

Minutes: CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON AGING

Friday, November 14, 2008

Greenridge Place
Rocky Hill, CT

In Attendance: Voting Members: Don Dimenstein, Bill Eddy, Sharon Gesek, Ray Guenter, Jerry Kerins, Waldo Klein, Chris Lewis, Dick Memmott, Carol Tillman Parrish, Jim Pellegrino, Penny Young, Gerd Weindling.

Ex Officios: Pam Giannini, Jennifer Glick, Dennis King, Debra Landry, Siobhan Morgan, Kathy Walsh. **Staff:** Julie Evans Starr, Deb Migneault, Rob Norton, Deb Polun.

Absent: Voting Members: Nancy Sullivan Hodkoski, Judy Jencks, Mary Ellen Klinck, Pat Mayfield, Carolyn Thornberry. **Ex Officios:** Susan Deschamplain, Barbara Yard.

I. Call the Meeting to Order

Chair, Chris Lewis, called the meeting to order at 10:45.

II. Approval of September 2008 Minutes

Bill Eddy made a motion to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Don Dimenstein. Motion carried.

III. Subcommittee Reports

- Executive Committee: Chris Lewis reported that the Executive Committee has not met since the last CoA meeting.
- Legislative Subcommittee: The subcommittee met prior to the full meeting. Four members have given feedback about legislative priorities. The subcommittee continues to review member input and is pulling together recommendations for legislative priorities.

The Governor has written the federal government and asked for an increase in Medicaid reimbursement. The CoA will send a letter of support for this request.

IV. Report by the Executive Director

Julie Evans Starr provided an extensive written report covering the period from September 2008 – November 6, 2008. The report was emailed to members and is included in the packet.

Highlights of the report include:

- Earth's Elders: Rob Norton continues to do outreach and presentations to school systems across the state encouraging adoption of the EE curriculum. An Associated Press reporter has expressed interest in doing a story on the project.
- Property Tax Relief Survey: Deb Polun reported that we will be holding a forum on November 20th in partnership the CT Coalition on Aging. We are expecting over 100 people attending.

- MFP and ADRC: Julie reported that the staff continues to be very active on the MFP and ADRC workgroups. There is potential legislative work that needs to be done for MFP.
- LTC Website: The payroll inserts on the LTC website will be distributed to 110,000 state employee and retirees in February. Efforts continue to bridge ADRC, MFP and the LTC websites.
- Post-Election Forum: Julie reported that over 85 people attended the Post-Election forum on November 6th. An Associated Press article about the event appeared in 10 newspapers statewide.
- New Haven Town Meeting: Don reported that there were over 125 people in attendance at the November 13th Town Meeting in North Haven. Don, Rob and Deb all participated in the event along with representatives from the Agency on Aging of South Central CT, and Senator Harp and Senator Looney.
- Elder Economic Security Initiative: Deb P. gave an update on the progress of this initiative.

V. Energy Assistance Update

Pam Giannini presented information about the various energy assistance programs available in the state.

VI. New Business

Chris Lewis asked members if they would like to have or cancel the optional December 12th CoA meeting. Members voted to cancel the December 12th meeting. The next meeting will be held in January.

VII. Adjourn

Ray Guenter moved to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Gerd Weindling. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm.