

STRATEGIC ACTION PLANNING GROUP ON AGING

Minutes of the Planning Group Meeting

Monday, February 13, 2017

Members Present: Ben Moultrie, Dale Elliott, Donna Baros, Doug Farmer, Jim Riesberg, John Barry, Karen Brown, Ky Agnew, Mindy Kemp, Sharron Williams, Steve Child, Susan Franklin, Tony Tapia, Wade Buchanan

Members Present by Phone: Christian Itin, Claire Anderson, Dave Norman, Sallie Thoreson,

Jim Riesberg Called the Meeting to Order at 9:04 a.m. and Called the Roll. A quorum was present.

The Agenda for the meeting was approved without changes.

The minutes of the Planning Group meeting on January 9, 2017 were approved without changes.

The Chair called for Public Comment. There was none.

Four presentations were made to the Planning Group. For those who used power point, the material will be added to the website once it is made available.

Kelli Fritts presented on AARP's ***Analysis of the ACA, Medicare and Medicaid – Potential Concerns Under the New Administration***. Much of the material she covered can be found in the AARP Bulletin of January-February 2017. She also distributed material on Medicaid in Colorado from the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, a Fact Sheet on the impact of Changing Medicare to a Premium Support Model from the AARP Public Policy Institute, and contact information for the Colorado Congressional Delegation and state legislative offices.

Shari Caton, Chair of the Office of Public Guardianship Subcommittee of the Colorado Bar Association and Amy Redfern, lobbyist with Aponte and Busam, presented on HB17-1087. They covered the history of the efforts to create an Office of Public Guardianship and the current bill and fiscal note. The first hearing will be on February 23. Support of this effort was in ***Recommendation 8 (b) of our Initial Action Plan*** and we will offer testimony of our support at the hearing.

Natalie Wood of the Bell Policy Center presented information on continuing efforts from last year to create a public/private partnership to design and offer a workplace retirement saving plan for employees who currently do not have access to one. ***Recommendation 3 (b) in our Initial Action Plan***. The final draft of the bill is not yet available.

Jill Sarmo, Director of Investor Education and Public Information in the Colorado Division of Securities, described the SeniorSafe Program created by the Division, and how they are working with employees of banks and investment companies to identify and report unusual activities that may signal suspected exploitation of their customers. ***Recommendation 7 (b) in our Initial Action Plan***.

Planning Group Business

Wade Buchanan led a discussion on the Proposed General 2017 Work Plan for the Planning Group that had been sent with the Agenda. The reaction was positive with additional comments to prepare and work from a budget and to put great emphasis on connecting ongoing-efforts to implementation of the Initial Action Plan. Jim Riesberg expressed concern that we also put emphasis on what is going on in other states and referenced the Nov/Dec 2016 issue of *CAPITOL IDEAS*, a publication of the Council of State Governments, that featured a 34 page section entitled: Aging States.

Based on the above discussion it was suggested that we form at least four committees and that we arrange a committee chairperson orientation to discuss committee structure and expectations and leadership skills. A Doodle Poll will be sent to all Planning Group members to invite those who are

interested to attend and set the best time for the orientation. Committee Chairs will be selected from those who attend and the other Planning Group members can sign-up for the committees of their choice at the March meeting.

Steve Child pointed out that many counties are already in the process of looking at improving their efforts toward their aging population. Pitkin County is working 14 point Action Plan on Senior Issues. The Planning Group will support those efforts in any way we can.

Executive Committee Report

There was a discussion about the value of providing lunch prior to each meeting for those who want to come early and socialize. It was decided to continue that for at least one additional meeting. There was also general agreement that we have at least one social function during the year in addition to the regular monthly meetings.

Members were asked to submit suggestions on other programs or issues for future presentations at Planning Group meetings.

There was a brief report on the number of presentations that are being made by Planning Group members to other organizations, and members were asked to report any presentations they make so we can have a complete list of activities. One of the presentations was to 30 legislators from two House and one Senate Committee. Members were asked to make contact with their legislators, answer their questions and share information, and offer to present at one of their Town Hall meetings. This led to a discussion of the best way to communicate with elected officials. Suggestions included, in order: 1) face-to-face in their office or by appointment somewhere else; 2) by phone, so you can have a two-way conversation; 3) a single-page, or less, hand-written letter on a single subject. E-mails often get little consideration.

A summary of the Recommendations in the Initial Action Plan was sent with the Agenda for easy reference when speaking with others.

The Executive Committee presented a summary of the Consultant/Administrator responsibilities for 2017 and the Planning Group authorized the Committee to move forward with the selection of an Administrator and other consultants as required.

There was a discussion of the need for ongoing communication and outreach efforts and general agreement that we should conduct four or five town hall style meetings throughout the state in 2017.

Other Business

It was announced that the Denver Council on Aging is accepting applications for several openings.

No one responded to the second call for Public Comment.

The March meeting will be on March 13th from Noon to 3:00 p.m. Lunch will be at 11:25 for those who RSVP.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.