

Meeting: Senior Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting
Date: November 5, 2018

PARTICIPANTS

- Ali McBee – Guest – Home Instead
- Berta Varble – SDS Staff
- Chelsey Kirby – SDS Staff
- Erika Bekermeier – SAC Member
- Jean Carroll – SAC Member
- Jim Bachman – SAC Member
- John Curtis – SAC Member
- Kathie Young – APD District Manager
- Laura O'Bryon – SDS Director
- Lezley Sanders – Guest – NAMI SO
- Linda Serra – SAC Member
- Nancy Randolph – SAC Chair
- Pat Jenkins – SAC Member
- Rhonda Lawrence – SAC Vice-Chair
- Richard Hoskins – SAC Member
- Rodney Schroeder – APD Deputy District Manager
- Sandra Theis – SAC Member
- Stef Seffinger – Guest
- Trisha McConnell – Guest – Home Instead

SAC MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

- Bernadette LaLonde – SAC Member
- Colleen Roberts
- Dan DeYoung
- Isleen Glatt – SAC Member
- Jamie Callahan – SAC Member

CALL TO ORDER - Nancy called the meeting to order at 12:31 p.m.

GENERAL MEETING BUSINESS

Introductions of guests and public comments - Introductions were made.

Additions to agenda – None.

Review and approval of October 1, 2018 Minutes –

Jim moves and Pat seconds approval of the minutes as written. Motion passes unanimously.

Announcements –

- John shared that the Oregon Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Disabilities (O4AD) has a way to post SAC and Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC) minutes on their website. He has already posted a few months of our minutes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive – Nancy reported.

- This Committee meets on a quarterly basis. No report.

Council Development – Pat reported.

- Pat shared that there are no outstanding applications.

Support Services/Nutrition – Sandy reported.

- She introduced Stefani Seffinger, who is applying to be a SAC member.
- The Committee discussed the challenges of providing Guardianship services. They want to find funding to help with Guardianship Certification and Education.
- They will be coordinating with the Communications and Outreach Committee to discuss family caregivers in the workplace. **See Rhonda's Committee report below.**

Communications & Outreach – Rhonda reported.

- Several parties are interested in addressing issues of family caregivers in the workplace – Communications & Outreach, Support Services, and the Southern Oregon Center for Community Partnerships. There will be a meeting on December 14, from 9 – 11 a.m. to bring all of the parties together to discuss how to move forward. Others are invited. A suggestion was made to look at both paid and unpaid family caregivers.
- The Committee discussed engagement of members in promoting services and/or programs in which they are interested. This would be with the assistance of staff. Laura distributed an updated Referral Guide and shared that to date the Committee has focused on F&F and family caregiving. She is interested in the potentialities of focusing C&O on community outreach and education. Committee members have been giving small presentations for small groups on Preparing for Care for individuals.
- Laura mentioned that there are a few SAC members who have not yet selected a sub-Committee.
- Rhonda shared they discussed the challenges of using PayPal as it is set up now for donations. Food & Friends has a hard time separating accounts between the donations for the building in Grants Pass and donations to F&F for meals.

- They also discussed the website. Rhonda asked the SAC to check out the website and give any input to Committee members or staff.

Advocacy – John Curtis reported.

- John shared that they talked about the need for Mental Health services for individuals on Medicare. Those on Medicare would benefit with access to Telehealth. Telehealth is a collection of means or methods for enhancing health care, public health, and health education delivery and support using telecommunications technologies. John stated that he found a bill that directly addresses Medicare reform. (Mental Health inside of Medicare.) Part of the problem is that presently if you are to be reimbursed from Medicare for Mental Health treatment, you must be a licensed Clinical Social Worker-period. There are lots of counselors who are subject to licensure that have the same kind of education and training, but end up choosing a different vocation. Advocacy followed up in an October 23 meeting to discuss this bill. A few SAC members met with Greg Walden’s staff. After speaking to someone in Washington D.C. via phone, they have recognized that there is a need to build a coalition of supporters to advance this bill. John shared that they will be notifying some AAAs throughout the country and they need the SAC members help.
- Berta asked if the N4A would help distribute a letter of introduction. John would like to have a meeting with Sandy Markwood and proponents of the legislation in hopes that we could get a lot more buy in and commitment.
- Laura shares that HR3032 is the bill John is referring to. In the packet that was sent via email, there is a document that says “National Council” on top which gives clarity on advocacy for this bill. It also lists numbers of national supporters on the bottom. There is also a letter of support from AARP dated March, 2018. Laura will be discussing this bill with her colleagues at the O4AD and will also speak to Nicole Palmateer about meeting with Sandy Markwood.

Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC) – John reported.

- One topic that came up at the meeting was on parking. There is misuse of disabled parking by people who are not disabled.
- There was a presentation by the City of Medford. They are doing a review on accessibility. They are forming a committee to discuss different accessibility issues.

Home & Community Based Care – Nancy reported.

- There have been 22 Adult Foster homes closed this year. There are a few who are in the process to be opened.

Field Office Report – Kathie reported.

- Rodney shared about ABAWD - Able Bodied Adults Without Dependents. It is a SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) program acronym for individuals that are

applying for or receiving food stamps that are able bodied. It is a work requirement for individuals that receive SNAP benefits. States/local counties can receive waivers for when unemployment rates are high. As of January, 2019, Jackson County will be considered an ABAWD mandatory county.

- The work requirement is 80 hours of employment in a month.
- Kathie shared that for the last year and a half, they've had a hard time filling open job positions. They are unsure why it is more difficult to get these positions filled currently. It is impacting their ability to get work done, even though the quality of work has not changed. The financial eligibility work will soon be done by one group of workers specifically and the Case Management work will be done by the Case Managers.

Director's report – Laura reported.

- Laura stated that she will plan to give an update on staffing changes at next month's meeting.
- There is an upcoming O4AD meeting next week. Laura was informed this morning that the plenary session topic will be on Trauma Informed Care.
- We have an Elder Abuse Conference coming up on November 29th at the Smullin Center in Medford. Paul Greenwood will be presenting again this year. Warren Hensman (Deputy Chief of Ashland Police Department) will also be presenting.
- The Winter Afternoon Tea topic will be "Wellness and Self Care". More than likely this will be held in February.
- Laura hands out a flyer on the OPI (Oregon Project Independence) Expansion Program.
- The Community Services and Supports (CSS – formerly State Unit on Aging -SUA) is co-sponsoring a Southern Oregon Regional Tribal and Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) Meeting tomorrow. The Regional AAA Directors and their staff, along with Tribal Elders and coordinators of tribal events in several Southern Oregon communities will be in attendance and will be looking at ways to partner and have better availability of services for the Native American elder population and for the tribal organizations to get a better feel of what AAA's can do to support them.
- Laura shares that a vision clinic will be held this Saturday, November 10 at the Medford Lions Sight and Hearing Center. The clinic is available to low-income individuals ages 14 and older.

Presentation: Howard & Sharon Johnson – Age Friendly Innovators, Inc./Rebuilding Together Rogue Valley

ADJOURN – Meeting adjourned at 2:30 p.m.