



October 30, 2015

NH's State Committee on Aging

October 5, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Russ Armstrong, Candace Cole-McCrea, Richard Crocker, Chuck Engborg, Larry Flint Mark Frank, Sherri Harden, Herb Johnson, Joan Schulze

Excused: Rep. Susan Emerson, Bob Ritchie

Guests: Megan Brady, St. Joseph Community Service Center, Rev. Dr. Norma J. Brettell, Barbara Savatore, Engaging NH, Commissioner Nicholas Toumpas

Meeting called to order at 10:00 am by Mark Frank. Attendees introduced themselves.

Motion to approve for September 14, 2015 meeting minutes, motion was approved.

Guest Speaker DHHS/ BEAS Reorganization - Commissioner Nicholas Toumpas

Due to the complexity and the aging of the population, aging of the work force, and the constraints that the department has been dealing with over the years in the area of both human and financial service. Example, 5 years ago the department had 3400 authorized positions, now we are probably 2800 authorized positions, and under the current budget that was just passed the department is losing another 150 authorized positions.

Our case loads have gone up dramatically and have stabilized for the time being, but with each cases requires people to follow up on, and then you have the politics of things comes in to it. And we look at and say trying to do business as usually, but it just cannot be possibly, we have to evolve, transform what we are doing, build on the key assets within the organization and move forward. He mentioned a reconfiguration from the present internal silo mix to more of an internal matrix mix.

The department mission remains the same, helping people become healthier and independent.

Commissioner Nick Toumpas also mentioned that he has decided to leave the DHHS after the 1st of the year.

Current Business & Updates:

- State Plan on Aging – Tracey Tarr reported that the plan has been signed by the state and is in effect from 1 Oct 2015 through 30 September 2019. It is available on the BEAS Web Site <http://www.dhhs.state.nh.us/dcbcs/beas/documents/stateplan.pdf>.
- Discussion of SCOA's Functions/Roles per RSA 161 – Mark Frank provided a nifty handout but presentation was tabled due to time constraints.
- State Budget Update – Reported that the budget is now signed.
- Legislation / LSR - Chuck Engborg provided a 1 October 2015 email that provided the latest bill details, however it is still too early for SCOA to evaluate them.

New Hampshire State Committee on Aging (SCOA)

- Medicaid Managed Care Update – Rich Crocker discussed latest information.
- Endowment for Health Initiative – Rich Crocker discussed latest information
- Oral Health – Bob Ritchie was absent so item was tabled.
- Commission to Study Mental Health/RSA 135-C: 63-b Rep. Susan Emerson was absent so item was tabled.

Other Cats & Dogs

- Older Americans Act Re-Authorization – **Hon. Joan Schultz reported that the Older American Act Re-Authorization has passed the US House and is now in the US Senate where some changes are anticipated.**
- SCOA Membership – was tabled due to time constraints.
- SCOA Board Secretary –was tabled due to time constraints.
- Publicity – Mark Frank stated that the DHHS newspaper Aging Issues is going to press. The newspaper's circulation is 33,000 copies.

What's Happening in Your Region

- Sullivan County – Larry Flint informed us that Sullivan County hopefully have a chairperson to run the meeting. They are held each fourth Monday of the month.

Meeting Schedule – next meeting will be on November 2nd at 10 AM