

**Meeting:** Senior Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting  
**Date:** October 2, 2017

## **PARTICIPANTS**

- Bernadette LaLonde – SAC Member
- Berta Varble – SDS Staff
- Cherish Dominguer – Options for SO
- Connie Saldana, SDS Staff
- John Curtis – SAC Member (via phone)
- John Irwin – SAC Member
- Laura O'Bryon – SDS Director
- Linda Serra – Guest
- Nancy Randolph – SAC Member
- Pat Jenkins – SAC Vice-Chair
- Rhonda Lawrence – SAC Member
- Richard Hoskins – SAC Member
- Rosalie Caffrey – SAC Member
- Saundra Theis – SAC Chair
- Sue Casavan – SDS Staff

## **SAC MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

- Anne Bellegia
- Colleen Roberts
- Dan DeYoung
- Erika Bekermeier
- Isleen Glatt
- Jamie Callahan – SAC Applicant

**CALL TO ORDER** - Sandy called the meeting to order at 12:35 p.m.

## **GENERAL MEETING BUSINESS**

**Introductions of guests and public comments** - Introductions were made.

**Additions to agenda** – None.

**Review and approval of August 7, 2017 Minutes** – Pat moved and Rhonda seconded approval of the minutes as written. Motion passed unanimously.

## **Announcements –**

- Nancy talked about the importance of addressing hearing loss early because unaddressed hearing loss can cause dementia. She recommended getting a hearing test and considering hearing aids even if there is not significant hearing loss.
- John Curtis announced two elder abuse conferences – one on the north coast for elder abuse professionals on October 26, 2017 and a local conference being sponsored by RVCOG on November 15, 2017.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Executive – Sandy reported.**

- The Committee decided to assign a review of the SAC Bylaws to O&E; they voted unanimously to change the name of O&E to Support Services. They decided to hold a combined SAC/DSAC Advisory Council orientation on November 6 from 12 – 4 p.m. in the Jefferson Room at RVCOG. Lunch will be provided for up to 30 people. Staff will ask participants to RSVP. They interviewed a SAC applicant, Linda Serra, and voted to recommend her for SAC membership to the RVCOG.

### **Council Development – Pat reported.**

- Outside of interviewing Linda Serra, the only other things to report are that no new SAC membership applications have been received and we need Josephine County members.

### **Outcome & Evaluations (Support Services)/Nutrition – Rosalie reported.**

- No meeting was held in September. The next meeting will take place Tuesday, October 17 where the focus will be on SAC Bylaws and recruitment materials.

### **Communications & Outreach – No meeting in September.**

### **Advocacy – John Curtis reported.**

- The committee prepared for the “Debriefing of 2017 Legislative Session.”
- They looked at the Oregonlegislature.gov website.
- Department of Human Services-related Bills that passed in the 2017 legislative session are being written into Administrative Rule. A Notice is published when each Rule is complete announcing the Rule is available for review and the date it will become effective.
- The Advocacy Committee will send SAC members who expressed interest in a particular area any related Notices. Only six members have signed up to receive Notices. The Committee will follow up with the rest of the SAC to see if other members

want to participate.

- Legislative candidates will be announcing they are running soon. Advocacy Committee wants to start Adopt-A-Candidate as soon as we know who is running.
- John Curtis attended a District 8 Adult Foster Homes organizing meeting. Jamie facilitated pulling the meeting together. John talked about some of the issues facing adult foster homes, their consumers and staff.
- John reminded SAC members when speaking on personal issues near and dear to their hearts that have not been endorsed by the SAC, to be clear that their comments are personal and not those of the SAC.
- The Council discussed how to find the pros and cons of an Oregon law. John explained how to read minutes from or listen to recordings of the legislative committee hearings that are held prior to acting on a measure.

**Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC) – John reported.**

- DSAC did not meet in September.
- At the August meeting a speaker from Aging and People with Disabilities (APD) presented on empowering DSACs statewide on advocacy and wanting to form an Oregon Association of DSACs. They want their own association similar to a nonprofit that existed in the past.
- At today's DSAC, there will be a deaf community presentation on interpreters.

**Home & Community Based Care – Nancy reported.**

- The Committee began discussing nursing home administrative rules. They will continue next month. Their goal is to understand what does and doesn't work for nursing homes and the state.
- Long Term Care Ombudsmen don't do scheduled visits to nursing homes. They only go when they are called by a resident.
- Background checks and pre-employment training requirements for adult foster homes may prevent an adult foster home being able to hire someone. Nancy wants a 90-day window on completing caregiver training instead of up front.

**Field Office Report – No report.**

**Director's Report – Laura reported.**

- SAC members are encouraged to attend DSAC meetings.
- Oregon Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Disabilities (O4AD) annual planning meeting happened last week.
- Sandy Markwood, National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (N4A) Executive Director, presented on national trends and facilitated O4AD planning discussions.

Sandy has been chosen at the national level as one of the top 50 influencers on making home and community based services a priority. Laura will provide details at the next SAC meeting.

- Some of the highlights from the O4AD annual planning meeting:
  - There is a national movement toward access to Medicare funds for Area Agencies on Aging (AAAs).
  - An initiative is underway in Oregon and being implemented by O4AD.
  - Oregon Wellness Network (OWN) is a division of the O4AD, a non-profit organization representing all 17 AAAs in Oregon. OWN's purpose is to serve as a network hub that uses a centralized, coordinated model for service provision with a focus on capturing Medicare.
  - Berta Varble is an OWN Board member. She and Lauren Champagne are also members of the OWN Operations Council.
- The SAC discussed the need to braid dollars to fund services. It will take a lot of work to figure this out. They also discussed California public employees' ability to donate money to programs. In essence, a "Go Fund Me" approach. Maybe we could do something similar in Oregon?
- Laura reported that a full-page ad has been placed in the Daily Courier's annual publication, Prime Time. The ad is recruiting volunteers for the Disaster Registry, Office Operations Support, ADRC Database, Living Well, Powerful Tools and SAC. Also, several volunteer recruitment brochures have been developed.
- Laura publicly acknowledged and thanked Bernadette LaLonde for working with Lauren Champagne on grant work for the REACH OUT program.
- Veteran's Conference – October 26, 2017 at Smullin Center
- Elder Abuse Conference – November 15, 2017 at Smullin Center
- Aging Services Partners Afternoon Tea is in the works. We should have a date/time to announce soon.
- **A Health Care Tax proposal is being put on the ballot this fall that could negatively impact OPI funding.**
- Laura provided overview of Ashland Senior Program Revamp. She and Anne Bellegia are serving on an ad hoc committee – Ashland Senior Program Advisory Committee (ASPAC). ASPAC will provide advice on reorganizing the Ashland Senior Program with a focus on expanding and enhancing the Program for Ashland's 55+ population, given current resources.
- The SAC suggested looking at what is happening with the Medford Senior Center.
- John Irwin reported that Congress has allowed the Child Health Insurance Program (CHIPS) to expire.
- Laura provided an update on what is happening with DDRV. Three staff has found work. One retired. Treven is taking a 3-4 month break from work.

**Action Item: Recommendation of New Member to the Senior Advisory Council – Linda Serra** John Curtis moves and Nancy Randolph seconds approval of Linda Serra for RVCOC Board approval as a SAC member. Motion passed unanimously.

**ADJOURN** – Meeting ended at 1:49 p.m.

**Debriefing of 2017 Legislative Session:** Pam Marsh and Duane Stark present.

DRAFT