



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

Meeting Minutes

PENDING APPROVAL

Public Body: GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING (GACA)

Date: January 10, 2020

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 11:02 a.m.

Venue Address:
Arizona State Capitol – Executive Tower
Third Floor Conference Room
1700 W. Washington Street
Phoenix, AZ 85007

GACA Members and Liaisons Present

Lisa O'Neill (Chair), Belinda Akes, Carol Brown, Barbara Marshall, Lee Olitzky, Bob Roth, David Spelich, John Stiteler, Steve Wagner

Liaisons: Courtney Bennett (Telephonically), Dara Johnson (Telephonically), Olivia Guerrero, Babak Nayeri

GACA Staff

Lizette Cordero

Guests in Attendance & Choosing to Sign In

Laurai Atcitty, Abigail Polito Hawkins, Pauline Kommenich, Mary Westin,

Welcome, Call to Order, introductions, review & approval of May 3, 2019 draft minutes

GACA Chair, Lisa O'Neill, called the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m. After welcoming everyone present Chair O'Neill requested a review of the draft minutes from the November 1, 2019 Annual Planning Meeting. Council Member Carol Brown noted a correction to be made in the "**Vote on 2020 in Person Meeting Dates**" section of the draft meeting minutes. The second sentence "*At this time Ms. Brown advised GACA she will not be able to attend the January and September GACA Meetings due to a conflict in her work schedule*" is incorrect and the sentence should be removed. Following the review, Chair O'Neill called for a motion. *Lee Olitzky made a motion to approve the minutes with above mentioned edit; Carol Brown seconded the motion. The motion passed by the following roll call vote: Belinda Akes-aye, Barbara Marshall-aye, Lee Olitzky-aye, Bob Roth-aye, Carol Brown-aye, David Spelich-aye, John Stiteler-aye, Lisa O'Neill-aye, Steve Wagner-aye.*

Liaison reports (5-7 minutes to include updates, ideas for collaboration and/or requests to the Council)

Chair O'Neill changed the order of the liaison presenters to allow Babak Nayeri to present first as he had a previous commitment to attend.

Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) – Mr. Babak Nayeri reported:

- ADHS, Healthy Aging program provided letters of support for grant funding opportunities to: The University of Arizona Center on Aging for Alzheimer's Funding Announcement from CDC; University of Arizona as lead for the Pima County and PCOA and the Southern Chapter of AFPC for the Falls Prevention Funding, Category-A Announcement from the Administration for Community Living (ACL); and the AT Still University for the Falls Prevention Funding, Category-B Announcement from the Administration for Community Living (ACL). In light of the recent miscommunication and lack of coordination challenges, with two entities applying for the same funding opportunity, the Arizona Falls Prevention Coalition (AFPC) in collaboration with NCOA State Coalitions are making an effort for a better and centralized coordination of the grant application process to ensure communication and statewide partnerships, which would call for a letter of support from the AFPC.
- AFPC Leadership Council has voted to opt out of holding a symposium in 2020. This is motivated by both costs and a human resource heavy process. Instead, the Coalition will be supporting local efforts and considering opportunities to support other community partners with their event(s).
- ADHS will be holding a two-day training summit on January 15th & 16th in a curriculum-based Finding Meaning and Hope (available in both English and Spanish) as part of our Dementia Caregivers Self-Management support initiative in collaboration with our County Public Health Dept. staff.
- ADHS Healthy Aging Program is actively participating in the ASTHO-Alzheimer's Association's Healthy Brain Initiative (HBI) Learning Lab. The University of Arizona College of Public Health, Alzheimer's Association Desert Southwest Chapter and Vitalyst Health Foundation are active members of the Arizona Team.
- The ADHS Bureau of Chronic Disease and Health Promotions (BCDHP) CHW Program Manager in collaboration with the CHW Advisory Council are currently in the rule making and review process for the CHW's certification with a target date of 2021.

Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging (AZ4A) - Ms. Olivia Guerrero reported:

- Home and Community-Based Services Legislative Position 2020.
- A sponsorship request to the GACA for \$15,000 to be utilized for the bi-annual 2020 Aging Summit on September 17-18, 2020 in Tucson, Az.

Arizona Attorney General's Office (AGO) – Ms. Courtney Bennett reported telephonically as follows:

- Flyers were provided for a shred a thon in Chandler, Az on January 18, 2020 and Drug Take Back event on January 18, 2020. Any help to spread the word would be great.

- The new shorter version of the AGO's Life Care Planning packet should be available to the public by the end of the month. Ms. Bennett will notify the GACA via email.
- The Attorney General's Office will be sending out the creative arts contest information to middle schools statewide in February. Any help with that would be great and anyone who would like to contribute to the winners would also be welcome.

Arizona Department of Economic Security-Division of Aging & Adult Services – (DES/DAAS) – Ms. Cindy Saverino could not attend and forwarded her liaison report for Chair O'Neill to read on her behalf as follows:

- DAAS has been working with the Area Agencies on Aging to reduce the statewide Non-Medical Home and Community Services waitlist since receiving additional Social Service Block Grant funds. Numbers have been slowly decreasing.
- New State Health Insurance Assistance Program/Senior Medicare Patrol State Coordinator-Catherine Chavez. Ms. Chavez has been with DAAS for the last couple of years serving as the author of the Aging State Plan on Aging and Senior Community Service Employment Program State Coordinator.
- Having challenges finding an individual to fulfill the role of the State Long-Term Care Ombudsman. The position has been re-posted.
- Planning has been underway for the 2nd Annual World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) Conference, which is being held on June 15, 2020 at the Double Tree Hilton in

Tempe, Az. Kathy Greenlee will be the morning keynote presenter and Robert Blancato will be the lunchtime keynote presenter.

- The Family Caregiver Reimbursement Program began on January 1, 2020. This law supports caregivers, enabling them to keep their family members at home for as long as possible through purchasing home modifications or assistive technology. Caregivers purchase the equipment and can submit the application and supporting documentation including receipts for reimbursement, up to \$1000.00 maximum allowed. All calls are entering our system through the Caregiver Resource Line at 888-737-7494.

Arizona Department of Insurance (ADOI) – No representative in attendance.

Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) – No representative in attendance.

Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (AHCCCS) – Ms. Dara Johnson reported telephonically as follows:

- **Electronic Visit Verification**
 - Beginning in 2020, AHCCCS will require Medicaid providers of personal care and home health services to use Electronic Visit Verification (EVV) pursuant to Section 1903 of the Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 1396b). EVV is an electronic based system that verifies when caregiver visits occur and documents the precise time services begin and end.
 - AHCCCS is planning to use the EVV System to help monitor access to care for members for the services subject to EVV.
 - AHCCCS has selected a vendor for the statewide electronic visit verification (EVV) system, Sandata Technologies.

- More information on EVV can be found on the [AHCCCS website](#). The website includes AHCCCS has posted information specific to providers and information specific to members/families including a general timeline and what guidance stakeholders can expect and when they can expect it. Additionally, AHCCCS has posted an FAQ document.
- Stakeholders are encouraged to share with AHCCCS any questions or comments that can help inform upcoming communications. Questions and comments can be sent to EVV@azahcccs.gov.
- **UPDATE:**
 - *In November 2019, AHCCCS received approval from CMS to extend the timeline for compliance through June 2020.*
- **Home and Community Based Settings (HCBS) Rules**
 - More information the HCBS Rules can be found on the [AHCCCS website](#). The Arizona Systemic Assessment and Transition Plan is available on the AHCCCS website.
 - **UPDATE:**
 - *AHCCCS is planning a series of provider trainings in early 2020 to support provider efforts to comply with the HCBS Rules. The announcement regarding the January and February sessions is scheduled to go out today.*
- **NEW Community Intervener Service**
 - AHCCCS is working on the development of a new Community Intervener services for Arizona Long Term Care System (ALTCS) members with a combined vision and hearing loss.
 - Community Interveners provide visual, auditory and environmental information which members with a dual sensory loss are unable to gather on their own and support members to lead self-directed lives through skill building interventions.
 - **UPDATE:** *AHCCCS is still in the process of finalizing the policy and functional assessment to determine medical necessity for the service. The service is projected to now be made available to members in 2020.*
- **Whole Person Care Initiative**
 - AHCCCS has launch a Whole Personal Care Initiative to explore opportunities to address social risk factors or social determinants of health for our membership building upon existing work in the arenas of housing, employment, criminal justice, non-emergency transportation and home and community-based services.
 - For the ALTCS program, AHCCCS is exploring opportunities specifically to address social isolation including, but not limited to, peer support programs.
 - More information can be found on the [AHCCCS website](#).

Prior to a 10 minute break Council Chair O'Neill requested that Council Liaisons please provide their liaison reports via email to GACA staff to ensure all information is captured in the minutes accurately.

Break at 9:46 a.m.

Reconvened at 9:56 a.m.

Arizona Indian Council on Aging (AICOA) – Ms. Laurai Atcitty and Ms. Mary Westin reported on the 25th Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day on January 15, 2020.

- The Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (ITCA), and the Area Agency on Agency (AAA), Region VIII invited Arizona State Legislators to attend an information session during the 25th Annual Indian Nations and Tribes Legislative Day entitled, “Elder Discussion”. The “*Elder Discussion*” will focus on the need for Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) for elders in Tribal communities and throughout Arizona.
 - Meet the individuals who represent the Tribal Nations and advise the ITCA-AAA.
 - Meet the Arizona Indian Council on Aging (AICOA) Board Representatives.
 - Information will be provided on the Request to Speak (RTS) Online System.

GACA Chair report & discussion

- Updates/Recommendations from the Executive Committee
 - Chair O’Neill announced that Council member Deborah Hankerd has resigned as a Council Member effective her term expiration date, December 31, 2019. Chair O’Neill expressed gratitude for Ms. Hankerds’ hard work and contributions to the GACA during her six-year tenure. Chair O’Neill mentioned she will be contacting Ms. Hankerd to thank her personally and Council members may do the same. Ms. Hankerds; name plate will be circulated for Council Members to sign and will be mailed to Ms. Hankerd with a Certificate of Appreciation and a small token of gratitude, (a pen set), from the GACA.
 - Chair O’Neill presented two Sponsorship requests from the Executive Committee as follows:
 - (1) **Arizona Caregiver Coalition** is requesting a \$600 sponsorship, an increase of \$100 from previous years, for Family Caregiver Day at the Capitol on March 5, 2020. The sponsorship funds will be allocated as follows:
 - \$250 Design and print materials to promote the event
 - \$350 Compile and print Advocacy Books to be given to participants, including 60 binders and printed handouts on legislative issues and voter registration. GACA will also be listed as a sponsor on all materials and any GACA materials provided will be included in bags given to participants.Council members discussed and agreed sponsorship for this event is beneficial to the GACA due to exposure to other geographic areas, this is a non-partisan event and is correlated with GACA’s advocacy, support and awareness of the importance of Caregivers roles’ in the Aging community. *Council members agreed to approve this sponsorship request with the following role call vote: Lisa O’Neill-abstain due to a conflict of interest, Barbara Marshall-aye, Carol Brown-aye, David Spelich-aye, Belinda Akes-aye, Bob Roth-aye, Steve Wagner-aye, Lee Olitzky-aye.*
 - (2) **Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging** is requesting a \$15,000 sponsorship for the 2020 Aging Summit on September 17, 2020. The \$15,000 Platinum Sponsorship includes:
 - Podium time at general session
 - Opportunity to place materials on tables for each conference attendee at the opening session
 - Signs displayed throughout the conference

- Premium logo placement on the conference's promotional materials
- One full-page ad in the conference program
- Company name listed in conference program
- Opportunity to place materials in conference tote bag
- Logo and website link on registration site, AZ4A's website and social media
- Exhibitor Booth
- Priority placement of exhibit booth
- Six full-access registrations to the conference
- VIP seating at general session and meals

A discussion ensued and Council members agreed it is beneficial for GACA to have representation at this event. This is a bi-annual, statewide event that is very well attended and GACA will get good exposure. Chair O'Neill stated, if the GACA continues, the new Council Chair will have to standardize repeated sponsorships for budgetary purposes as the GACA Donations Account is approximately at \$60,000.

The GACA agreed to approve this \$15,000 sponsorship for the AZ4A with the following roll call vote: Lisa O'Neill-aye, David Spelich-aye, Carol Brown-abstain due to a conflict of interest, Belinda Akes-abstain due to conflict of interest, Lee Olitzky-aye, Barbara Marshall-aye, Steve Wagner-aye, John Stiteler-aye, Bob Roth-aye.

- Chair O'Neill and the Executive Committee Officers agreed to suggested cancelling the February 7, 2020 GACA Telephonic Meeting due to the following:
 - There may be an issue establishing a quorum to hold the meeting as there are exactly nine council members now that Deborah Hankerd has resigned effective 12/31/19.
 - The hiring of an Executive Director has been put on hold pending the Sunset Review Hearing outcome on January 15, 2020.
 - New Council Member appointments also put on hold pending the Sunset Review outcome on January 15, 2020.

Council members agreed to cancel the GACA Telephonic Meeting on February 7, 2020 with the following role call vote: Lisa O'Neill-aye, Belinda Akes-aye, Carol Brown-aye, Barbara Marshall-aye, Lee Olitzky-aye, Bob Roth-Aye, Steve Wagner-aye, David Spelich-aye, John Stiteler-aye.

- Sunset Review Update

- Chair O'Neill reported she has been informed she must deliver a final five minutes summary speech regarding GACA to the Committee of Reference at the Sunset Hearing prior to the decision announcement. Chair O'Neill mentioned the Sunset Hearing should take approximately 15-20 minutes and encouraged all Council Members and staff to be present, if possible.
- Chair O'Neill reported that DAAS has approved reimbursement to council members who travel 50 miles or more to attend the Sunset Review Hearing on January 15, 2020. Reimbursement is approved for mileage only.
- Chair O'Neill mentioned Council Members appointments by Boards and Commissions have been put on hold pending the outcome of the Sunset Review Hearing. The Chair stated there are currently four Council members terms' that expired in 2018, two term expirations in 2019 (including the Council Chairs' term), two Council member terms will expire in 2020 and one Council member term in 2022. If the GACA continues, Chair O'Neill anticipates the Council will be fully staffed at 15 members by the March 6, 2020 meeting.

- Chair O’Neill discussed SB 1049-Advisory Council on Aging introduced by Senator Brophy McGee. The Bill has a slight revision regarding where the GACA would be hosted. The bill suggests the GACA be hosted by the Governor’s Office of Youth, Faith and Family which is a larger all- inclusive office.
- 2020 objectives review
 - Chair O’Neill commended Council Members for a job well done developing the 2020 GACA Objectives at the November 1, 2019 Annual Planning Meeting.
 - Objective 1 – GACA monitors the State Plan on Aging (statutory mandate)
 - Objective 2 – GACA submits an annual end of year written report of its recommendations regarding the State Plan on Aging to the Governor, the Senate President and the Speaker of the House (statutory mandate).
 - Objective 3 - GACA supports efforts by liaison agencies/departments to educate and inform older Arizonans of programs, resources and information.
 - Objective 4 - GACA collects new data on Alzheimer’s disease and related disorders and prepares new or revised recommendations based on this information (statutory mandate).
 - Objective 5 -GACA supports efforts to educate on available and advocates for enhanced services and technology for the hard of hearing.
 - Objective 6 - GACA advocates for care recipient/caregiver support and education, advocates for long term and supports, home and community-based services as cost-effective way to keep older Arizonans aging in place.

Chair O’Neill advised that going forward the GACA should also focus on meeting attendance and Council members and liaisons should invite community members as the meetings are open to the public.

Council Members reporting & sharing

- Council Members’ aging-related updates on research
 - Steve Wagner reported on Fall Calls from licensed Senior Care Facilities in Scottsdale. Mr. Wagner reported that on every EMS dispatch for a Falls, individuals are initially classified as a patient. When a patient is not transported to a hospital, these incidents are Categorized as patient refusals. Of the 1,179 fall dispatches, 543 became patient refusals. Fall dispatches that did not result in transport to a hospital cost Scottsdale approximately \$1.4 million in 2018 and may impact firefighters’ response time to other requests for assistance. Approximately 30%-40% of non-transport at licensed facilities result in a non-emergent lift assist.
 - John Stiteler reported he’s been working with the Health Department on changing the rules on what can and can’t be done with new buildings with the classification of Health Care Home Centers.
- Training, seminars, workshops, webinars, conferences, best practices or related items
 - Carol Brown presented Chair O’Neill with a card signed by all Council Members and staff. Ms. Brown expressed gratitude to Chair O’Neill, on behalf of the GACA, for all her hard work with the preparation, completion and timely delivery of the Sunset Review Report and her leadership as Council Chair the past three years.
 - Barbara Marshall announced she will not be available to attend the March 6, 2020 GACA Meeting. Barbara clarified the County Attorney’s Office has primary jurisdiction over any fraud or elder abuse cases.

- Bob Roth reported Hospice of the Valley is building a new Dementia Care and Education Campus on the former site of the Scottsdale Unified School District near 44th street and Indian School Road. Ground-breaking is expected on 1/17/2020.
- Carol Brown reported she will be forwarding a flyer for circulation of 1/20/2020 Dementia Friendly events.
- Belinda Akes reported Meals on Wheels National Day in March is looking for volunteers if interested and she's very excited about the renovation of the old Wendy's Building in Pinal/Gila county that will become a kitchen for a local Meal on Wheels program.
- Olivia Guerrero reported the Senior Info. Expo will be held at the Copper Sky in Maricopa, Az on January 25, 2020 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Call to the public

- There were no comments/suggestions from the public at this time.

Copies of all meeting materials are available for review through the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging (GACA) Office.

Adjourn

GACA Chair, Lisa O'Neill, adjourned the meeting at 11:02 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: The next Governor's Advisory Council on Aging meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2020. Time and location to be confirmed and announced by public meeting notice posted at the GACA website: <http://govtrans.az.gov/gaca/>. These meetings are open to the public.