

Senior Services Strategic Plan
Accountability Committee

March 8, 2006

9 a.m.

AARP Nevada Office
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1. The meeting was called to order at 9:15 a.m.

2. Welcome and Introductions –Sue Rhodes

- Committee Members present: Sue Rhodes, Chairperson (Clark County), Connie McMullen, Vice Chairperson (Publisher, Senior Spectrum), David Bobzien (Commission on Aging), Barry Gold (AARP), Jerry Johnson (Clark County Parks & Recreation, Senior Advocate), Wendy Knorr (Alzheimer's Association of Northern Nevada), Kathy McClain (Nevada State Assembly & Commission on Aging Member), Charles Perry (Nevada Health Care Association), Jackie Ridley (Senior Representative), Sherry Rupert (Nevada Indian Commission), Liliam Shell (Nevada Health Centers).

- Committee Members Absent: Janice McIntosh (Carson City Senior Center), Dottie Piekartz (Washoe Adult Day Care).

- Guests Present: Robert Desruisseaux (Division for Aging Services), Linda Bowman (Health Care Financing & Policy).

- Staff Members Present: Carol Sala (Administrator, Division for Aging Services), Dale Ann Luzzi (Division for Aging Services).

A quorum was declared present.

- Carol Sala introduced the newest member to the Division for Aging Services team, Robert Desruisseaux, Project Manager for the Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC). Previously he was with the Northern Nevada Center of Independent Living. Robert has been a very strong advocate for the disability community. He served as the chairman for the Disability Services Strategic Plan Accountability Committee (SPAC). He will still be involved, but more in the back round.

3. Approval of the October 6, 2005 minutes*

Connie McMullen made a motion to approve the minutes of October 6, 2005. Jerry Johnson seconded the motion. The motion passed.

4. Overview of Strategic Plan

Carol Sala gave the new members an overview and history of the Strategic Plan and the Accountability Committee with a power point presentation. Carol suggested that new members read the Strategic Plan and the two previous Annual Reports. Ms. Sala reminded the committee that this is a ten year plan and therefore a living document, meaning the document needs to be continually reviewed. New priorities will be established annually and moved forward to further the goals of the Plan. The Plan should also be used to review the progress that has been made and to set priorities of the committee.

Next steps: Review and reassess the status of the original Strategic Plan, continue to set priorities, develop strategies, identify partners/advocates, and initiatives for the 2007 session.

5. Role of Accountability Committee

This committee shall facilitate possible Bill Draft Requests (BDR) for the upcoming session. Concepts must be submitted by May 5, 2006. BDRs must be before the Legislature by September, 2006. The DAS budget is due August 31. Changes to the budget must be made by September. The Annual Report will be submitted to DHHS Director Mike Willden in July, 2006. At the April 25th meeting the July 1st report will be on the agenda. The committee will need to start planning what will be included in the report. Each committee member will be sent the grid that has been used to develop the annual report. Be ready to discuss what is on the grid, changes, issues/ideas that need to be included. (Attachment A – grid)

The committee will collaborate with the other two accountabilities committees (disabled and rural) and the Silver Haired Legislative Forum to establish common goals.

Assemblywoman Kathy McClain is working with the Legislative Council Bureau to determine the feasibility of a standing committee on “Seniors, Veterans and the Disabled.” The committee would meet during the session. LCB is researching the kind of legislation that would be referred to the committee.

Ms. McClain announced a Seniors Summit will be held June 14th in Las Vegas to discuss the statewide senior survey. The state survey will be completed at the end of March.

The Commission on Aging will meet March 30th in Las Vegas (1:30 p.m.) and will be teleconferenced to the north.

6. Election of New Chairperson*

Sue Rhodes opened the floor for nominations for chairperson. Barry Gold made the suggestion that the chair position be moved to the north. Since Connie McMullen has

served as vice- chairperson for a number of years, she would be the natural choice. Charles Perry seconded the motion. There were no other nominations. A vote was taken and Connie McMullen was unanimously elected chairman. Connie McMullen opened the nomination for vice chair. It was decided that the vice chair be from the south. Kathy McClain nominated Barry Gold. A vote was taken and Barry was unanimously elected vice-chairman.

7. Work plan/Priorities

The committee should start thinking about issues to carry forward to the next session. This will be on the next agenda as an action item. The committee briefly discussed portions of the last Annual Report.

- Synergy: Single Point Entry — people not only access information and referral, but also assessment, in one location. DAS would like to develop the system so a person could walk into any location, have someone take their information and enter it into a central database, thus allowing everyone touching the case to access the same information about that person. The information gathered would have to meet the needs of the Division and sister agencies. Before DAS can get to this point they must be able to access 13 databases; all must be merged. Synergy will be a statewide system that is web based. The process is moving along slowly. Putting the infrastructure in place is holding up the process. ***SPE is a SPAC priority***
- David Bobzien urged the Division to focus on IT personnel to help build the Synergy system. Mr. Bobzien said the state is lagging behind in IT expertise, which has impacted the project.
- A larger concept of SPE is 2-1-1. 2-1-1 helps connect people to information and resources at one entry point rather than calling several agencies. 2-1-1 in its current form is just an I &R. (It was kicked off statewide February 9, 2006) As the system develops it will provide access to more agencies and assist people during emergencies. 2-1-1 is being seen as the hub for all data bases; everything will eventually be linked to 2-1-1. The system is currently in infancy stage.

8. Annual Report

This item was moved to the May 3rd agenda.

9. Aging and Disability Resource Centers

The Division of Aging services received a three year \$750,000 grant to develop Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) in September of 2005. They ADRC is sponsored jointly by the Administration of Aging (AoA) and Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). The ultimate goal for all persons seeking long-term support

is to minimize confusion, enhance individual choice, and support informed decision-making.

DAS is expected to create a citizen's center one-stop entry point; the first to open doors in Las Vegas. The center would serve as a point of access for individuals that are in need of long-term care supports. ADRC is not intended just for seniors. The second population that DAS is targeting is people with physical disabilities. DAS will start off serving seniors and move right into serving people with physical disabilities and anyone looking to plan for long-term care supports. By the end of the third year of the grant, DAS must have designed a resource center that provides awareness, assistance and access.

Robert Desruisseaux provided a power point presentation and went over the priorities and goals of ADRC. ADRC will tie into 2-1-1. The big key to making this system work is that all the data together is in a transmittable form.

At the end of his presentation Robert asked for volunteers for an ADRC advisory board and subcommittee's. (**Attachment B**)

In addition to the pilot project Robert would like to establish virtual sites to be open by the end of the third year. This would be internet accessible; people could actually apply for some services on-line. The system should track: client in-take, needs assessments, care planning, care utilization and costs. Robert gave the committee the web address for Louisiana, which already has ADRC's up and running.

<http://www.louisianaanswers.org>

10. Schedule Next Meeting and Set Agenda*

For the next few months the committee will be meeting monthly. The meeting dates are as follows:

April 25th in Reno

June 1st in Las Vegas

June 29th in Reno

Locations to be determined. All meetings are scheduled to start at 9 a.m.

11. Announcements

Charles Perry shared with the committee an upcoming training that he felt some committee members might be interested in, "Olmstead in 2006 Taking Nevada to the Next Level." It's going to be presented in both the north and the south. For more information call the Center for Independent Living.

Carol Sala along with 14 other Nevada delegates attended the fifth White House Conference on Aging held last December 11-14, 2005 in Washington D.C. The last conference was in 1990. The theme of this year's conference was "The Booming Dynamics of Aging, From Awareness to Action." Carol Sala provided a power point

presentation that Marietta Bobba, Washoe County Senior Services Director, designed to present to the Washoe County Commissioner. (Attachment C)

Resolutions Nevada gave voice to:

Reauthorization of the Older Americans act
Broaden and strengthen senior centers
Elder abuse prevention

-Top resolutions will be provide to President Bush with implementation strategies and action plans developed at the conference.

Marietta Bobba found a document from the WHCoA Web site and is having Mel Phillips compare the Strategic Plan with the WHCoA. (Attachment)

Carol Sala is a member of the Washoe County Strategic Plan for seniors. Washoe County hired a consulting firm to work with the committee to get the Strategic Plan written. They had many focus groups with various citizen groups and interviewed twelve stakeholders. This is a ten year plan to help Washoe Commissioners set their priorities. The document is one hundred and ten pages and is nearing completion.

Carol Sala suggested that this committee may possibly want to have a booth at the Senior Fest in May 9th, 2006 in Reno. Carol said that they WHCoA delegates are considering a table at the festival, held at Park Lane Mall. Carol suggested the committee might want to have a table marketing the Strategic Plan, making people aware of what's happening and how the committee is moving the Plan forward.

Kathy McClain shared the following information with the committee.

As of July 2004: the state of Nevada has 2.3 million people

27.7% are 50 and above

21% are 55 and above

15% are 60 and above

The fastest growing segment is 85 and above

Barry Gold provided the committee with the last National Demographics study conducted by AARP. (Attachment D).

12. Public Comments

None

13. Adjournment

The meeting was adjointed at 2:06 pm