

Minutes: CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON AGING

Friday, April 3, 2009

Greenridge Place
Rocky Hill, CT

In Attendance: Voting Members: Bill Eddy, Sharon Gesek, Ray Guenter, Nancy Sullivan Hodkoski, Waldo Klein, Mary Ellen Klinck, Chris Lewis, Dick Memmott, Carol Tillman Parrish, Penny Young, Carolyn Thornberry, Gerd Weindling. **Ex Officios:** Susan Deschamplain, Pam Giannini, Dennis King, Debra Landry, **Staff:** Julie Evans Starr, Rob Norton, Deb Polun.

Absent: Voting Members: Don Dimenstein, Judy Jencks, Gerard Kerins, Pat Mayfield, Jim Pellegrino, **Ex Officios:** Jennifer Glick, Siobhan Morgan, Kathy Walsh, Barbara Yard.

I. Call the Meeting to Order

Chair, Chris Lewis, called the meeting to order at 10:40.

II. Approval of March, 2009 Minutes

Ray Guenter made a motion to approve the minutes. It was seconded by Waldo Klein. Motion carried.

III. Subcommittee Reports

Legislative Subcommittee: Chris Lewis reported that the legislative subcommittee has met and full report will be given under the legislative update.

Redefining Retirement Years: The RRY subcommittee has not met, but the RRY workplace flexibility bill continues to move through the legislative process.

IV. Legislative Update

Deb Polun gave an update on legislative session. Deb briefly reviewed the appropriations committee's budget proposal that was released yesterday, including the CoA's budget, special needs plans, falls prevention and the LTC reinvestment account.

V. Executive Director's Report

Julie Evans Starr briefly reviewed the Executive Director's report that was included with the board meeting materials. Highlights of the report include:

- Results-Based Accountability: The CoA's work with the Appropriations Committee on RBA.
- Governor's bill to eliminate Commissions: The bill was heard on March 16th. We received a lot of support from our friends and partners. Special thanks to Bill Eddy and Nancy Hodkoski who stayed all day long and testified on our behalf.
- Earth's Elders: Rob Norton reported that there will be a presentation on May 5th with the State Department of Education, the Capitol Region Education Council and their after-school programs regarding possible adoption of the curriculum. Federal grant money is available and hopefully it will be enough to get the program started statewide.
- RRY: The workplace flexibility bill (SB1144) was heard on March 16th by the GAE committee. Tiffany Hubbard testified in support of the bill and her testimony was well received by the committee. The bill was voted out of committee but only with the telecommuting language. We plan to work on an amendment as the bill moves forward.

- Elder Economic Security Initiative: Deb P. reported that the CoA and PCSW released the EESI report and recommendations at three events over three days, a legislative breakfast (March 5), a stakeholder briefing (March 6) and a press conference in Norwalk (March 9). There was a discussion by members about this project and how this project can help legislators prioritize programs.
- CoA newsletter: The CoA distributed its newsletter to all legislators and staff at the CGA and to our email database.

VI. **Old and New Business**

Chair Lewis reported that we may need to postpone or cancel the May meeting; a notice will go out soon.

VII. **Adjourn**

Sharon Gesek moved to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Waldo Klein. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 pm.

DRAFT