



Ohio Advisory Council for Aging

Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2021

10:00am to 12:00pm

PRESENT:

Governor's Appointments: Chair Lori Wengerd, Vice Chair Phil Walton, Louis Borowicz, Semanthie Brooks, John Corlett, Misty Crosby, Stephanie Garrett, Marian Schuda, Denise Shockley, Manish Srivastava

Ex-Officio Legislative Appointments: Senator Steve Wilson, Representatives from Sen. Hearcel Craig's office

Ex-Officio Cabinet Agencies: Kris Lintner (ODM), Adreana Tartt (MHAS), Will McHugh (ODH), Heidi Turner (JFS)

Welcome

At 10:00am, Chair Lori Wengerd called the meeting to order and welcomed all members and participants to the meeting.

Council Procedures

Roll Call

Alex Lapsos called the roll and a quorum was present.

Meeting Minutes Approval

Alex Lapsos asked that the members review the minutes from the previous meeting. Stephanie Garrett moved to accept the meeting minutes. Vice Chair Walton seconded the motion. Without objection the minutes from the February 10 meeting were approved. The approved minutes will be uploaded to the website.

Director's Report

Director McElroy provided updates surrounding the vaccination efforts for older Ohioans.

- There is a federal pharmacy partnership for Long-Term Care program with CVS, Walgreens, Absolute Pharmacy, and Pharmscript. They provided three clinics for each facility and administered the 1st and 2nd doses.
- In order to maintain the supplies, there is a maintenance program.
- Educate and work with affordable senior housing properties by providing onsite clinics. This is an arrangement between the Department of Aging and the Ohio National Guard. ODA works with vaccine providers to make sure we have both supplies and medical teams onsite to be able to administer the vaccine and to be present to observe in case there are any adverse reactions.
- It is now opened to anyone in Ohio who wants to be vaccinated.
- Mobile options...provide transportation and working with FEMA.

- Four new public health orders have been released. Two of the orders were specific to the visitation of NF and AL facility.
- There is now a minimum of 30 minutes for visitations.
- Testing still take place at the facilitates.
- Alzheimer's Disease and Related Dementias Task Force is underway.
- Working with the Department of Medicaid and CMS, we were able to receive federal dollars to support many efforts around the task force.
- Submitted requests for proposals and RFPs.
- Task Force meetings are livestream and recorded. Meeting minutes are posted on the website.

Questions

Director McElroy was asked and responded to questions addressing and identifying needs for early intervention. Director McElroy made reference to the Summary Assessment of Older Ohioans. Ashley Davis mentioned that the SAPA lists metrics of which will be monitored.

Legislative Updates

The department received a \$4.375 million grant from CMS. The Controlling Board approved that request on January 25. There is another Controlling Board request that was approved on April 5 to increase ODA's appropriation authority in the amount of \$6.137 million to support Older Americans Act home-delivered meals services.

Companion Bills – SB 58 introduced by Senators Antonio and Brenner and HB 78 introduced by Representative Brent. The bills are called Esther's law and will explicitly authorize the use of electronic monitoring devices in long-term care units both nursing homes and assisted living.

SB 58 has received multiple hearings in the Senate Health Committee; and the House, HB 78 is receiving its first hearing this week (tomorrow) in the House Families, Aging, and Human Services Committee. Two key things that the amendment will do: 1) it will prohibit unauthorize cameras and 2) limit who has the ability to review those cameras.

House Sub Bill – The House Finance Committee accepted the substitute version of HB 110 which is the operating budget for this upcoming biennium yesterday at 2:00pm. Provisions include:

- At Home Technology Pilot Program – The provision of this bill authorizes \$500,000 grant to support remote monitoring technologies for those living at home and residential care facilities.
- DOHCD3 Summary orders against nursing homes – The House version amended that provision to put a cap on fines issued to the Long-Term Care facilities. The House offered language that will require 24 hours' notice in advance of Survey teams' regulators entering the facility.
- \$50M Nursing Home Bed Buy-Back Program – This provision has been completely removed from the bill.
- Nursing Facility Quality Improvement Payments – There were changes to this provision. Created an add on of \$108 million per fiscal year to support quality and improvement payments.

Ethics Training

Annual Ethics Mandatory Training – This training will take place in our regular August Ohio Advisory Council meeting. If not able to attend, you can complete the virtual online Ethics Training.

Attendance

Chair Wengerd reminded everyone the importance of being present at the meetings. The Ohio Advisory Council is a Board that is required by law to have only 12 members appointed by Governor. John Begala recently resigned his post. Waiting for the Governor to fulfil his spot.

Under the Revised Code Section 173.03, a series of unexcused absences will cause removal from the

Advisory Council.

SAPA Implementation Survey Results

Survey Discussion.

As of this morning, we received 15 responses.

First Choice

Top priorities

- Home and Community Based Services
- Health-Care Coverage Affordable

Second priorities

- Social Inclusion
- Nutrition

Second Choice

Top Three priorities

- Home and Community-Based Services
- Home Care Workforce Needs
- Social Inclusion

Most Pressing Issues

- Staying Connected
- Overcoming social isolation
- Racial disparities which impact health, housing, nutrition, safety, transportation, and communities
- Access to timely care within their own geographical area
- Access to care
- Access to proper healthcare
- Access to and affordability of health care
- Financial insecurity
- Promote independence
- Population health needs
- Maintaining social inclusion/cognitively function
- Access to transportation
- Healthy living
- Program services, support and availability

Chair Wengerd informed the group that another survey will be sent out for further feedback.

Committee Report Out

- Misty Crosby – Best Practices
 - Focused on social isolation
 - Worked with Katie White, AARP
 - Age friendly guide businesses
 - Increasing barriers to programs and services
 - Transportation
 - Next steps will be to continue to meet with folks who are working on the ground with communities.
 - Plan to submit a formal recommendation to the Ohio Advisory Council for Aging.
- Semanthie Brooks –Policy
 - Committee members met on March 4

- Talked about the budget
- Learned information about Aging stakeholder's panel.
- Talked a little about rebasing and how that would impact extend care facilities
- Time spent with polling members to determine what we would like to see as our contribution to the council/advocate that includes the following...
 - Adult Protection Services
 - Senior Services Line Item
 - Maintain the budget process
 - Respond to any legislation
 - Looked on how to influence the next budget cycle
 - Broadband
 - Transportation
 - Notifications of any new rules that impacts older adults
 - Buy Back of Beds
 - The role of primary care in our state
 - Our next meeting the first day in May
- John Corlett – Education and Outreach
 - Our next meeting is May 20 at 1pm
 - Subject of the meeting will be SAPA...go from plan to reality. This will guide our work for the rest of the year
 - In the future, we will use the survey Q&A results for education session
 - Question...should we (the Council) weigh in on the agency budget request?
 - Alex – If the Council sees fit to draft testimony to share with the legislators to address the keys components of our budget priorities, we will welcome that opportunity.
 - The Council agreed. Motion was granted for the Advisory Council to provide testimony to the legislator on the Department of Aging's budget. Stephanie Garrett motioned and John Corlett second that motion.
 - Alex explained to the group the expectations of the testimony prep.

Misty Crosby made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Without objection, the meeting of the Advisory Council for Aging adjourned at 12:02pm.