



MAUI COUNTY COUNCIL ON AGING

CAMERON CENTER • 95 MAHALANI STREET, ROOM 20 • WAILUKU, HI 96793 • PHONE (808) 270-7755 • FAX (808) 270-7935

COUNCIL ON AGING

April 9, 2013

12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

J. Walter Cameron Center Auditorium
95 Mahalani Street, Wailuku, HI

MEETING MINUTES

PRESENT

MaryMargaret Baker
Stacy Crivello
Rhonda Fosbinder
Heather Greenwood
Clifford Hashimoto
James Jackson
Tania Joao
William Myrter
Dionne Phillips
Rosie Poree-Hogin
Robert Santry
Gwen Ueoka

EXCUSED

Autumn Arase
Iris Peelua
Nancy Tamashiro

GUESTS

Karma Carpenter Shea
Thelma M. Shimaoka

STAFF

Deborah Arendale
Norma Circle
Jo Reyes
Jennifer Oana
Jill Matsui

I. Call to Order

Corporation Counsel Jennifer Oana called the meeting to order at 12:04 p.m. in the J. Walter Cameron Center Auditorium located at 95 Mahalani Street, Wailuku, Hawaii.

II. Introduction of New COA Members

Chair Rhonda Fosbinder introduced three new COA members. Ms. Rosie Poree-Hogin is a realtor who wants to give back after her mother recently passed away. Ms. Dionne Phillips, was born and raised on Maui, now living in Kula, also wants to give back since we're all aging and wanted a head start. Ms. Tania Joao from Molokai, is working with the Centers for Independently Living as an Independent Living Specialist.

III. Roll Call of COA Members

Chair Rhonda Fosbinder commenced with the roll call.

IV. Introduction of MCOA Staff

MCOA staff in attendance included: Ms. Deborah Arendale, Ms. Jo Reyes, Ms. Norma Circle, Ms. Vicki Belluomini, the new Case Manager, and Ms. Jill Matsui. Our Deputy Corporation Counsel is Ms. Jennifer Oana.

V. Review, Correct & Approve Minutes (with corrections, if applicable)

Chair Rhonda Fosbinder called for a review of the February 12th minutes, asking for any changes or corrections. Ms. MaryMargaret Baker moved to accept the minutes with no corrections and Ms. Heather Greenwood seconded the motion. A unanimous vote carried to accept the February 12, 2012 meeting minutes without any changes. Chair Rhonda Fosbinder asked to amend the minutes to add Jill Matsui to the staff listing on the minutes. A unanimous vote carried to accept the change.

VI. Follow-up Discussion from Previous Meeting

A. Speakers Bureau

Deputy Corporation Counsel Jennifer Oana asked the Council on Aging (COA) to reconsider their decision from the last meeting of having a COA Speakers Bureau.

- The COA is an Advisory Board to the Office on Aging (MCOA).
- In order to not exceed their authority by being a Speakers Bureau, the COA could assist MCOA with a Speakers Bureau.
- In other words, by there being a MCOA Speakers Bureau, the COA could assist the MCOA when called upon to speak at certain events, on certain subjects.
- The COA could work with MCOA personnel on subject matter and topics to assist in setting up a Speakers Bureau and the materials.
- **Members of COA are not allowed to say that they represent the Council on Aging. You may say that you are a member of the Council on Aging.**

Ms. Deborah Arendale summarized: COA to vote again that the COA is to serve as volunteers and individuals that the MCOA calls upon when speaking engagements arise. Members may choose to assist in speaking depending on availability and topical expertise. Dr. Robert Santry made a motion for the Speakers Bureau be a function of the MCOA. Ms. MaryMargaret Baker seconded the motion.

Chair Rhonda Fosbinder summarized the motion: Table the vote from the last COA meeting, NOT create a COA Speakers Bureau, and allow individual Council on Aging members to serve as volunteers for the MCOA according to availability and depending upon individual topical expertise. The Speakers Bureau will now be a function of the MCOA, and the COA may propose or advise upon request of MCOA. The motion was unanimously carried.

B. Vice Chair for COA

Mr. James Jackson nominated Dr. Robert Santry. Mr. William Myrter seconded this nomination. Dr. Robert Santry was unanimously voted in as COA's new Vice Chair.

VII. Announcements of Upcoming Events

A. April 26, 2013 - Falls Prevention Workshop at Kaunoa from 9:30 am – 12:30 pm. A panel of experts will include medical, pharmacological, exercise, home modification & home assessments. This event is a partnership with AARP, Kaunoa and the Maui Falls Prevention Coalition. Call Kaunoa in advance to reserve a seat at the event: 270.7308. Lunch is an optional fee.

B. May 7, 2013 – Outstanding Older American Awards Luncheon at the Maui Beach Hotel Elleair Ballroom. The Governor will not be in attendance. There are twelve nominees: seven males and five females.

- C. May 9, 2013 – Molokai Aging and Disability Resource Fair. Ms. Tania Joao will make this report during her segment.
- D. April 19, 2013 – n4a Policy Briefing & Board Meeting in Washington DC. Briefing on national trending and priorities. There will be more to report at our next COA meeting.

VII. New Information

A. Veterans' Affairs Report by Dr. Robert Santry

Retired U.S. Army General and U.S. Secretary of Veteran Affairs Eric K. Shinseki arrived unannounced at the Makawao Veterans Cemetery. In this two hour meeting, he agreed to \$5.5 million to expand the Veterans cemetery. He is very committed to helping improve the healthcare for the state of Hawaii.

The teleconference with the State for Veterans Affairs informed participants that the State VA is hoping to start a new program by looking for sympathetic judges for courts with veterans, similar to a drug court program. This may also help speed up the court system.

Dr. Santry is connecting with the Veterans Council as the Medical Advisor and interfacing with the Military Officers Association of America (MOAA). The MOAA has a program that is called Veterans helping Veterans.

One of the nominees for the Outstanding Older American Awards is Mr. Fred Ruge, a veteran advocate. He was nominated last year as well!

Question: How will the sequestration affect the Veteran benefits?

Answer: Veteran benefits are untouched and locked in. What will be affected will be the clinics.

Becoming well versed in Veteran Benefits is a big thing now in the legal field. Tomiko Jackson is the contact at the State VA office on Dairy Road, Rocky Orozco is the contact on Oahu. Mr. Santry suggested that MCOA develop a list of people to help vets. There's approximately 11,000 veterans on Maui.

B. Lanai Report by Nancy Tamashiro

Ms. Nancy Tamashiro was excused from the meeting and not present to provide the Lanai report.

C. Molokai Report by Tania Joao

On April 26th, there will be a Senior Disability Awareness Activity for local community leaders. It will be a two hour activity with regular and electric wheelchairs, taking routes around the community to different locations that are regularly attended or visited by the people in the community. The intent is for the local leaders to understand what the senior disabled must endure everyday with roads and crosswalks that are not paved or accessible for wheelchairs or walkers.

May 9th is the third annual Senior and Disability Resource Fair for the entire island with various agencies and vendors from Maui and Oahu. It will be from 9 am to 1 pm at the Hale Mahaolu Senior Housing with presentations and entertainment. It is partnered with MCOA and Hale Mahaolu Senior Housing. There are approximately 3,000 kupuna on Molokai.

D. Hana Report by Clifford Hashimoto

Mr. Clifford Hashimoto indicated that the lack of senior housing in Hana is being questioned by people in the community. Ms Deborah Arendale indicated that she will follow up with Mr. Roy Katsuda from Hale Mahaolu regarding the status of Hale Mahaolu's plans to build a site in Hana.

There will be a Health Fair this coming Saturday with a number of organizations that will be in attendance.

Mr. Clifford Hashimoto said that he believes that there is a problem in Hana in effectively reaching seniors and/or Veterans to inform them regarding medical or any kind of assistance. Instead, individuals are having to go and find their own help. Mr. Clifford Hashimoto thinks that there must be many people in the country that go without medical or any kind of assistance since they can't find help or figure out where to go.

Ms. Deborah Arendale stated that because Mr. Clifford Hashimoto is on the COA he can take the information he learns at COA meetings and help to inform the Hana community. She also reminded the group that MCOA contracts with Maui Adult Day Care Centers to provide Information and Assistance services in Hana through Mr. Timmy Satot. Timmy is very involved in Hana and partners with various groups.

Council Member Stacy Crivello added that with smaller communities there are also other agencies as Alu Like and the existing agencies like the OHA and the Hawaiian Health systems. MCOA can partner with the existing agencies that serve the community to outreach and add the personal touch.

Mr. Clifford Hashimoto also indicated that various services and meetings occurred at different buildings and were spread out all over the community. He believes this could also be an issue. He suggested that perhaps a multi-purpose complex is needed in Hana instead of the various buildings where different public and cultural events are being held so that folks could attend meetings more easily.

A question was raised if MCOA has a booth at the Maui County Fair? Ms. Deborah Arendale addressed that MCOA has informational booths at various events for outreach including: health fairs, hotel employee fairs, and other fairs. MCOA potentially may participate in other cultural and public events, and the agency must weigh the time commitment of each event in light of the number of people potentially reached. The overall question seems to be: How does MCOA conduct outreach to the targeted population?

Ms. Deborah Arendale summarized that it sounds like the COA would like to advise MCOA regarding an Outreach Plan for the agency. It would be beneficial, then, for the COA to hear from the MCOA staff to learn about current and ongoing outreach activities.

In moving forward, MCOA will provide information regarding existing areas of emphasis and the current outreach activities. MCOA may also bring in a few of the outreach workers to field questions and provide information.

E. MCOA Report by Deborah Arendale

MCOA is actively in the process of completing our readiness review to provide Veterans-Directed Home and Community Based Services (VDHCBS). The Executive Office on Aging (EOA) on Oahu is working with the Veterans Administration (VA) and MCOA, (the only County in the State), to develop a fee-for-service contract to provide Veterans-Directed services in Maui County within one year.

With this service, MCOA will receive a referral from the VA that will enable a Coach to assist each Veteran in developing an individualized budget. The Veteran or their designated representative would manage their care, hire/fire employees, and follow the approved budget. The VA will establish the overall guidelines for spending plans, but VDHCBS participants can customize spending according to individual needs. The question of possible fraud or monitoring was brought up with this type of program. Ms. Deborah Arendale addressed this issue by stating that MCOA had the opportunity with a similar program, the CLP program, to put safeguards in place to mitigate any instances of possible fraud. Those safeguards would be in effect for the VDHCBS program as well.

In implementing this program in the future, MCOA will receive referrals from the VA to do assessments and receive assessment fees from Federal funds. According to the results of the assessment, the VA will assign monthly budgets by a formula ranging from \$1,300 to \$4,000 a month nationally. There are no firm budget amounts for Hawaii participants in place at this time, however. MCOA would also receive a monthly administrative fee from VA. This would be our second income generating revenue source for MCOA, the first being the Community –Based Care Transitions Program (hospital discharge) billing CMS monthly.

MCOA will be adding two new staff members: a new Case Manager and a new Program Manager for the outreach team.

The Executive Office on Aging (EOA) was awarded a Life Span Respite Grant which provides relief for caregivers. Heather Chun wrote a grant to AmeriCorps in which AmeriCorps volunteers earn a stipend to work on a project. EOA would like to utilize these volunteers to help MCOA to establish Menehune Helpers. This will be similar to a timebank model where we garner community support for taking care of seniors. Timebanking is a big movement on the east coast and there's another model in Knoxville, Tennessee. The basic idea is for individuals to "bank" time as a volunteer that can later be accessed when that individual requires help sometime in the future. MCOA will keep you apprised as to our progress on this project.

MCOA has become very involved with the Maui Falls Prevention Coalition. Falls are the leading cause of death for men over the age of sixty-five years. The average cost of a fall in our State is \$19,000. One potential way that the COA members can get involved in preventing falls is to assist with the February 14, 2014, "Fall in Love with a Senior Day." This event will be a community-wide effort to identify individuals needing assistance to fall-proof homes by completing simple home modifications such as the installation of grab bars. We hope to get many community agencies involved in this project such as the Chamber of Commerce, Home Depot, Habitat for Humanity, Cameron Center, etc, and your (COA) contacts involved.

Ms. Arendale introduced Ms. Vicki Belluomini, the new Case Manager for MCOA ADRC. Vicki moved from Hilo County Office on Aging as a Program Specialist.

MCOA administrative staff members are in the process of scoring the responses to the Request for Proposals (RFP). Contract awards will be announced at the beginning of May, and new contracts will begin on July 1, 2014. Mr. Clifford Hashimoto mentioned how overwhelming the procurement process is. Ms. Deborah Arendale acknowledged the difficulty in submitting a response but mentioned that MCOA must adhere to the State procurement laws.

Mr. Clifford Hashimoto's complaint is that Hana, with a population of 1200, is under-represented in his opinion. He further explained that Hana's geographical size is compared to Makawao, not including Kaupo and the outer lying areas. He stated that he understands how the procurement rules work, and he believes that the Hana area is served by agencies that are all from outside of Hana. Mr. Clifford Hashimoto would appreciate it if an agency from within Hana could serve the population there.

IX. Public Comments, Concerns and Testimony

Ms. Thelma Shimaoka is from the Office of Hawaiian Affairs (OHA). Ms. Shimaoka informed meeting attendees that OHA works with other agencies, including Ms. Heather Greenwood, and would love to work with MCOA. They are available and can be reached at the Central Pacific Bank Building, Suite #480. The phone number is: 873.3364.

X. Next Meeting Date: June 4, 2013

Cameron Center Auditorium.

XI. Call for Proposals or Requests for Agenda Items for Next Meeting

- 6/4: Ms. Deborah Arendale to invite Mr. Roy Katsuda of Hale Mahaolu to speak on Senior Housing projects on Maui.
- 6/4: Fall in Love with a Senior Day follow up.
- 8/13: Define Outreach and bring in MCOA staffers.

XI. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Ms. MaryMargaret Baker and seconded by Ms. Gwen Ueoka. Meeting adjourned at 2:01 pm.