

Alaska Commission on Aging
APPROVED Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
January 21, 2016

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

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 11:05 a.m. by teleconference.

II. Review and take action on Executive Committee Draft Meeting Agenda, 1-21-2015: A motion to approve the agenda was made by Rachel and seconded by Marie without objection.

III. Review and take action on ACoA Executive Committee Draft Meeting Minutes, 11-13-2015: The motion to approve the minutes was made by Marie and seconded by Rachel.

IV. Review, discuss & take action on ACoA February 8-11, 2016: Denise reviewed the draft meeting agenda which will be a face-to-face meeting. A joint meeting of the Pioneer Home Advisory Board, AgeNet, and ACoA is planned for Monday, February 8 beginning at 3 p.m. as requested by the Pioneer Home Advisory Board Chair. ACoA will convene this meeting. Committee members asked staff to include a copy of the Request for Interest issued by the DHSS, Division of Pioneer Homes for qualified parties interested in assuming operations of the Pioneer Homes in the meeting binder for Commissioners to review. The Executive Committee made the following revisions on the meeting agenda:

- A **“Nominating Committee”** report was added on Tuesday, February 9, so that Mary can talk about the nominations and elections process for ACoA officers at the May board meeting. Mary noted that only two Commissioners, Marie Darlin and David Blacketer, are eligible for Chair as they are not up for immediate re-appointment.
- Under the Action Item, Establish ACoA FY2016-2017 Meeting Dates, the May 5 date was changed to **May 3** for the ACoA board meeting to avoid a conflict with the Trust board meeting date on May 5.

As amended, the draft agenda was adopted with Rachel making the motion and Marie providing a second.

The Committee discussed plans for the May 2016 meeting. Although this will not be a face-to-face meeting as the travel freeze will still be in effect, we observed that six of our Commission members live in Anchorage and Mat-Su. They could possibly attend the meeting in person at the Mat-Su Senior Center and cover their own personal expenses. The 2016 Older Americans Month theme is “Blaze a Trail.”

V. Review, discuss, and take action on ACoA FY2014 Legislative Advocacy Priorities: The Committee agreed that ACoA’s legislative advocacy priorities are based on the findings from the senior needs assessment activities. The Committee approved ACoA’s Legislative Advocacy Policy Position paper – Rachel made the motion which was seconded by Marie. Denise noted that she will draft the ACoA Senior Housing Resolution for the Committee to review and take action by email.

The following items will be included in the Legislator Packets:

- ACoA Position Paper – Printed one piece of paper
- First page from the State Plan for Senior Services, the ADRD Roadmap and ACoA’s 2016 Annual Report with a note to let legislators know that the full reports can be accessed on ACoA’s website (www.alaskaaging.org) and a hard copy is available by request. (Note: ACoA made the decision to only provide hard copies on request to save money on printing costs.)
- ADRD Roadmap Progress Report
- ACoA Resolution 2016-001 on Senior Housing

VI. Review, discuss, and take action on ACoA Commissioner Talking Points: The Committee agreed that senior housing is a need statewide. Supportive housing, assisted living, and nursing home care are all parts of the continuum of care for seniors. The privatization of the Pioneer Homes is of concern as ACoA does not want to see the level of service reduced nor residents who are unable to pay be asked to leave. Under private ownership, would the State of Alaska continue the payment assistance program now in place for Pioneer Home residents who are unable to pay? How will the sale of the Palmer Veterans Pioneer Home affect the State's relationship with the federal government? Regarding the privatization of the Pioneer Homes, ACoA will advocate to ensure:

- No reductions to the current quality of care
- No residents should be asked to leave due to inability to pay.

Staff will add notes to maintain the quality of care for the Pioneer Homes in the Commissioner Talking Points.

VII. ACoA Commissioner Visits: Lesley Thompson reviewed the draft list of legislative visits for ACoA Commissioners. Lesley will send out the list of visits to Commissioners for approval.

VIII. Adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.