additional funds, AASA is requesting that these unspent funds be reallocated to AASA for administrative purposes. With the SCSEP state program manager traveling to complete monitoring and data validation site visits this spring,

AASA anticipates having the ability to spend the additional funds by the end of the PY, June 30, 2019.

Scott Wamsley added that the program is a very highly regulated program and that Laura has done a great job in keeping up with the regulations. He also noted that the administration costs have not been accommodated by federal grant funds and AASA has reduced their administrative amount from this grant year after year in order to keep more money in the field. Much of the administrative work has not been charged to the grant for several years.

Motion by Commissioner Briggs to approve request. Commissioner Newsome seconded the motion.

Motion approved with a 12-0-1 vote.

Request for Approval of Community for a Lifetime (CFL) Recognition for the City of Ferndale

Commissioner Wishart first wanted to give a shout out of thanks to commissioners Briggs and Newsome for their work on this committee. The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services' Aging and Adult Services Agency (AASA) convened the CFL Review Panel on April 1, 2019, to review the City of Ferndale's application for recognition of their aging-friendly community assessment. Dan Doezema reported that they had a very complete and comprehensive assessment, which is what the committee was looking for. The highlights of their strengths were shared in the memo provided. Dan thought it important to note that the city had surveyed their older adults to find out their needs. They received a very high return rate for surveys because they worked hard to get the word out regarding the survey.

The City of Ferndale used the Michigan CFL Assessment. Assessment partners included local government officials, older adults, non-profit agencies and businesses. The assessment covered walkability/bikeability, supportive community systems, access to health care, safety and security, housing availability, housing modification and maintenance, transportation, commerce, enrichment and inclusion.

The CFL Review Panel recommended that the Village of Ferndale be recognized for their aging-friendly community assessment and commitment to becoming a CFL.

Commissioner Newsome added that this was by far one of the most organized CFL efforts and commissioner Briggs added that he was impressed with their efforts to survey older adults in their community by accessing the absentee ballot mailing lists. He believes this would be a great tool for others to use.

Motion by Commissioner 9999 to approve request. Commissioner Duncan seconded the motion.

Motion approved with a 13-0-0 vote.

Request for Approval of State Advisory Council on Aging (SAC) Appointment and Reappointment Recommendation

Commissioner Zamora thanked Commissioners Strohl and Briggs for reviewing the applications of two individuals for SAC. She requested approval of their recommendation to appoint Priscilla Kimboko, representing Region 8, as a new member for a 3-year term. She is also recommending reappointment of Mary Jones representing Region 5.

Commission Chair Wishart asked for a motion to approve the recommendations.

Motion by Commissioner Hall to approve the SAC appointment and reappointment, as presented. Commissioner Ilardo seconded the motion.

This motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

Zamora added that every region is now represented on the State Advisory Council and there are still five openings, and they have sent the guidelines for application to every AAA.

A suggestion was made to add these openings and application process to the AASA Facebook page and Phil Lewis made note of this.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Legal Services Update

Cynthia Farrell, supervisor of Supportive Adult Services Section at AASA, shared that the legal services developer position has been vacant for several years. This is something that is covered under The Older American's Act, and utilizes Title IIIB funds. Dawn Jacobs is the analyst for this position. This is a new position, so the past year has been learning about the program. They went in October to a national conference and they met with 33 other states' legal services departments to learn about what they were doing for outreach. The next step in learning the needs was to go out to meet their legal service providers who are contracted through the AAAs.

Cynthia provided a detailed report document to the commission. Dawn Jacobs also spoke about the outreach efforts and felt the one on one time with legal services providers has been a great learning tool for how to proceed. She suggested that the commissioners access michiganlegalhelp.org website that is a wealth of information. On June 18, there will be a joint meeting of all legal service providers and ombudsman, and the invitation was extended to all AAA Directors also.

Scott Wamsley added that he appreciates the work that Cynthia and Dawn have put into this new position and outreach. He reported that this legal services position has been part of a larger ongoing effort to bring legal services, APS policy unit and Adult Community Placement, the Ombudsman contract, and the PRVENT grant together under one area of AASA so that they can leverage and collaborate at the state level among those programs and provide leadership and support in a comprehensive way.

Cynthia shared that she and Rachel Richards were both asked to be part of the Elder Abuse Task Force. There are seven (7) sub-committees and Cynthia is part of the Education and

Training Committee and Public Awareness Committee. Rachel is part of the Policy and Legislation Committee. These committees meet twice a month. The task force will meet once per month.

Commissioner Wishart asked that they stay connected with Commissioners Duncan and Tripp for their area of expertise. Cynthia will continue to update the CSA as the committees and the task force moves forward.

Proposed Supplemental Items for the Approved FY 2020-2022 Multi Year Plan (MYP)

Approval Criteria

Dan Doezema, AASA Field Representative, provided a detailed document highlighting the changes that are proposed, based on much input from the March CSA meeting.

Commissioner Wishart added that she wants to make sure, as everyone is getting ready for the rather lengthy August and September AIP meetings, that the presentation style developed under the leadership of Eric Berke is not lost. The field reps and the order of their comments leading to the call for requests for approval has been very helpful to the commission in adding some time efficiencies and some ease for the chair of the commission.

Commissioners thanked Dan for this great work, commenting that it was very responsive of their discussion from last time and that he did a great job wading through the very lengthy discussion from the March meeting.

Aging and Adult Services Agency Appropriations and Revenue Overview Report

Scott Wamsley provided a revised handout and briefly discussed some of the numbers. He added that as we approach the AIP presentations, this seemed like a great time to talk about how AASA has been funded and how services have been funded over the years. He also noted that when the departments merged, it was originally thought that AASA would administer the PACE program, so the PACE appropriations were added to the AASA budget, but the program transition never actually happened. This skewed the appropriations data for 2016.

Discussion ensued about some of the figures and Scott answered questions from commissioners. It was suggested that since 2016 was an anomaly, maybe it should be removed so that trendlines are more reflective of actual expenditures. It was also suggested that Scott take these numbers and make one more chart that reflects per capita figures. This would be important to show that per capita spending is going down, and that people need to see that even though the funding has been increased, we are still serving more people.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The CSA will hold a public hearing after this meeting and luncheon at this same location at 1:00 PM.

Immediately following this meeting, the CSA will honor the 2019 Gatekeepers of the Year from Consumers Energy and DTE Energy with an awards luncheon.

The next Commission on Services to the Aging meeting will be held at 9:00 AM on Friday, May 17, 2019, at the Negaunee Senior Citizens Center located at 410 Jackson Street, Negaunee, MI 49866. A public hearing will follow at 1:00 PM.

The next SAC meeting will be held Thursday, June 20, 2019, at 9:30 AM at the Ramada Lansing Hotel & Conference Center located at 7501 W. Saginaw Hwy. in Lansing.

Please note, these meetings are open to the public, and anyone wishing to attend may do so. Those needing accommodations to attend should contact Kelly Cooper at AASA at (517) 284-0182 at least five (5) days prior to the meeting date.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Wishart adjourned the meeting at 12:10.

GATEKEEPER OF THE YEAR AWARD PRESENTATION FOLLOWED MEETING PRESS RELEASE FOLLOWS:

Two utility company employees were celebrated today by state aging officials and the Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA) for recognizing older adults who were in desperate need of help, and for taking swift action to help connect them to local aging services.

For their efforts, Consumers Energy's Rebecca Newman and DTE Energy's Marrisha Cargill, were each awarded the 2019 Gatekeeper of the Year award by the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) Aging and Adult Services Agency (AASA) and the CSA.

The Gatekeeper program provides information to employees of Consumers Energy and DTE Energy to help them recognize and refer at-risk older adults and people with disabilities to the local Area Agencies on Aging or other local agencies. Each month a Gatekeeper of the Month is named, and from that group, a Gatekeeper of the Year is selected from each participating organization.

BUSINESS MEETING DEBRIEFING WORKING LUNCH TO FOLLOW