

Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging, Inc.
Board of Directors Meeting
November 17, 2011

Board Present: Kathleen Gaylord, Virginia Lanegran, Gayle Degler, Jim McDonough, Jan Olson, Sally Staggert, Jamie Warndahl, Jess Luce, Dan Erhart, Bob Roepke, Luis Ortega, Mark Skeie,

Board Absent: Jan McCulloch, Allen Miller, Gail Dorfman, Autumn Lehrke, Dave Menden

Staff Present: Dawn Simonson, Bob Anderson, Terry Nielsen, Kate Houston, Leanna Smith, Gaoly Yang, Lisa Sawyer, Nan Just, Heidi Kult

Guests: Kirsten Johnson, Community Leadership Manager, Amherst Wilder Foundation
Elana Gravitz, Program Manager, Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health

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.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Gayle Degler to approve the consent agenda consisting of the October 20, 2011 Board Meeting Minutes, Financial Statements Ending October 31, 2011, Resolution for Approval of 2012 Title IIIC-1 and IIIC-2 Senior Nutrition Services Contract Awards, and a Resolution for Authority to Enter Into Fiscal Agent Agreement with Training to Serve. Motion seconded by Jamie Warndahl. Motion carried. Virginia Lanegran abstained.

Chair's Report

Kathleen Gaylord reported that elections would be held by ballot during the board meeting for Board Secretary, nominee Jess Luce; Board Treasurer, nominee Jamie Warndahl, and two Board Member positions, nominees Bob Roepke and Sally Staggert.

Kathleen noted that November is National Family Caregiver Month, and a presentation would be given during the meeting on caregiver identification by Kirsten Johnson, Amherst Wilder Foundation, and Elana Gravitz, Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health.

Executive Director's Report

Dawn Simonson reminded members that on Nov. 19, 2011, MAAA will be holding its annual All-Provider Meeting at Brookdale Hennepin Library. She invited members to attend.

Dawn reported that she was invited, through her role as the President of the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) Board, to attend a meeting in Washington, D. C. for community leaders in aging sponsored by the White House in October through their Office of Public Engagement. Dawn gave a brief overview of the event and her participation in the small group discussions which were held.

Dawn reported that we are in the midst of Medicare Part D Open Enrollment, and also in the process of providing Long Term Care Options consultation for people making a decision about moving into assisted living. Dawn noted that call volume has steadily increased and we are staffing to meet demand to the best of our ability. MAAA is hiring LTC Options Consultants, initially via temps, with offers being made to a number of those individuals, with additional hiring in process.

MAAA opened its new volunteer phone bank, which will be permanent, rather than operational only during the annual Medical open enrollment period.

Dawn reported on status of the evaluation of Title III home-delivered meals that MAAA is doing in the metro region and noted that the report is due at the end of the year. MAAA has invited Greg Owen of Wilder Research to present the evaluation to the Board at the January meeting. Dawn gave a brief overview of the update from Greg, which was included in the meeting materials for the Board's review.

Dawn reported that she and others on staff are participating in a number of state-convened workgroups. These include several DHS workgroups, the focus of which has been on the proposed changes to Level of Care for Medicaid eligibility and reform of Minnesota's home and community-based long-term care Medicaid waivers. Other workgroups include those related to Medicare reimbursement for healthcare homes and on integrated managed care for dually eligible individuals.

Dawn also reported briefly on MAAA's participation in the annual Shelley Joseph-Kordell Award ceremony and MAAA's overall support of the award since its inception.

Sally Staggett reported on her attendance, on behalf of MAAA, at the Senior Workers Conference and gave a brief overview of a quality of life report by Dan Buettner on the "Well-Being of Nations."

PRESENTATION

Innovative Approaches to Caregiver Identification

Leanna Smith, Grants & Contracts Manager/Program Developer, MAAA; Kirsten Johnson, Community Leadership Manager, Amherst Wilder Foundation; and Elana Gravitz, Program Manager, Hennepin County Human Services and Public Health, gave a presentation on innovative approaches to caregiver identification, including a presentation on the "Start Seeing Caregivers" campaign.

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution – Approval of 2012 Title III-B Chore Services Awards

Bob Anderson, Associate Director/Director of Programs and Services, presented a resolution and detailed overview of funding for Title III-B Chore Services Awards. He reported that for years 2012, 2013, and 2014, \$535,000 was available for Chore Services. Thirteen organizations made proposals, with requests for funds exceeding the \$535,000 available by more than \$170,000. Of those thirteen organizations, twelve are recommended by the Review Committee and Executive Committee for funding. A motion to approve was made by Gayle Degler, seconded by Jan Olson. Motion carried. Abstaining were Virginia Lanegran and Jess Luce.

Resolution – Approval of 2012 Title III B Special Access and Outreach Services Awards

Bob presented a resolution awarding funding for one Special Access service provider. Three organizations applied for funding; the African Assistance Program, the Korean Service Center, and the Greater Minneapolis Council of Churches. The recommendation of the Review Committee and Executive Committee was to award \$35,000 being to the African Assistance Program. Virginia Lanegran motioned to approve, Mark Skeie seconded, and the motion was carried.

Resolution – Approval of 2012 Grocery Shopping and Delivery Assistance Services Awards

Bob gave a brief overview of grocery shopping and delivery services awards, noting that available funding for services had decreased, with funds of \$140,000 available over the next three years. Three organizations applied, with \$215,000 requested. Funding by the Review Committee and Executive Committee was recommended for Store-to-Door, which serves the seven-county metro area. A motion to approve was made by Bob Roepke, seconded by Luis Ortega, and the motion was carried.

2012 Budget Revision

Jamie Warndahl, Board Treasurer, presented the revisions to the 2012 organizational budget, proposed due to an increase in Title IIIA federal funds, and to meet the Board's directive to hold average merit increases to 1.5%. Adjustments included benefit changes in health insurance, an increase in retirement benefits, raising the match from 4% to 5%, and an increase in the budget for call center services and communications plan development; arriving at a net zero budget. A motion was made by Gayle Degler to accept the 2012 budget revision, seconded by Jan Olson. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Title III Planning Committee

Jan Olson, Chair, briefly outlined the committee's review of the guidelines for funding Special Access service provider partners in 2013-2015.

Jan reported that changes in the guidelines would require all programs funded to participate in the use and development of a standard tool; and all providers would be required to take part in Aging Systems 101 Workshops with staff of MAAA to help efficiency and advocacy effectiveness.

Nominating & Governance Committee

Bob Roepke reported that the primary focus of the meeting was on the need to update the by-laws to make current and align more closely with what MAAA does.

Plans are to bring back a draft to the full board in the future, with discussion, and review of significant changes.

Strategic Plan discussion was focused on creating learning opportunities for the board, the roles and responsibilities of board members, and clarifying the relationship of the board and staff. Discussion also moved toward the review of leadership roles of MAAA staff.

Election of Officers

Chair Kathleen Gaylord reported the results of the election of officers, held by ballot during the meeting. Results were unanimous re-election for additional two-year terms (2012-2013) for both Jamie Warndahl as Board Treasurer and Jess Luce as Board Secretary

Election of Members

Kathleen announced the re-election of board members Bob Roepke and Sally Staggett for additional three-year terms (2012-2014.)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Older Americans Act Reauthorization

Executive Director, Dawn Simonson, gave further updates on the status of the Older Americans Act Reauthorization, per the board's request at the previous board meeting. Dawn noted various concerns with the Administration on Aging's guidelines to Congress related to reauthorization.

Dawn also reviewed an Older Americans Act bill that Senator Al Franken is introducing related to rights of persons receiving in-home care and ombudsman services, and inquired of the board as to what actions they would like taken regarding this legislation and overall Older Americans Act legislation in the reauthorization process. The board asked for a continuation of updates, and requested that any concerns be brought to them as legislation moves forward, with an evaluation of how these issues would affect services.

Strategic Plan Objective – Increased Passages of Pro-Aging Legislation & Policy

Dawn reported that she and Bob Anderson’s focus has been on intentionally building relationships with elected officials on a federal level, which she has had opportunity to do through her n4a role, and also at the state level. They will continue to visit with state and federal officials and on working toward strengthening relationships with the local offices of Congressman Kline and Senator Klobuchar.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Sally Staggert and seconded by Gayle Degler. Motion carried and meeting adjourned at 11:35 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Heidi Kult