

Alaska Commission on Aging
APPROVED Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2017

Members Present: David Blacketer, Mary Shields, Rachel Greenberg, Marie Darlin, and staff D. Daniello.

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by teleconference.

II. Review and take action on Executive Committee Draft Meeting Agenda: A motion to approve the agenda was made by Rachel and seconded by Mary without objection.

III. Review and take action on ACoA Executive Committee Draft Meeting Minutes, 4.21.2017: A motion was made to approve minutes by Mary and seconded by Marie. Minutes approved.

IV. Review, discuss & take action on the draft agenda for the ACoA September 14, 2017: Denise reviewed the draft board meeting agenda. Rachel suggested that the agenda add an update about Medicaid Redesign to keep the Commission apprised of new developments. Denise offered to check with Monique Martin, Deputy Director with the Commissioner's Office, to ask for her availability to do a report to the Commission from 11:45 to 12:15 p.m. Rachel suggested that we reschedule lunch for 12:15 to 1 p.m. Rachel also shared that she recently attended a training about the upcoming 2020 Census project presented by the Foraker Group.

Marie moved to adopt the draft September 2017 agenda with changes as discussed. Rachel seconded the motion. The draft agenda was approved.

V. Discussion and Updates:

- Medicare Ad Hoc Committee: Rachel serves as the Chair for the Medicare Ad Hoc Committee. Rachel reviewed the list of policymakers, health care providers and public members who have confirmed their attendance at the first meeting on October 17. Rachel also reviewed the purpose of this Committee which is to identify what steps we can take as a state to improve access to care for Medicare beneficiaries. For example, the Commission has learned that some states require primary care providers to serve a certain percentage of their patients as Medicare beneficiaries in order to be licensed to practice in that state. Denise said she will do some research and get back to our Committee with any findings.
- Update on Senior Benefits legislative interim plan: Denise has been working with Rep Kawasaki's office to schedule a date for the Senior Benefits Listening Session to be hosted by House Health and Social Services Committee. The purpose of the Listening Session is to raise public awareness about the merits of the Senior Benefits program for policymakers and public members as part of the advocacy efforts for HB 236. The Commission has offered to help Rep Kawasaki's office with promotion about the Listening Session and encouraging people to testify.
- ACoA Proposed Advocacy Priorities for Trust September 2017 Presentation: Mary recommended that ACoA maintain the same advocacy priorities from last year as this is the second year of a two-year legislative session. Rachel also noted that ACoA is getting more involved with advocacy on federal issues that has been prompted by the federal government pushing for more changes at the state level, as in the example of health care reform.
- September 2017 is Senior Fall Prevention Awareness: Theme "10 Years Standing Together to Prevent Falls." Denise informed the Committee that ACoA has been working with the Sitka Hospital providing them with information about senior falls in AK and prevention activities. ACoA staff Lesley Thompson will present a power point about senior fall prevention to the Sitka providers during that

week. The Commission also sent a request to the Governor's office for a Senior Fall Prevention Executive Proclamation and provided draft language.

- **Staff Projects:** Denise shared with the Committee that ACoA staff made a presentation about state senior program resources to the Alaska State Libraries, at their invitation, as librarians are receiving more questions and requests for information about the State's senior programs from seniors, families and other public members.

VI. Other discussion and updates: The Committee discussed the extensive support from Senator Murkowski's office on federal health care reform legislation and ways to provide appropriate thanks. Marie suggested that we send a note of thanks.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m. with a motion by Marie and seconded by Rachel.