

**Governor's Advisory Council  
Conference Call Minutes  
December 17, 2013**

Meeting was called to order at 9:40 AM by Chairman Yenne.

Attending: Jolynn Yenne , Marvin Carter, Jessie James Howley, Marianne Roose , Joan Taylor  
Absent: Beverly Barhart, Mary Lou Miller. Connie Bremner, Al Ward, Lauren Kippen, Gerald Pease  
Guests: Judy Morrill, Director Bozeman Senior Center; Lisa Shepherd, Director, Area IX Agency on Aging in Kalispell.  
Staff: Charlie Rehbein

Chairman Yenne welcomed Marianne from Eureka and Joan Taylor from Helena

Minutes from the October meeting were approved.

**Update on the Conferences from local committees:**

Kalispell Conference update - Lisa Shepherd, Director, Area IX Agency on Aging .  
Rock Star planning committee – they are structured, organized and doing the ground work. They have a main planning committee with executive committee providing oversight. They have subcommittees which include a planning and marketing committee, a program committee, fund raising committee and a welcoming committee. plus a logistics committee to make sure everything is ready as we get closer to the conference. The fund raising subcommittee has a list of sponsors and are providing them with a packet of information. They are also planning a special event which requires additional funds. Also, they have a marketing person who is helping them promote the conference and activities.

The program committee has nailed down 2<sup>nd</sup> day covering topics related to home and community based services, hospice and healthcare; innovations in the Flathead – information on local programs and services such as care farms; and nutrition (possibly as a mini-keynote). Also, planning an interactive discussion in groups with facilitators and note takers.

Want the conference to be fun, fast paced and great information. This would include instant recess to get folks moving up out of their chairs.

The local committee suggests as a possible theme “Inspired Aging- Innovations in Health and Wellness”.

Bozeman – Judy Morrill, Director, Bozeman Senior Center

Awesome group working on getting everything laid out. The planning committee is meeting tomorrow and will be focusing on sponsors for the conference. The local planning committee is looking at healthy aging topics.

They are excited about speakers for the second day. They have invited Dr. Popwell, who specializes in Neuropsychiatry (Neurology); Marty Cranston, aging services dietitian; and Professor Marsha Geotting, who will talk on property transfers. Also looking at doing a session on pain – traditional and non-traditional remedies. We are trying to get a national speaker on global economic indicators for aging.

They have a fun event scheduled for Tuesday evening at the Senior Center, a Hawaiian luau. There will be Hawaiian dances, a roast pig, and great information for senior center staff and boards.

### **Theme for the Conference.**

Suggestions for the conference theme are:

- Aging Requires Innovation
- Aging Means Innovation
- New Horizons
- Inspired Aging- Innovations in Health and Wellness

The group liked **“Inspired Aging- Innovations in Health and Wellness”** as their #1 choice.

### **Keynote Speaker(s):**

Charlie reported that we have asked the Assistant Secretary on Aging Kathleen Greenlee to come. They are waiting on the budget and looking at logistics of coming based on a tentative previous commitment to be at an event in Texas on May 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. We should know something in the first couple of weeks of the New Year.

Also, Martha Roherty, Executive Director of the National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities (NASUAD) has been invited and she is planning on coming.

The Governor indicated at the conference in Glasgow that he would come if we invited him and we will do that in January along with the department director. It was suggested that the Governor discuss his agenda as related to the elderly and that the director address legislative issues such as guardianships as discussed at our last meeting by Michael Hagenlock, APS Bureau Chief.

### **Presentations/Breakout Sessions/Workshops**

We discussed the number of sessions we could have on the First Day of each conference. It was suggested that we do general sessions and maybe do shorter presentations (30 to 45 minutes) or panel discussions with 3 or 4 panelists depending on the subjects.

Other topics to consider:

- Medicaid expansion....

- **Medicaid** – topic of one of the breakout section. Education on eligibility what is HCBS long term care, options and differences between Medicare and Medicaid and what each provide (Medicaid 101)
- APS, Ombudsman, SHIP Legal in breakout sessions or a general session
- Hunger - based on the newspaper article – issues related to elderly hunger
- State of Aging in Montana – population, services, brief report
- Director Opper – legislative issues and budget
- APS – Guardianships vs conservator – rolls

Other Comments, Questions and Concerns:

What is the Governor's stand on this on Medicaid expansion and what can the council do in supporting it?

Would it be possible to get some staff from Governor's Office to attend both conferences so they are more aware of aging issues?

We would like to know Governor's stance on aging issues.

Marvin reported that he got a check from Walmart for \$750 for scholarships or mini-grants.

Can we have the programs printed up like they were printed for the Polson conference?

We will look at the Polson conference program to see what the difference is and if we can do to make them similar.

How do we deal with vendors who operate with volunteers? Can they have more than one registration or luncheon ticket to go to conference?

Charlie asked that they send him information on the organization and how many volunteers they are asking to attend. Once we know this, we can make a decision regarding their request.

Jessie asked if the Governor ever appointed a chairman.

Charlie responded that in August we received an e-mail that said JoLynn was to be the chairman at this time. The Governor can appoint someone else if he wishes, but for the time being, JoLynn is the chairman.

Next meeting is February 26<sup>th</sup>

Meeting adjourned.