



---

## Older Adult Services Advisory Committee Executive Committee Meeting

Date: March 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  
Pat Comstock, Illinois Health Care Association  
Donna Ginther, AARP  
Charles Johnson, Illinois Department on Aging  
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  
Phyllis Mitzen, citizen member over the age of 60  
Cathy Weightman-Moore, Catholic Charities Long Term Care Ombudsman Program

#### Department staff:

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

#### Absent:

Dennis Bozzi, Life Services Network  
Enrique Unanue, Illinois Department of Public Health

### SUMMARY:

#### Welcome

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

#### Approve previous committee minutes

Jonathan Lavin moved to approve the minutes.  
All were in favor. The minutes were approved.

**Reschedule March 13 Meeting**

The March 13 meeting of the full committee was cancelled due to the tornado damage Springfield suffered the previous evening. The retreat is scheduled for April 26 and the next meeting of the full committee is scheduled for June. The Department's recommendation is not to reschedule the meeting.

The Executive Committee agreed the next meeting of the full committee will be the regularly scheduled meeting in June in Chicago. The Department will send an e mail to committee members letting them know of the decision as well as what will happen with the items that were on the March 13 meeting agenda. The Outcomes Measurement Committee and the Illinois Department of Human Services will be invited to present at the June meeting. Jonathan Lavin intended to distribute the neutrality document to the committee. He will send to the Department for distribution to members or hand it out at the retreat in April.

**Older Adult Services Advisory Committee Retreat Update**

John Eckert provided an update on the retreat. Mary Ellen Barry has been selected to facilitate the retreat. She is a past president of the League of Women Voters and has done work for various aging coalitions.

John Eckert will be convening a conference call with workgroup chairs to discuss what they should prepare and what format they will be requested to present. There were not any objections to Debbie Witt participating in the retreat as a co-chair of the finance workgroup even though she is not a member of the full committee.

John Eckert agreed to re-circulate the agenda and the two pages of talking points to the Executive Committee. Any comments should be sent back to John Eckert by Thursday, March 30 to allow time to incorporate them into the discussion with the facilitator on Friday. If anyone is interested, members are welcome to be on the call as well.

Some members have voiced concern about getting to Springfield at 9 am. The Department is open to changing that time to accommodate those traveling. The Executive Committee agreed to change the start time of the retreat to 10 a.m. The retreat will be 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. on April 26.

Louanner Peters, Deputy Chief of Staff-Social Services, has accepted an invitation to speak at the retreat.

Deputy Gelder explained that the retreat is not exempt from the Open Meetings Act. There will be time for public comment at the end of the meeting.

Deputy Gelder explained that the purpose of the retreat is an information exchange and developing a group identity for the members as well as forming a framework to move forward from. He emphasized that it is important for the leadership to be solidly behind this effort so the retreat will be rewarding and productive for all of us.

**Town Hall Meetings**

Deputy Gelder reported that the Department has not yet had the opportunity to plan these meetings due to budget negotiations and the legislative session. The Department had thought we would have one in Chicago, Springfield and southern Illinois. The Department would like them organized so members of the committee would be able to participate at some or all of the meetings and be there to hear the reaction from the public.

The committee had previously discussed having the town meetings in conjunction with the focus groups Paul Bennett is holding. The committee decided Paul's focus groups and the OASAC town hall meetings should occur separately. The Area Agencies on Aging hold hearings every year. Jonathan Lavin suggested the town hall meetings be coordinated with those hearings.

Donna Ginther, Phyllis Mitzen and Pat Comstock agreed to work together with John Eckert and Michael Gelder to coordinate the town hall meetings.

### **Membership Responsibilities**

This has been looked at in the context of the Operations Manual. We have been trying to compile all of the decisions the executive committee and full committee have made as well as the Guiding Principles the committee accepted.

### **Operations Manual**

Deputy Gelder acknowledged that the first draft Operations Manual was sent out very recently and members have not had time to review it completely. Donna Ginther suggested that members review the draft and comment at the next meeting.

The goal had been to compile the previously made decisions and discuss as we look at them all together. The Department will work further on the Operations Manual and send a new draft out for discussion for the next executive committee meeting. Any comments should be put in writing to the Department using track changes or manually striking through deleted language and putting new language in italics.

The Department will send a cleaned up version for members to comment on.

### **Workgroup Updates**

Services Expansion – Donna Ginther reported that the workgroup does not have an update since the last meeting. Due to session, the workgroup has not met recently.

Finance – Pat Comstock reported that the workgroup had cancelled the last meeting in lieu of a subgroup meeting a couple of weeks ago. Nothing is scheduled until after session. John will contact each member that is collecting data information to consolidate into one document.

Nursing Home Conversion – The workgroup cancelled their last meeting and does not have a report.

Workforce/Caregiver – David Lindeman reported that the workgroup had held their monthly conference call and the minutes were forwarded to the Department. The workgroup is interested in obtaining small amounts of funding to begin work on their projects and data collecting. Workgroup members want to get started on their projects but are unable to proceed any further without additional resources. For example, a subgroup is working on employee family caregivers. The goal is to bring together a meeting of key informants of policy makers to move that issue ahead. This could be modest meeting or consensus conference. This will be included in part of the report for the retreat.

Point of Entry – Paul Bennett reported that workgroup is having trouble scheduling the next meeting due to conflicts. The next meeting will focus on what a CPOE will look like.

### **Other Business**

Paul Bennett provided an update on the Systems Change Grant. Progress is being made on the inventory. Paul is preparing a request for qualifications document for vendors to manage the Illinois inventory. Focus groups are a part of the scientific research model.

Phyllis added that Health and Medicine is doing some of that research as well. Paul added that the Services workgroup had designed the focus group questions.

Members discussed current legislation. Donna reported that SB2436 concerns the health facilities planning board and a requirement to collect data.

HB 4404 provides health insurance for homemakers. It has passed the House and has not been heard in the Senate committee. This legislation is still being negotiated between the Governor's office and SEIU.

SB 2626 concerns prescreening for individuals going into nursing facilities. It was heard in the Human Services Committee and passed out of committee. It is on second reading in the House which is 2<sup>nd</sup> chamber. The sponsors are expected to meet with HFS to discuss this legislation.

**The meeting was adjourned at 4:00.**