

THE UTAH COMMISSION ON AGING STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 13, 2013

11:30 am – 1:00 PM

Location: The Alta Club - 100 East South Temple Street, SLC, UT 84111

ATTENDING	REPRESENTING
Kamron Dalton	Governor's Office (non-voting)
Teresa Garrett (proxy for David Patton)	Utah Department of Health
Daniel Harris (proxy for Alan Ormsby), AARP	Aging Advocacy Organizations
Nels Holmgren (proxy for Palmer DePaulis)	Department of Human Services
Becky Kapp (chair)	Health Care Provider Industry
Warren Walker (proxy for Gary Kelso)	Long-Term Care
Karla Aguirre (proxy for Jon Pierpont)	Utah Department of Workforce Services
Mark Supiano	Higher Education
Frances (Fran) Wilby	Charitable Organizations
Sarah Brenna	UT Assoc. of Area Agencies of Aging
Mary Street	Business Community
Mayor Daniel McArthur	Utah League of Cities and Towns – St. George City
ATTENDINGG Guests	REPRESENTING
Shirley Ashworth	Guest – Community Representative
Kevin Crossley	Guest – ENGAge Utah
Wendy Thomas	Guest – Community Services So. Jordan, UT
Troy Wilson	Guest – Legal Profession
Elizabeth (Bette) Vierra	Guest – applied for the General Public seat
Justin Sorenson	Guest
Cathy House	Guest – Osher Lifelong Learning Institute
Anne Peterson	Staff – Interim Executive Director
Jennifer Morgan	Staff – ADRC Program Manager
Holly Abel	Staff – Administrative Program Coordinator

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – Anne Peterson
Anne called the meeting to order at 1:34. She introduced herself, Becky Kapp (Chair), Holly Abel (newly hired Administrative Program Coordinator), and welcomed Karla Aguirre, new Commission representative from DWS.

2. **Minutes Approved:** The December CoA Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved.

3. **Daniel Harris** - Associate State Director of Advocacy / AARP Utah
Danny gave a legislative update, discussing actions taken at the Social Services Appropriations Committee. He noted that the federal government has given Utah the green light to move forward with its existing health insurance exchange. The affordable care act has directed states to expand their participation in Medicaid. AARP Utah supports expansion of the program in our state as outlined in the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

4. **Nels R. Holmgren** - Director, Division of Aging and Adult Services, Utah State Department of Human Services
Nels reported that due to the looming fiscal crisis it is difficult to determine how the loss of federal funds will affect Utah. He is waiting to see how this will affect the budget for the Department of Human Services. They have been asking for funds to fortify Adult Protective Services, bolster Meals on Wheels for which an original \$250,000 was requested. The Division is seeking to make it ongoing in the governor's budget, funded at \$200,000 annually.

Other items of interest at the legislature:

A match has been requested for Area Agencies on Aging.

Senator Wayne Harper is advocating for more support for the 211 program to coordinate central dispatching of information and referrals.

Sales tax on food is an item to be watched.

Regarding an effort to restore funding to the Office of Rural Health's Healthcare Workforce Loan Repayment program, it was noted that mental health services for seniors is woefully deficient, with nearly all of the mental health service being provided by social workers who are underpaid.

5. **Mary Street** - Orem City Councilwoman and invited Business Community Member reported on municipal zoning/planning barriers to innovative housing. Mary described a scenario in which the law defines one of two kinds of housing required to be in every political subdivision. Because it is required by State law, local planners reference it in land use housing. They refer to State law which doesn't work. There is a real need for education in elderly housing and to promote aging in place conversations. A committee could be formed. What is optimal living? What can our land use law do to protect congregate living arrangements at the municipal level? Where you live impacts how you can be engaged in your community. Affordable senior housing is not only low-income senior housing.

6. **Shirley Ashworth**, Guest, reported on costly disincentives and uphill battles to try to keep her mother at home after developing mild dementia. Shirley said that a good forum for education on senior issues is the Newcomers' clubs.

7. **Mayor McArthur** said the City of St. George waived impact fees for 100 years on all senior housing. He suggested involving the American Planning Association and Utah League of City and Towns, where examples might be found.

8. **Discussion:** Fran Wilby asked what would be considered "affordable." Defined by no more than 30% of income spent on rent and utilities and/or \$800 per month for rent. Theresa Garrett asked what Data exists for this. It was proposed that Bert Granberg of the State's Geographic Information Services be invited to come and present his data and findings at the next Commission meeting. Mary Street suggested that Utah Valley should undergo a needs assessment; Tax credits are currently only available for low income seniors.

9. **Anne Peterson:** Proposed the creation of two Workgroups – one for Senior HOUSING issues and one for Senior EDUCATION issues. A sign-up sheet was passed around the room for all interested. The first meetings for these workgroups will be held in early March and reports will be given at our next full Commission meeting.

10. **Next Meeting:** It was confirmed that the next meeting for the Utah Commission on Aging will be held Wednesday April 10th, 2013 at the Bennett Group, 222 South Main Street Suite #1910, SLC, UT 84101.

11. **Meeting Adjourned**

2013 Upcoming Meeting Calendar

April 10th - 12:00-1:30 p.m. - at the Bennett Group, 222 S. Main Street, Salt Lake City, UT 84101

June 12th - 1:00 -3:00 p.m. at the AARP Utah office, 6975 Union Park Center Midvale, UT 84047

August 14th - location TBD

October 9th - location TBD

December 4th - location TBD

- Rocky Mountain Geriatrics Conference., Snowbird, Sept. 9-10, 2013
- Utah Aging Alliance Conference, The Yarrow, Park City, October 3-4, 2013