

MINUTES
Utah Commission on Aging
August 28, 2007
2:00 – 4:00 pm

D R A F T

Commission Member Attendees:

Senator Allen Christensen	Utah Senate
Representative Steven Mascaro	Utah House of Representatives
Rob Ence	AARP
Diana Kirk	Zion's Bank
Norma Matheson	Chair
Mark Supiano	University of Utah
Mayor JoAnn Seghini	Midvale City
Alan Ormsby for Lisa-Michele Church	DAAS, Utah Department of Human Services
Michael Deily for David Sundwall	Utah Department of Health
Robert "Archie" Archuleta	Utah Coalition of La Raza
Shauna O'Neil	Salt Lake County Aging Services
Councilwoman Suzanne Allen	St. George City Council & DMPO
Cherie Bruner	IHC
Commissioner William Cox	Utah Association of Counties
Sheriff Jim Winder	Salt Lake County Sheriff
Kent Alderman	Parsons, Behle, & Latimer

Other Attendees:

Debbie Headden	Legislative Fiscal Analyst's Office
Russell Frandsen	Legislative Fiscal Analyst's Office

The meeting was called to order by Chair Norma Matheson.

1. **Welcome/Approval of Minutes.** Norma Matheson welcomed all attendees, and asked for introductions all around. A motion to approve the minutes from June 6, 2007, was made, seconded, and passed.
2. **Review of First 2 Years.** Maureen Henry conducted a presentation entailing the Commission's first two years.
 - o Statutory duties have not changed.
 - o Duplication of efforts is to be avoided.
 - o After residing at the state for its first two years, the Commission has moved to the University of Utah, Center on Aging.
 - o More focus on research now that Commission is at U.
 - o The structure of the special committees may switch around; some committees will dissolve.
 - o Collaboration is essential.

A. Initial Assessment – Examples

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- Financial Security Guide – “Take Charge of Your Future Now” – Rob Ence distributed copies of the guide. The purpose of the guide is to teach people how to build, manage and protect their savings in order to have lifetime financial security. The guide is a resource tool that offers a baseline understanding on how to protect one’s future. AARP is working jointly with USU Extension to approach businesses that have signed up to be Utah Savers’ sites. The results of trials with businesses and outreach will be available before the holidays. A 2nd edition of the guide will be available after January 1 with the goal to help employees take advantages of savings and retirement plans, as well as help employers who have not already done so to begin these programs. The aim is to create a curriculum of classes and workshops for on-going assistance throughout the year for employees. AARP is working with its volunteer networks throughout the state to get the word out, as well as United Way for follow up questioning and help with reframing the survey. The final product will be shared with the Commission. The Commission is encouraged to help distribute through mail, workshops, and other activities. Rob was commended for AARP’s work in creating and collaborating on this guide.
- Transportation: Rob Ence reported that a Mobility Forum was recently held with the intent of bringing together different stakeholders who identify with this aging issue. This group will focus on three or four areas to begin with, and will report results to the Commission.
- Care Management Plus: Under the auspices of the John Hartford Foundation, 15 clinics outside the IHC system have been trained using this model. Cherie Bruncker reported that there will be another training in October targeted at 20 additional clinics, and that New Orleans will be using this model as it rebuilds. It is hoped that, ultimately, this model will make its way to doctors’ offices.
- Aging Smart is a centralized guide with educational information for the aging and those who work with the aging.
- 211’s goal is to bring in for-profit agencies in order to better serve the aging population. Utah Food Bank has done this by changing the exclusion and inclusion policy to those for-profits that are licensed by the state.
- Utah 2030: The Commission is working with Governor’s office to launch the report publicly next month. Almost every department in the state has conducted an internal assessment of impacts of the increasing aging population. Maureen commented about the lack of data at a statewide level on issues regarding the increasing aging population and how this will affect the tax base; also how different data scenarios would affect the projections on economic development and the aging population in the future.
- Long Term Care: At the request of the Department of Health, the Commission launched a work group to convene stakeholders to develop a

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long-term care plan for Utah. The group is looking on how to create a culture change to make quality of life better for those individuals living in long-term facilities, as well as addressing the needs of the long-term care workforce. The group is also working on bringing a system into the state that will project long term care needs.

- Advanced Directive Committee: (End-of-Life) There will be an Advanced Care Planning Facilitator Training on September 27-28 at the Utah Law and Justice Center. SB 75 will take effect January 1, 2008, and will affect health care planning, end of life decision making, and the process of living wills. Anyone who helps others complete advanced health care directives has been encouraged to attend.
- Other targeted issues include, but are not limited to: planning for an aging prison population, studying the issue of safety and aging drivers, and encouraging prosecution of those who commit financial exploitation and elder abuse.

B. Legislative Successes: three of the four bills passed unanimously.

- SB 7 Exploitation of a Vulnerable Adult Amendments allows abused or exploited adult to recover attorneys' fees in an action to recover damages.
- SB 24 Probate Code Amendments increases small estate affidavit amount from 25,000 to \$100,000.
- SB 26 Utah Commission on Aging renews for two additional years.
- SB 75 Advance Health Care Directive Act: The End-of-Life Committee worked to change the living will statutes. This bill will allow people to articulate their own decisions regarding end-of-life care.

C. Other Successes

- In partnership with the Care Source Foundation, Dan Jones & Associates, and the Division of Aging & Adult Services, a survey of the aging residents of Wasatch Front was completed with questions about saving for retirement, security at retirement, and health care. A report will be available within the next six months, and the survey will be repeated and compared again in two years. The survey tool is currently being tested.
- The Commission has become a go-to organization for news organizations and has been able to influence the reporting of stories and issues in a positive light.
- Kent and Maureen are serving on Judicial Commission's Ad Hoc Committee on Probate which is addressing one of the areas that the Mental Health Care Committee has been working on: surrogate decision-making for the incapacitated elderly.

D. Summary of Progress

- *Concrete progress* has been made in many areas.
- *Utah lacks* research and data needed to support the development of a thoughtful aging policy.

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3. Long Term Plan for the Commission.

- Governor's Office has assured they will continue to work with Commission and maintain level of functioning to date.
- Continue to hold meetings in convenient locations to further work with state division directors, assistant directors, and advisory committees.
- The Commission has received an additional two years of funding from the Legislature, covering July 1, 2007 through June 30, 2009. The Commission will look at other state models, develop strategic plans, and use various products to obtain support for further funding.
- Focus of the Commission going forward is long-term care, end-of-life follow-up, incapacitated adult decision making, information and referral, workforce, and health care delivery.
- One of the positives of moving the Commission to the University is the access to students and researchers. There is great opportunity to collaborate on grants and look at other research options. Research will be predominant in the next two years. Maureen presented a 2007 to 2008 time line broken down into research and policy agendas, as well as continued special committee work. The timeline is broken down as follows:
 - The Commission will work to educate the public and policymakers about aging issues.
 - The Commission will identify issues in need of research and link these issues with appropriate faculty and students.
 - The Commission will consider policies to promote provision of Medicaid long-term care in the most appropriate, cost-effective setting, respond to need for mental-health services for the aging population, create transportation options for aging individuals and consider driver safety recommendations, offer educational opportunities for aging individuals, encourage prosecution of those who commit financial exploitation or abuse of the elderly, develop a systematic approach to surrogate decision-making for incapacitated elderly, and promote the use of Care Management Plus.
 - The Commission will work to clean up the bill to address concerns in the Advance Health Care Directive Act.

4. Short-Term Priorities

- Complete and give to Commission the draft of Utah 2030 by September 21.
- Advanced Health Care Directive Training
- 2008 Conference
- Resume committee meetings with the caveat that some may be dissolved and issues may be narrowed.

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- Meet with legislators to discuss aging issues.
- Build links at the U
- Create a statewide Higher Education Advisory Committee.

Meeting Adjourned at 4:00 pm.