



GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING

LEGISLATIVE & POLICY COORDINATING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES March 6, 2008

Council Members, Liaisons & Committee Participants Present

Sharon McKinley (Chairperson), Bill Engler, George Evanoff, Joyce Finkelstein, Paul Herrmann, Bernadine Hoffman, Doyle Meredith, Bernadette Polley, Pam Stevenson, Karla Averill, Jutta Ulrich

Council Members Not Present

Kati Bates, Marilyn Johnson

Council Staff Present

Melanie Starns, Cathy De Lisa, Dan Plumhoff, Elsa Gaynor

Guests Present

Mr. Gregg Kiely, Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT)

Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions & Approval of Minutes

Committee Chair Sharon McKinley called the meeting to order at 9:41 a.m., and a welcome and introduction period followed. Minutes from the February 7, 2008 meeting were reviewed. *Bill Engler made a motion to approve the minutes as written and Bernadette Polley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.*

Updates

Bills and Key Action Items

Executive Director Melanie Starns provided an overview of both the “full” and “short” lists of legislation being tracked by the Council through the Legislation Online Arizona (LOLA) service, and she invited Committee members to provide additional input if available. Furthermore, Ms. Starns discussed the progression of the current legislative session and noted that the House of Representatives may complete their review of several current bills by the end of the week. Additionally, Ms. Pam Stevenson of the Attorney General’s Office (AG) spoke about H2506 (Reverse Mortgages) and provided the Committee with an explanation of the types of reverse mortgages available, the nature of the recent hearing regarding that bill on March 3, 2008 and the corresponding testimony given by the Attorney General’s Office, and the current “held” status of that bill. Committee Chair Sharon McKinley then asked if the Committee was in favor of the provisions within H2506, and a discussion ensued. Ms. Pam Stevenson stated that she will keep the Committee and Council abreast of the Attorney General’s Office’s stance and actions to be taken in regards to H2506, and provide Ms. Starns with that information prior to the March 7, 2008 Council meeting. *Mr. George Evanoff made a motion to support the intent of H2506 and*

draft a letter expressing that support to the legislature, once the Council is informed of the Attorney General's position. Mr. Bill Engler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, and the item will be taken before the full Council at the March 7, 2008 meeting. Copies of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging's "Short and Full" list of bills being tracked from the Arizona Capitol Times dated March 6, 2008, and H2506, which proposes regulations for the establishment of reverse mortgage loans are available through the Council Office.

Budget Update

Ms. Starns stated that the legislature is still working on the FY08 and FY09 budgets, and that a consensus has yet to be reached. Additionally, the Committee discussed the importance of school bonding in managing the revenue shortfall.

Transit Presentation

Mr. Gregg Kiely, Program Manager for PTD Special Needs Transportation at the Arizona Department of Transportation provided an overview of the current ADOT Transit Program updates, the basis, nature, funding and coordination of each program, and the future of senior transportation funding. Specifically, Mr. Kiely discussed:

- Section 5310 - FTA Elderly Individuals & Individuals with Disabilities Program, a regionally based program serving senior's transportation needs.
- Section 5311 - Rural Public Transportation (a companion federal transit program to 5310), a program "designed to address all community public transportation needs, but [which] has seniors as one of its core rider groups.
- Section 5316 - Job Access – Reverse Commute or "JARC", a program providing "transportation to work activities for welfare, low-income un-and-under employed" individuals.
- Section 5317 – New Freedom, a program designed to enhance accessibility for the needs of all disabled individuals, regardless of age.

Furthermore, Mr. Kiely provided statistical information pertaining to each of the aforementioned programs, and a question and answer period followed. A copy of Mr. Kiely's presentational handout is available through the Council Office.

Committee Discussion of Recent Presentations

The Committee discussed previous presentations on dental care and transit, and it was decided that the Committee will identify additional presenters to speak on both of these issues. Additionally, the Committee will identify possible dental care presenters from non-profit, for-profit, and private practice service providers. Ms. McKinley requested that any additional information on the non-profit, for-profit, and private practice models will be submitted to Deputy Director Cathy De Lisa in order to move forward with the possibility of securing up to four presentations for the April 3, 2008 Legislative Policy Coordinating Committee meeting.

Other Updates, New Business, & Announcements

Ms. Karla Averill announced that the Arizona Health Care Association (AHCA) conducted its “Annual Lobby Day” at the capitol on March 5, 2008, and that the Association met with legislators from their districts to discuss her organization’s legislative priorities.

Action Items

- Ms. Pam Stevenson will report the stance being taken by the Attorney General’s Office in reference to H2506, and the Committee will report that information to the full Council at the March 7, 2008 meeting.
- The Committee put forth the motion to draft a letter to the legislature in support of H2506, which will be considered by the full Council on March 7, 2008.
- The Committee members will identify possible dental care presenters from the non-profit, for-profit and private practice sectors, and submit that information to Ms. De Lisa in order to secure those identified speakers for the April 3, 2008 meeting.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by Committee Chair Sharon McKinley at 11:25 a.m.

Next Meeting:

The next Legislative and Policy Coordinating Committee meeting will be April 3, 2008 at 9:30 a.m. in the State Executive Tower, Second Floor Conference Room. These meetings are open to the public.