

Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
April 21, 2011

Board Present: Kathleen Gaylord, Gayle Degler, Sally Staggert, Jan Olson, Jess Luce, Bob Roepke, Autumn Lehrke, Dan Erhart, Jan Parker, Allen Miller, Virginia Lanegran and Jamie Warndahl

Board Absent: Dave Menden, Luis Ortega, Mark Skeie, Jan McCulloch, Laura Waterman Wittstock, Gail Dorfman.

Staff Present: Dawn Simonson, Bob Anderson, Terry Nielsen, Kate Houston, Beth Wright, Caron Menard (intern).

Guests: John Selstad, Rolf Hage of MN Board on Aging; Rachel Flanders and Deidre Hodgson of Larson Allen.

The meeting was held at the MAAA Offices, 2365 N McKnight Road, North St. Paul, MN 55109 and was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by Chair Kathleen Gaylord.

Welcome and Announcements

Kathleen Gaylord welcomed the Board members and staff.

Chair's Report

- The Chair's report was tabled to allow time for guest presentations.

Executive Director's Brief

Dawn Simonson reported that:

- Bob Anderson gave an update on MAAA's waiver request to the MN Board on Aging regarding the Title III D funding extension for 1 year to allow for additional planning during a quickly changing environment related to evidence-based service delivery.
- The MAAA is working with the University of MN on a workshop for caregivers to coincide with the Smart House, Livable Community, Your Future exhibit. Workshop scheduled May 11.
- The MAAA continues to seek funding for the Lifetime Communities project in conjunction with the Vital Aging Network. An application has been submitted to the Steven's Square Foundation. Funding will also be requested from Allianz Foundation as well as Mardag and the Saint Paul Foundation.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made to approve the consent agenda consisting of the March 17, 2011 Board Meeting Minutes, April 7, 2011 Executive Committee Minutes, April 14, 2011 Title III Planning Committee Minutes and April 14, 2011 Audit/Finance Committee Minutes. The motion was seconded and carried.

Presentation

Rachel Flanders and Deidre Hodgson of LarsonAllen gave a presentation on the results of the Agency's 2010 Financial Audit conducted in February. There were no unqualified opinions and no findings of any sort in the audit.

Action Items:

Acceptance of 2010 Audit Report

A motion to approve the 2010 Audit Report. was brought forward, seconded and carried.

Executive Committee Approve Award for Evaluation Contractor

The evaluation contract of Title III home delivered meals was put out for a second RFP process. Five inquiries have been received to date. Board approval is being sought by the Executive Committee to expedite the RFP process and charge the Executive Committee with making a final vendor decision at its May 2011 meeting so that the evaluation can be completed by the end of October. The result of the Executive Committee's decision will be reported to the Board. A motion to approve the request was brought forward, seconded and carried.

Discussion Items:

Competitive Process - Appeal Basis: Bob Anderson reported on the proposed change to the 5th item in the MAAA's Procurement Process. Items 1-4 in the Competitive Process were approved at the February 2011 Board meeting. The appeal basis wording would be changed to read that appeals will be heard on procedural grounds only. This narrows what can be appealed and brings the process in line with other Minnesota AAAs' and the MBA's appeal processes.

A motion to approve the appeal basis change was brought forward, seconded and carried.

Advocacy Response: Discussion was held on the Board's responsibility for advocacy in response to possible funding cuts by the State. Dawn Simonson reported that under AoA guidelines the Agency is mandated to advocate on behalf of older adults by monitoring issues and providing information and education to policymakers related to the well-being of older adults. MAAA is not a lobbying agency. Agency staff have been meeting with newly elected legislators to provide information about MAAA and to address the impacts of cuts on older adults in State policy proposals. Talking points have also been sent to advocacy organizations and Title III providers concerning the two proposed State budget cuts that would have the greatest effect. These talking points were also provided to Board members. Chair Gaylord wrote a letter to the Health and Human Services conferees for SF 760 outlining the impact of proposed funding reductions.

May Board Meeting: The May Board Meeting is typically an extended session. Board members agreed to hear Jess Luce's presentation on Communities for a Lifetime and review the 2011-2014 strategic plan for input to refined outcomes and newly developed measures.

Presentation:

John Selstad and Rolf Hage of the Minnesota Board on Aging gave a presentation on current State Budget and Policy Proposals and their impact on older adults and family caregivers.

Hearing no other business, a motion was made, seconded and carried to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Beth Wright