



Older Adult Services Advisory Committee Executive Committee Meeting

Date: February 27, 2006

Location: Illinois Department on Aging, Chicago, and conference call

ATTENDANCE:

Executive Committee Members:

Stephanie Altman, Health and Disability Advocates
Darby Anderson, Addus HealthCare
Donna Ginther, AARP
Charles Johnson, Illinois Department on Aging
Alicia Weber for Flora Johnson, SEIU Local 880
Kelly Cunningham for Ann Marie Murphy, Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services
Jonathan Lavin, Suburban Area Agency on Aging
David Lindeman, Mather LifeWays Institute on Aging
Cathy Weightman-Moore, Catholic Charities Long Term Care Ombudsman Program

Department staff:

Michael Gelder
John Eckert
Ross Grove
Robin Morgan
Leann Dolan
Paul Bennett

Absent:

Dennis Bozzi, Life Services Network
Pat Comstock, Illinois Health Care Association
Phyllis Mitzen, citizen member over the age of 60
Enrique Unanue, Illinois Department of Public Health

SUMMARY:

Welcome

Director Johnson welcomed the members to the meeting. Participants introduced themselves.

Approve Previous Committee Minutes:

Donna Ginther moved to approve the minutes. Cathy Weightman-Moore seconded. The minutes were approved.

Report to the General Assembly

Deputy Gelder reported that the report has been submitted as required by law to the state library and General Assembly leadership. The Department is printing 500 additional copies of the report. The report will also be sent to the members organizations on the committee and each member of the General Assembly to inform them of the work of the committee. The Department will also be sending a copy of the report to each agency mentioned in the act that does not currently have a representative on the committee, letting them know of the work of the committee and encouraging them to nominate someone. Copies of the report will be available at the three hearings around the state.

Deputy Gelder discussed the three hearings that the executive committee had agreed to hold before the April 26 retreat. Rather than have three separate hearings, the Department would like to be included in Paul Bennett's focus groups around the state. This could be an opportunity for more visibility and greater turn out. Paul Bennett has not yet scheduled these meetings but is planning on having thirty meetings around the state.

Jon Lavin discussed the report and that the ADRCs were not specifically stated as a CPOE objective. Deputy Gelder had been informed of this concern and responded that he had decided to add ADRCs to the Department's Workplan.

Discussion of impact of FY 07 budget and legislative activity on Report recommendations

Director Johnson summarized the Department's budget presentation. A copy is available on the Department's website. Highlights of the Governor's proposed budget include:

budget increase of over \$50 million due in large part to the rate increase for homemakers effective June 1, 2006; \$8.1 million to implement comprehensive case management; Emergency Home Response has \$1.8 million to begin implementation in FY 06 and \$2 million for FY 07 budget; \$2 million to do home modification; and \$200,000 for small grants for grandparents raising grandchildren.

Deputy Gelder reported that Adult Day Service did not receive any increase in transportation costs that had been requested.

Donna Ginther asked if the line in the budget for an assessment study of elderly for \$100,000 was the DON study. Director Johnson responded that he thinks that is a legislative request and it could be the DON study.

Donna Ginther reported that Senator Viverito agreed to hold SB 2730 since an agreement had not yet been reached on amending that legislation. SJR 9079 and HJR 105 which are identical is a resolution with the CCUs, AAAs, HMPRG, AARP and the Illinois Council on Aging. The Area Agencies have signed off on the parameters of what a comprehensive case management system would look like. The Governor's office wanted to begin with infrastructure issues and use the little extra money for emergency home response, home modification, etc. The resolutions were drafted from the Services workgroup section of the report and ends with the General Assembly declaring it is in the best interest to have a comprehensive care system in Illinois.

Jon Lavin questioned point of entry being left out of the resolution. Donna responded that the compromise was to set aside the conversation about points of entry and let the director and Governor's office work through what a system would look like and not make this a legislative issue.

Deputy Gelder addressed the legislative concerns of the executive committee. The Committee's priorities are difficult to achieve when members are pursuing various aspects.

The committee discussed the next meeting of the full committee on March 13. Since so many OASAC priority items were not addressed in the budget, it was suggested that the next meeting focus on reports from the workgroups and discussion of priority items and alternative steps or other strategies that could be used to move forward with priority items without waiting for the FY 08 budget.

Deputy Gelder responded that the budget we are talking about is the Governor's proposed budget. This is not the final budget and there are still legislators looking for additional funding.

Membership Responsibilities and Expectations

Deputy Gelder discussed Paul Bennett's role with the Systems Change grant and the OASAC. Paul is on contract with UIC to work on the grant. The Department would like Paul to attend executive and full committee meetings as a representative of the Department through the contract with the Department and through that participation would be available and aware of what workgroups are working on. The goal is to relieve Paul and staff of an additional workgroup work load but maintain the important work they are doing.

Jonathan Lavin moved to include Paul in meetings of the executive committee. David Lindeman seconded the motion.

Donna Ginther expressed concern that Paul would continue to serve as co-chair of a workgroup while on contract with the Department since it had been decided earlier that state employees would not chair workgroups.

Paul's grant is not being named as a separate stand alone workgroup. As a result, Donna suggested that it remain a subgroup of the Services workgroup to give Paul direction and feedback. This is an exciting project and the results will have incredible impact on what the service delivery system will look like. It is important for Paul to not just give reports but for there to be discussion and debate into how this will unfold.

Jonathan Lavin moved to have Paul Bennett participate on the full OASAC and executive committee and the Services workgroup. David Lindeman seconded. The motion passed.

Deputy Gelder brought up the issue of members roles that had been mentioned by Donna Ginther in an e-mail that was forwarded on the executive committee members. Donna explained the issue of confusion about member's roles and responsibilities. The issue was raised at the September meeting held at the State Fire Marshals office. What is the role on the greater committee? Donna sees each individual's role as a representative of the association they represent because that is how members are named to the committee. Consequently, individual's votes represent votes of the associations. Previously, Deputy Gelder had said he felt votes should represent each individual. This has played itself out, and clarification is needed if associations are bound by votes of the committee. This created some questions especially since the question is lodged to AARP. Donna asked for clarification from the group who we are representing; individual selves or the groups and associations that have nominated each to serve on the OASAC.

Deputy Gelder explained what was being referred to was the Guiding Principles that the Committee had adopted. The Guiding Principles stated members would, "Leave work hat and "chips-on-shoulders" at the door, and participate as individuals." Deputy Gelder agreed that this will continue to be an issue.

Director Johnson replied that we cannot require members to not take action on other issues. We cannot be a policeman to tell associations they do not have a right to support other decisions. Paul Bennett

added that as a former representative of case managers on OASAC, he always viewed his representation as representing the needs of case managers.

Director Johnson stated that the report reflects the efforts of many groups and does not prohibit any certain group from working on legislation that may not be exactly what OASAC is proposing. We want people to work for the best interest of older persons. We cannot police what organizations pursue as their legislative agenda. We hope OASAC items are broadly supported but members are not prohibited from having a different view.

Deputy Gelder has had some members express concern about the extent to which members work on the report and the recommendations which were not related to their specific organizations legislative agenda. There are not false expectations because items were agreed to in the report. No one is advocating against the report or advocating the report in its entirety.

Dave Lindeman suggested these points be put down in a draft and circulated to the executive committee and if everyone feels it captures the thoughts discussed today; present it to the full committee in March.

Retreat

John Eckert reported for the Department on the status of the retreat. A retreat committee was formed consisting of Pat Comstock, Kelly Cunningham, Phyllis Mitzen and David Lindeman. The group has looked over the draft agenda and improved on it. John asked for any additional comments from the executive committee. Once we have a facilitator they may make some additional changes. Louanner Peters, Deputy Chief of Staff-Social Services, has been invited to the retreat.

David Lindeman moved to accept the draft agenda, and April 26 date, and move forward to conduct the retreat. Cathy Weightman-Moore seconded the motion. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Workgroup scheduling conflicts

Deputy Gelder asked if there were any problems with workgroups meeting at the same times or overlapping times and preventing people from participating. We do not think there is a problem but wanted to ask the workgroup chairs. The Department staff people for the workgroups stay in communication to work together on scheduling to prevent conflicts.

Jon Lavin reported that the next Point of Entry workgroup meeting will need to be rescheduled.

David Lindeman reported that the Workforce/Caregiver workgroup is trying to meet monthly. A schedule has been agreed to two months out allowing for other workgroups to clearly see if a conflict exists. This information is on the web as a public record.

Operations Manual

Deputy Gelder reported that a draft operations manual is being put together using the Guiding Principles and subsequent motions and votes that added additional rules to the committee. We hope to have a draft compiled for the next executive committee meeting so we are all aware of what our responsibilities and expectations are as participants in a committee or workgroup. We have agreed not to have anything as formal as by laws but several issues such as who can vote and a set of rules the committee will abide by.

Jon Lavin asked about the terms for members of the executive committee. Deputy Gelder acknowledged that we have not yet had to deal with this but will be included in the operations manual.

Other Business

Members were asked if they had any agenda items for the March 13 meeting.

Jon Lavin mentioned sharing the neutrality document with all of the workgroups and then sharing with the entire committee on March 13.

The Outcomes Measurement Committee will be invited to present on March 13.

It was suggested that any action items be distributed to members in advance and discussed towards the beginning of the meeting so we have a quorum.

If the Department has goals for the next quarterly meeting, that should be included on the agenda. Other items for the agenda include legislative discussion and guidelines for participation.

Bill Bell will temporarily be replacing Enrique on OASAC.

Jon Lavin moved to adjourn. Darby Anderson seconded.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30pm.