

Governor's Committee on Aging
Friday, August 8, 2008
Dickinson Elks
Meeting Minutes

GCoA Members: Amy Clark-Chair, Ray Siver-Vice Chair, Marty Heller-Secretary, Bruce Davidson, Elaine Keepseagle, Larry Wagner, Delores Rath, Bonnie Bieber, Shirley Blake

Guests: Sheryl Pfliger, Mark Jesser.

1. Welcome and Introductions –

- All the GCoA members introduced themselves to the new members.
- Amy reviewed the expectations of the Governor Committee with the members. Reference the handout. The eight primary expectations are:
 - 1) Attend the four quarterly GCoA meetings each year.
 - 2) Work with your regional RASPA every other year to plan the Forum.
 - 3) Attend two regional meetings each year.
 - 4) Educate seniors about GCoA duties and other issues.
 - 5) Convey local issues to the GCoA.
 - 6) Serve on applicable sub-committees.
 - 7) Maintain contact with Legislators.
 - 8) Update the Governor with meeting minutes, annual report of GCoA accomplishments and other pertinent information applicable to seniors.
- Many of the committee members did not receive the last GCoA meeting minutes. The minutes are reviewed and issued as follows: Marty provides the minutes to Diane S. a few days after the GCoA meeting, Amy reviews the minutes and Diane issues them. We need to consider sending the minutes out to the members via hard copy too. Some of the members requested eliminating email attachments and include the email attachments within the body of the email. Some members don't receive emails with attachments and some members don't always receive emails. Also, need to copy the Governor on the minutes.

2. 2009 Forums on Aging –

- Amy reviewed the Forums schedule:
 - 1) Dickinson all day April 20th – Bonnie & Marty
 - 2) Grand Forks is April 20th - Ray
 - 3) New Town in the morning and Williston in the afternoon April 21 - Fred
 - 4) Ellendale in the morning - Delores and Lisbon in the afternoon April 22 – Shirley & Bruce.
 - 5) Bismarck in the afternoon April 23 – Amy, Larry, Elaine
 - 6) Rugby all day April 24. Betty & Patricia

- The committee members reviewed their progress for planning the upcoming Forums. Marty will issue a Time-line document to the committee that Mark Jesser provided. The document will aid the committee members in identifying the upcoming milestones for the upcoming regional Forum they are working with. Have Diane issue these documents to the members. One goal for the committee is to provide a rough draft of their Forum Time-line at the next meeting in November 7th.

3. **Region 8 Services –**

- Mark Jesser, Regional Aging Services Program Administrator talked about his position responsibilities. In his region it is sparsely populated and there are 42000 people in the region he is responsible for. He is the long term care Ombudsman. This means he acts as the advocate for long term care facilities. He monitors 20 facilities quarterly. In addition he provides protective adult services which help individuals with abuse, neglect, exploitation in the area. There are lots of cases of neglect, with poor living conditions, no heat in the home, etc. In addition, he supervises the family care giver program and works with adult foster care in the county. In the state there are 68 foster homes and eight in this county. Mark reviews the paperwork and issues the license for the ones in this region. He monitors our title three providers, health programs, nutrition programs, etc. Mark works with Eldercare which provides meal services in twenty-four towns in this region. With gas prices and food prices increasing it is getting tougher for these providers to provide meals in these areas. Mark mentioned this would be a good point to mention to the Governor. Southwest District health provides maintenance health services in this area. They provide services to 40 sites and Mark visits all of them every three years. Mark is on the road a lot performing these duties. He doesn't have a secretary and the Bismarck office takes over his duties when he is on vacation. One of the area he is struggling with is dealing with guardianships. He struggles with finding a guardian. He doesn't have a public administrator in the county to head-up these duties. He plans to talk to the county commissioners about funding this position and providing this service.

4. **Develop GCoA Work Plan –**

1. Sheryl Pfliger, Assistant Director, Aging Services Division, Facilitator reviewed a handout about the GCoA Committee goals from 2007. She reviewed the ground rules for setting goals. All members should participate in setting these goals in a positive manner. No idea is a bad idea. We reviewed the goals, discussed changes to them and revised them. Sheryl will issue the revised goals to the members to review. Plan to finalize them by the next meeting. Reference Goal 4b. Plan to invite Richard Rathge from NDSU to provide an update to the committee annually. Plan to review and develop goals each year, starting in August of each year. Amy made a motion to add the 2003 Marketing goals to the 2008 goals. Ray second, motion carried. Overview of the committee's goals for 2008: Forums,

Legislation, Marketing & Advocating. Need setup strategies to measure these goals. Legislation – Track the bills. Forums – Review forms. Marketing - ? Advocating - ? Larry is very interested in Long Term Care facilities providing services and plans to meet with Shelly Peterson. He will report back to the committee during the next meeting.

5. Other Business –

- Amy handed-out a document about the Governor’s Committee on Aging. Covers items like who we are, what we do, etc.
- Amy is struggling getting the Graying of ND Coalition to attend the meetings because of their other commitments, etc. She recommends the GCoA committee pay \$140 per year to fund the Graying of ND web site so they can communicate with the Graying Coalition, Ray motion and Bruce second. Motion carried.
- Sheryl presented an Aging Services report from Linda Wright. The highlights of the report are:
 - a. A grant application has been submitted to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid that would establish a person centered hospital discharge planning model and an aging and disability resource center in North Dakota.
 - b. Helen Funk, State Long-term Care Ombudsman has decided to retire.
 - c. The grant application to the Department of Labor for the Senior Community Services Employment Program has been approved.
 - d. The Department of Human Services is currently in the process of preparing a budget for 2009-11 bienniums. Aging Services has submitted a budget for the Committee for \$20, 000.
 - e. Three of the Division Staff (Linda Wright, Judy Tschider, and Lynne Jacobson) provided information to the committees of the Silver Haired Assembly during their session in July.
 - f. Aging Services is sponsoring an Elder Justice Conference to be held in October.

6. Adjourn – Next meeting in Devils Lake on November 7th. Today’s Meeting started at 9 AM MST and ended at 1:15 PM.