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Minutes

Iowa Commission on Aging | September 14, 2016 | Des Moines, Iowa

Welcome and Call to Order

The Iowa Commission on Aging convened a regular meeting via conference call. Commissioner Grandquist called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Members Present

Betty Grandquist, Chair
Carole Dunkin (teleconference)
Willard Jenkins (teleconference)
Richard Motz (teleconference)
Richard Stone (present)
Beverly Winkie (teleconference)
Representative Gaskill *
Representative Pettengill *

Members Absent

Quentin Hart
Senator Chelgren *
Senator Dotzler *

*Non-voting, Ex-officio members

Others present: Iowa Department on Aging Director Donna K. Harvey, Assistant Director Joel Wulf, Erin Kurth, Brian Majeski, Ruth Thompson, John Hale

Agenda

Action: There was a motion by Commissioner Stone and a second by Commissioner Dunkin to approve the agenda as presented. A voice vote followed and the motion carried.

Minutes

Action: There was a motion by Commissioner Winkie and a second by Commissioner Stone to approve the minutes of April 28, 2016. A voice vote followed and the motion carried.

IAC 17-Chapter 21, The Service of Case Management

Director Harvey introduced proposed language for a revision in the IAC. Director Harvey provided background and explanation.

After discussion, Commission members asked for the following:

- Requested additional consideration be given to qualifications of personnel in the provision of the service of case management. Concerned with the shortage of workers and wanted to further review any impact the proposed language may have on the recruitment of qualified personnel.

- Additional information related to the required service plan. Clarification of the term “periodic” and recommendation that the term be defined.
- Further information on why the changes were proposed.
- Additional information on the qualifications of case managers.
- Responsibility for monitoring

Action: A motion to table passage of Chapter 21 was made by Commissioner Jenkins. A second was made by Commissioner Stone. A voice vote followed and the motion carried.

Based on the guidance the department received from the Commission, the department will revise the document and propose changes at a later date.

Chair Grandquist stated that a letter of thanks has been sent to Commissioner Jill Bjerke whose term on the Commission has ended.

Chapter 29 – Reduction of Area Agencies on Aging

Action: A motion to rescind 17 IAC Chapter 21 as presented was made by Commissioner Stone and a second was made by Commissioner Motz. A voice vote followed and the motion carried.

Office of Public Guardianship Proposal

Assistant Director Joel Wulf discussed proposals for future changes in administrative rules for the Office of Substitute Decision Maker, including the following:

- Name change from Office of Substitute Decision Maker to the Office of Public Guardianship.
- Reduce scope of office
- Clarify role of Attorney General’s Office

Action: A motion to recommend the staff develop legislative proposal to rename the Office of Substitute Decision Maker to Office of Public Guardianship and to work with Attorney General’s office to recommend legislative action to streamline the process was made by Commissioner Stone and seconded by Commissioner Winkie. A voice vote followed and the motion carried.

Based on the guidance received by the Commission, the department will draft language for submission to IGOV for consideration.

“Aging in Iowa: A Snapshot of Older Iowans.” Ruth Thompson presented research on aging in Iowa. She noted suggestions for direction of future research.

Centenarian Events

Erin Kurth provided an update on local Centenarian recognition, being planned collaboratively by the Department, the governor’s office and AAAs.

Betty Grandquist Lifetime Achievement Award

Chair Grandquist requested participation for nomination committee, as follows:

- Commissioner Winkie, chair
- Commissioner Dunkin
- Commissioner Motz

All three commissioners accepted.

Announcements from the Commission and/or Department Staff

Director Harvey discussed the following:

- Department of Labor recognition of Iowa's SCSEP program leading Region 5 in placing older adults at 125% or less of the poverty index in unsubsidized employment.
- Proposed changes to the Office of Substitute Decision Maker Falls Prevention – event September 22, 2016. Department of Public Health has been awarded sustainability grant.
- Veterans Directed Home and Community based services is now open at the Iowa City VAMC. IDA continues to work with the VA and other stakeholders in opening the Des Moines VAMC as a provider as well. Senator Ernst has been helpful and continues to encourage access for Iowa Veterans.
- Director Harvey testified on the issue of financial exploitation of older adults in front of the Judiciary Committee at the request of Senator Grassley.
- Three of six area agencies are known to have scheduled changes to the Executive Director by the end of the year.
- IDA personnel working on the completion of the State Plan and submission to the Administration on Community Living for approval. This will be a four year plan.

Assistant Director Joel Wulf

- Guidance has been received from the Governor's Office that the department budget for state fiscal year 2018 will be submitted as status quo.

Introduction

Newest Commission member Richard Motz introduced himself. From Sioux City, Rick is a small business owner and former AAA director in Northwestern Iowa.

Recognition

Commissioner Motz recognized the passing of Lahoma Counts on June 24, 2016. Lahoma was a former Executive Director of Elderbridge Area Agency on Aging. The Commission recognized her many years of contributions to older Iowans and the aging network.

Public Comment

John Hale, owner of The Hale Group was present. Hale commented on the current discussion being had by Elevate Aging and summarized the agenda of the organization based on recent listening sessions across the State of Iowa. The listening sessions identified new and ongoing priorities. These include the following:

New

- Oral health
- Mental health
- Quality of long-term supports and services

Ongoing Issues:

- Lack of planning and preparedness
- Workforce shortage
- Family caregiving
- How to pay for long-term services and supports

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Chair

Date

Recording Secretary

Date