

Commission on Services to the Aging (CSA) and
Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS)
Aging and Adult Services Agency (AASA)
Virtual Meeting
Monday, March 16, 2020

MINUTES - APPROVED

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting of the Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging was called to order at 9:00 A.M. by Chair Wishart.

CSA ROLL CALL

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

CSA MEMBERS PRESENT

Dona Wishart, Matthew Adeyanju, Mark Bomberg, William Bupp, Renee Cortright, Georgia Crawford-Cambell, Nancy Duncan, Kathleen LaTosch, Peter Lichtenberg, Guillermo Lopez, Robert Schlueter, Linda Strohl, and Kristie Zamora

CSA MEMBERS ABSENT (excused)

Marshall Greenhut and Tene Milton-Ramsey

AASA STAFF PRESENT

Dr. Alexis Travis, Scott Wamsley, Jen Hunt, and Danielle Trim

VISITORS/GUESTS PRESENT

None at this time

APPROVAL OF CSA AGENDA

Commissioner Wishart requested a motion to approve the CSA agenda.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bupp to approve the agenda. Commissioner Cortright seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously with a voice vote.

APPROVAL OF CSA MINUTES

Commissioner Wishart requested for a motion to approve the January 17, 2020, CSA minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bomberg to approve the minutes. Commissioner Lopez seconded the motion and the motion was approved with amendments with a 13-0-0 vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS

None at this time.

CSA CHAIR REPORT

Commission Chair Wishart thanked all for their willingness to adapt in these ever-changing times. Wishart also shared her thanks to commission members and AASA staff for their continued hard work ensuring continued support to older adults and caregivers in Michigan.

Wishart explained that this meeting would consist only of essential business items and requested that the SAC and Advocacy reports be sent out to commissioners via email by the end of the week. Wishart provided the commission with meeting rules to ensure that all voices would be heard and each commissioner had the opportunity to share comments, questions, or concerns.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Request for Approval of United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) Funding, Known as Senior Project FRESH/Market FRESH in Michigan for Fiscal Year 2020

Scott Wamsley, Deputy Director, requested the commission's approval to accept the FY 2020 grant award for \$460,556. The grant will be used to provide each county with one hundred \$20 coupon books to distribute to seniors. The grant also allows for a 10% administration cost totaling \$22,656. The remaining \$234,000 is in unredeemed coupons. Since these coupons are not redeemed, the fund used to pay for them remains in the "local" account and is re-issued to the county that originally purchased them to re-distribute the following year.

A motion was made by Commissioner Bomberg for the approval of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP) Funding, Known as Senior Project FRESH/Market FRESH in Michigan for Fiscal Year 2020. Commissioner Bupp seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed, and this motion was approved with a 12-0-1 vote with Commissioner Wishart abstaining.

Request for Approval of Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) Approval Criteria

Scott Wamsley requests approval of the FY 2021 AIP Approval Criteria. The implementation plan includes adding a brief summary and description of the planning area's mission and vision along with the plan for the upcoming fiscal year. The new criteria also requires area agencies to increase efforts to reach all communities and populations in their services areas.

Commissioner LaTosch requested that additional language be included in the plan to account for emergency preparedness.

A motion was made by Commissioner LaTosch for the approval of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2021 Annual Implementation Plan (AIP) Approval Criteria. Commissioner Adeyanju seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed, and this motion was approved with one amendment with a 13-0-0 vote.

Request for Approval to Reallocate Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Senior Volunteer Program Grant Funds

Scott Wamsley requests approval of the Foster Grandparent Program (FGP), Senior Companion Program (SCP), and Retired and Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) grants for FY 2020 as described below. The FGP, SCP, and RSVP awards are intended to provide state funding for local volunteer program activities for the grant period April 1, 2020, through September 30, 2020.

| <u>GRANTEE</u> | <u>PROGRAM</u> | <u>GRANT AMOUNT</u> |
|------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Methodist Children’s Home Society | FGP | \$168,845 |
| Methodist Children’s Home Society | SCP | \$53,734 |
| Catholic Charities of Southeast MI | RSVP | \$41,156 |

A motion was made by Commissioner Adeyanju for the approval to reallocate Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Senior Volunteer Program Grant Funds. Commissioner Bomberg seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed, and this motion was approved with a 13-0-0 vote.

Request for Approval to Allocate Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Senior Center Grant Funds

Scott Wamsley requests approval to award Senior Center Wellness Grant funds. AASA has reviewed proposals submitted by senior centers in accordance with the grant requirements. The grant must go to support health-related senior programs at multipurpose senior citizen centers. Program's goals should include mental and physical health maintenance and improvement for senior participants.

A motion was made by Commissioner Schuelter for the approval to allocate Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 Senior Center Grant Funds. Commissioner Zamora seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed, and this motion was approved with a 11-0-2 vote with Commissioners Wishart and Cortright abstaining.

Request for Approval of Waivers to Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging Policy Requirements in Response to Coronavirus (COVID-19)

Scott Wamsley requests approval of waivers to Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging Policy Requirements in response to COVID-19. AASA is implementing response strategies and related contingency operations planning in response to COVID-19. As part of these preparations, AASA has reviewed CSA standards and requirements to identify potential administrative policy flexibility.

A motion was made by Commissioner Strohl to approved waivers to Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging Policy Requirements in Response to COVID-19. Commissioner Bomberg seconded the motion.

Additional discussion followed, and this motion was approved with a 13-0-0 vote.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Presentation and Update on Coronavirus

Dr. Alexis Travis, Senior Deputy Director, provided the commission with updates on the COVID-19 health crisis. On Tuesday, March 10, Michigan's Governor Whitmer declared a state of emergency as the state's first positive cases of COVID-19 were identified. The emergency declaration enables the state to quickly deploy resources (equipment, supplies, and/or personnel) to local jurisdictions to support their response efforts in combatting the spread of COVID-19. All Michiganders are encouraged to follow the recommendations from MDHHS and the CDC to protect themselves and slow the spread of COVID-19. As stated in the earlier Request For Approval of Waivers to Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging Policy Requirements in Response to COVID-19, AASA has been working with the area agencies on aging to ensure they have the flexibility to respond appropriately to community needs as COVID-19 spreads. The ability to grant flexibility is of the utmost importance to AASA in order to meet the emergent needs of seniors. This week, Dr Travis will issue three blanket waivers regarding the additional guidance for nutrition programs, in-person assessments, and SCSEP participant leave.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next Commission on Services to the Aging meeting is tentatively scheduled for 9:00 am on Friday, April 17, 2020, and will be a teleconference meeting. Call-in information will be available on the meeting agenda.

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 (517) 284-0182 at least five (5) days before the meeting date.

ADJOURN

Commissioner Wishart adjourned the meeting at 10:37 A.M.