



**AAA ADVISORY COUNCIL  
LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE**

Wednesday February 8, 2017  
Carnelian Room  
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Sumedha Khanna MD, Peter Holewinski, Bob Picker, Jim Redding, Rabon Saip, Alain Serkissian, Hav Staggs

**Absent:** Ruth Robeson, Don Streeper

**Guests:** Melissa Apuya (Assemblymember Marc Levine), Josh Horn (Mirabel Lodge Administrator), Kerrie Lindecker (Senator McGuire), Ed Sheffield (Assemblymember Jim Wood)

**Staff:** Rhiannon Coxon, Victoria Gonzalez-Allen

1. **CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS** (Picker) the meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. all were welcomed and introductions were made.
2. **APPROVAL OF JANUARY MINUTES** (Picker) motion to approve the January 11, 2017 meeting minutes. Saip/Serkissian (MSC) to approve as presented; motion passed unanimously.
3. **CHAIR REPORT** (Picker)
  - A reminder to the group that the committee's new strategy moving forward is designed to identify ongoing senior issues which could become part of the committee's Legislative Platform to present to the Advisory Council.
    - Coxon advises after topic presentations, the committee will set priorities for next year, to create a platform for advocacy.
    - Lindecker commented that during the current legislative cycle the committee can advocate for topics that are on a bill which is moving forward already with "letter of support". During the summer the committee should work on priorities and be ready to work with Legislative Aides during the fall, identify the topics, issues, and solutions to be worked on for the following year.
  - Picker stated he reviewed the Governor's 2017 Proposed Budget and commented that there are few changes, keeping funding at status quo and not definitive on potential future cuts.
  - C4A Capitol day is on February 23, 2017. Contact Coxon if committee members would like to attend.
  - Senior Rally Day is in May 17 in Sacramento.
    - Coxon advised there will be planning and discussion at Advisory Council to coordinate a van to go to Senior Rally Day
4. **LEGISLATIVE FIELD REPRESENTATIVE UPDATES** (Legislative Aides)
  - Sheffield advised the legislators are in the review process of the Governor's proposed budget. Assemblymember Wood has 25 bills that he will be introducing. There will be more to report on proposed bills next month when the bill proposal lists are finalized. One of the several bills he is supporting is AB265 - legislation that would prohibit the use of coupons for pharmaceutical drugs when other FDA-approved drugs are available and less expensive. Assemblymember Wood continues to support the bill on Opioid misuse and abuse. Sheffield

advised of a new committee on Health Care Delivery Systems and Universal Coverage to discuss California will react if the Affordable Care Act (ACA) is repealed at the federal level.

- On February 25, 2017 there will be a joint town hall meeting at Piner High School at 9am in attendance will be Assemblymember Dodd, Senator McGuire, Assemblymember Thompson, Assemblymember Wood, and Chair for the Senate Committee on Health, Senator Hernandez; the town hall style topic is The Affordable Care Act: Keeping California Healthy.
- On Thursday, February 23, is the C4A Capitol Day – Assemblymember Wood will be meeting with our group.
- Apuya advises they will have a better idea of what the bill packages will be after next Friday's deadline. Some of the bills introduced are energy efficiency, campaign finance reform, education bills and health care. Apuya will provide the list as soon as it is finalized. Assemblymember Levine sits on Rules committee, the committee refers bills referred to Aging Policy committee; Apuya suggests this is an area where the committee can have a voice in support or opposition of bills by sending letters to committee.
- Lindecker stated they are in the process of legislation being fine-tuned, more to report after next Friday's deadline. Top priorities include transportation and road infrastructure, a bill that Senator McGuire has co-authored. Senator McGuire is working on marijuana regulations as chair of the Governance and Finance Committee and is working with local governments.
- Coxon asked the Legislative aides to comment on the Governor's proposed budget to eliminate the Coordinated Care Initiative (CCI), which bundled care management, with Medicare and MediCal, the initiative required cost savings which were not met. What the end of CCI will mean to Sonoma County is the IHSS program will have an incredible increase in cost, as it will remove "maintenance of effort" which kept the county funding responsibility at 2011 levels.
  - Sheffield advised that when the committee members are in Sacramento on February 23<sup>rd</sup> for c4a Capitol Day to meet with representatives on the Health and Human Service subcommittee. Apuya also suggested that when the subcommittees meet, the agenda will state which topics are being discussed and at that time is the opportunity for the committee/agencies to speak.

#### 5. REVIEW OF ASSIGNED LEGISLATIVE TOPICS (Committee Members)

- Saip – The Opioid Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA), funding has been wrapped into CARA act. The Opioid Workgroup, run by Dr. Milman has concluded their work around prescription cautions. The state has a data base so clients are not "doctor shopping". Saip is writing a proposal to present to Assemblymember Wood on prevention community outreach. Sheffield reminded the committee that timing is critical; the committee should reach out to County Supervisor staff, so that the Board of Supervisors and the Advisory Council are on the same page. Assemblymember Wood continues to support bills for opioid misuse. Assemblymember Wood will be working with the Governor's office on the Opioid Task Force.
- Staggs reported that currently, not a lot of substantive activity but after the deadline to introduce bills the Legislative information system of tracking bills will have more information.
- **Topic Presentation: Assisted Living Waiver Program** (Alain Serkissian and Josh Horn – Mirabel Lodge)
  - Josh Horn manages the Assisted Living Waiver Program at Mirabel Lodge

#### 6. ADJOURN (Picker) the meeting was adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

*Supplemental materials related to an item on this agenda are available for public inspection during normal business hours at the Adult and Aging Office, 3725 Westwind Blvd., Suite 101, Santa Rosa.*