

Alaska Commission on Aging
APPROVED Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2016

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

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m. by teleconference.

II. Review and take action on Executive Committee Draft Meeting Agenda, 4.12.2016: A motion to approve the agenda was made by Rachel and seconded by Eleanor without objection.

III. Review and take action on ACoA Executive Committee Draft Meeting Minutes, 1.21.2016: The motion to approve the minutes was made by Rachel and seconded by Marie. Minutes approved.

IV. Review, discuss & take action on ACoA May 5, 2016 Board Meeting Agenda: Denise reviewed the draft meeting agenda which will be held by teleconference. Commission members from Anchorage and Mat-Su who are able will gather at Mat-Su Senior Services. A change in the draft meeting agenda was suggested by Rachel for the item called "Nomination for Election of ACoA Officers by the Nomination Committee" scheduled at 1:15 p.m. This item was changed to an Action Item called "Vote for Slate of Officers." David Blacketer has accepted the nomination as ACoA's Chair for FY17-FY18 and Marie Darlin accepted the FY17-FY18 nomination as Vice Chair. There are no other Commission members interested in holding officer positions this year.

The Committee further discussed the agenda. Rachel noted that Janet Beeter, Chair of MatSu Senior Services, is planning to speak during Public Comment. ACoA Commissioner Edna DeVries serves on the Palmer City Council. Rachel suggested that we ask Edna to say a few words to the Commission in her role serving on the City Council. Mary agreed and asked Denise to contact Edna regarding this request. (Staff follow-up note: Denise contacted Edna following the Executive Committee meeting. Edna noted that she had a previous commitment and would not be able to attend the meeting, however, would come at the beginning of the Board meeting to help establish quorum.)

Regarding ACoA Committee assignments, Rachel recommended that we add a representational assignment for a Commissioner to serve on the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education. In addition, Mary suggested that we add an assignment for a reviewer of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Mini Grant applications. Mary currently serves in that capacity. Denise will update the list of FY2016-2017 ACoA Committee Assignments as requested.

The Committee also asked Denise to contact the Governor's office and request a bill signing ceremony for SB 124 (to reauthorize the Commission) for May 5 at Mat-Su Senior Services, pending the Governor's availability. Rachel offered to contact the Governor's office in MatSu as well. (Staff follow-up note: Denise made the request however the Governor was not available on that date as he was traveling out of state.)

The draft Board meeting agenda for May 5, 2016 was approved as amended by Rachel and Marie. The draft agenda stands approved.

V. Older Americans Month (OAM) Planning Activities and the Centenarian Project: Denise provided an update regarding the Centenarian project. To date, 19 Alaskan Centenarians have agreed to be publicly recognized during Older Americans Month in Alaska celebrations. Commission staff has contacted organizers for the OAM celebrations planned for Anchorage and Fairbanks requesting time on their event agendas for someone

representing the Commission to talk about the Centenarian project and to read the list of names of Centenarians who provided consent to be recognized. The Anchorage celebration is planned for May 4 at the Anchorage Senior Activities Center. Mary, Gordon, and Denise plan to attend. The Senior Recognition Day event, sponsored by the Fairbanks North Star Borough Senior Advisory Commission, is planned for May 12. Although the MatSu Senior Services is not planning an OAM event this year, Commission members attending the May 5 board meeting will be available to discuss the project and read the names of Centenarians during congregative lunch. Rachel said that she would outreach to the Palmer Centenarians and invite them to attend and be recognized on May 5.

VI. Review, discuss, and take action on ACoA Committee Assignments: Denise reviewed the draft list of Committee assignments based on feedback from Commission members. As the new Chair, David was added to all ACoA Committees. Marie recommended that staff develop a list of Committee duties to go with the Committee assignments and to include that information in the meeting binder. She also suggested that the By-Laws Committee reclassify the Older Workers Committee as an “ad hoc” committee. (Staff follow-up note: The requested information was added to the May board meeting binder.)

The Committee also identified the list of public member Commissioners with term dates expiring in September 2016. Those Commissioners include Mary, Edna, Anna, and Eleanor. Eleanor, the Commission’s longest-standing member, has served 8 consecutive years and is therefore not eligible for re-appointment. According to Boards and Commissions, Eleanor is eligible to re-apply to serve on the Commission after sitting out one year. Mary stated that she is interested in continued service on the Commission. Mary and Denise will outreach to Anna and Edna regarding their interest to continue service. (Staff follow-up note: Anna expressed interest in wanting to continue serving however Edna is unable to due to work commitments that make it difficult for her to attend meetings. Following the Executive Committee meeting, Denise sent correspondence to Boards and Commissions that the Commission fully supports the re-appointment of Mary and Anna and that both are interested in continuing their service.)

VII. Discuss proposed dates for ACoA FY17 Board meetings: Denise reviewed the dates proposed for the ACoA meeting calendar. With the exception of the February 2017 meeting, all meetings will be held by teleconference/videoconference as requested by the Governor’s office for travel reduction. The dates proposed were the following:

- Fall Meeting: Wednesday, September 14, 2016
- Combination Legislative Advocacy/Rural Outreach: February 6-10, 2017 with the board meeting held in Juneau and rural outreach to Southeast communities.
- Spring Older Americans Month in Alaska Meeting: Wednesday, May 3, 2017

The date for the fall meeting was changed by the Committee to Thursday, September 15 due to a schedule conflict of one of the members. The proposed dates will be presented as an action item at the May 5, 2016 ACoA board meeting.

The Committee discussed the importance of the rural outreach as an important opportunity for the Commission to reach out to local seniors, many of whom are vulnerable and do not participate in teleconference meetings. Mary noted that the Commission learns so much about the needs of older Alaskans during the face-to-face interactions that occur during the board meetings and community forums. In turn, seniors learn about programs and issues that affect them. Eleanor added that legislators need to know the value of rural outreach for seniors.

The Committee decided to do rural outreach and legislative advocacy face-to-face meetings during alternate years with the rural outreach and legislative advocacy meeting held together during the February 2017 meeting. In FY2018, the Commission will hold a rural outreach meeting in the fall.

VIII. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 11:55 a.m.