



Meeting Notes January 8, 2016

Attendees: Betty Balderston, Kevin Cuddy, Joel Merry, Michelle Mason Webber, Bonny Small, Jaye Martin, John Cronin, Brianne McNally, Kelley Glidden, Polly Campbell, Cara Courchesne, Patrick Hood, Kathy Keneborus, Lynne Caswell, Judy Shaw and Linda Weare (by phone)

Welcome and Introduction:

- Bonnie Small from Maine Health Care Association and Polly Campbell from the Office of Violence Prevention were welcomed as the newest Council members. Lindsay Laxon from the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation-Office of Securities and Kathy Willette from Legal Services for the Elderly have both moved on to new jobs and will no longer be participating with the Council.
- The 2016 meeting schedule continues on the first Friday of every other month from 9:00-11:00 a.m. at the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation in Gardiner. Meeting dates for 2016 are scheduled for March 4, May 6, July 8, September 2 and November 4. Dona Garippa continues as the point of contact and can be reached at 624-8564 or at Dona.L.Garippa@maine.gov.
- The Elder Abuse Summit is scheduled for May 12 at the Augusta Civic Center and the Elder Abuse Prevention Round Table is scheduled in October in Lewiston.
- Minutes of the last meeting were not available.

Executive Committee Recommendation:

- The current Executive Committee consists of the Council Co-Chairs, the Council Secretary and the Co-Chairs of the Education and Awareness Committee. A motion was made by Kevin Cuddy and seconded by Pat Hood to extend an invitation to the acting chairs of the current and future Working Groups to participate in the Executive Committee. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Nominations and Elections:

- The following members were elected unanimously as Council leadership:
 - Council Co-Chairs: Lynne Caswell, from the DHHS Office of Aging and Disability Services and Sgt. Pat Hood from the Maine State Police
 - Secretary: Judy Shaw
- The following members were elected unanimously as leadership for the Standing Committee and the Working Groups:
 - The Standing Committee on Education and Awareness Co-Chairs: Jill Randall from Legal Services for the Elderly and Cara Courchesne from the Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault.
 - The Mandated Reporting Working Group Co-Chairs: Elizabeth Ward-Saxl from the Coalition Against Sexual Assault and Jaye Martin from Legal Services for the Elderly.
 - The Multijurisdictional Scams Working Group Co-Chairs: Judy Shaw from the Department of Professional and Financial Regulations-Office of Securities and Commander Mark Waltz from the Brunswick Police Department.

Strategic Planning Follow-Up:

- The overview of the November 6, 2015 Strategic Planning Meeting was reviewed, with the following highlights:
 - The greatest strengths of the Council are the collaborations and partnerships that commit resources to the work of the group.
 - The following mission of the Council was reaffirmed: “The mission of the Maine Council for Elder Abuse Prevention (MCEAP) is to support the collaborative efforts to combat elder abuse, neglect and exploitation.
 - The following goals of the Council were accepted: (1) Improve community response to elder abuse through multidisciplinary collaboration and problem solving; (2) identify the need for systems improvements and advocate for those changes; and (3) increase statewide knowledge and awareness of the problem of elder abuse.
 - Judy Shaw clarified that the *Council* does not take the lead in advocacy, but *members* of the Council do. The Council is not an advocacy organization, but rather a “think tank”.
- The Priorities for the next 3 years outlined in the Overview of the Strategic Planning Meeting include the following areas: Support Local Task Forces; Elder Abuse Awareness; Mandated Reporting; and Consumer Scams and Elder Exploitation.
 - There were no comments on the activities outlined for the priority of Supporting Local Task Forces, which will be addressed by the Education and Awareness Committee.

- In addition to the tasks outlined for the priority of Elder Abuse Awareness, which will be addressed by the Education and Awareness Committee and the Council, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau is looking at the possibility of creating publications to raise awareness for third parties, such as individuals with Power of Attorney.
 - The Mandated Reporting priority, which will be addressed by the Mandated Reporting Working Group and MECASA, is looking for members. Their focus will be to address gaps in the system and respond to requests for training by mandated reporters within the community. An additional item was added to the work of this group to determine whether there are other key professions that could be reached with training (i.e., tax preparers).
 - The Consumer Scams and Elder Exploitation priority, which will be addressed by the Multijurisdictional Scams Working Group, has some overlap with the Education and Awareness Committee. Additional assistance may be needed on that Committee.
 - There is interest in reviewing the Strategic Planning Overview at each Council meeting to provide ongoing updates on the status of the Goals and Priorities.
 - Council members were encouraged to bring their passion and energy on any activities to the Councils attention, even those activities not listed as priorities.
 - There is interest in hearing reports from all Committees and Working Groups at each Council meeting, as well as developing a year-end summary of the work that has been accomplished as it relates to the Strategic Plan.
- Council Capacity (strong organizational infrastructure) included 4 areas of focus: (1) inventory member resources (time & talents); (2) grow and engage members; (3) capture impacts; and, (4) be deliberate about leadership succession.
 - The Council currently has up to 85 members. The membership list should be updated and then a brief Time and Talents survey can be issued.
 - For the March Council meeting, members will review the membership list to identify who may be missing, identify potential new members and review the Time and Talent survey.
 - There may be interest from local members of the National Association of Financial Advisors to join the Council.
- If there are questions about the full Strategic Planning Meeting Report, Council members should contact Judy Shaw, Pat Hood, Lynne Caswell, Jaye Martin or Elizabeth Ward-Saxl.

Committee/Working Group Updates:

- Jaye Martin provided the following update for the Education and Awareness Committee:
 - A proposed 2016 Annual Work Plan was distributed
 - The Roundtable event is being scheduled for October in Lewiston at the USM campus.
 - The Council is partnering with the General Federation of Women's Clubs-Maine to offer a statewide essay contest to all Maine high schools on the issue of elder abuse. The statewide winner will receive at least a \$1,000 award. The award money is being raised by GFWC, with the Council developing the materials and infrastructure for the contest. Information about GFWC-Maine can be found on their website at www.gfwcmaine.org.
 - Council members interested in education and awareness are encouraged to join the committee.

- Judy Shaw provided the following update for the Multi-Jurisdictional Scams Working Group:
 - The latest products providing information for dealing with scams, created for use by law enforcement, were distributed. One card provides tips for officers dealing with scam complaints, the other card provides tips for consumers. The Working Group will be finalizing the materials at its February meeting.
 - Law enforcement is being directed to share all scam complaints with MIAC (the Maine Information and Analysis Center) to allow scams to be tracked statewide. It was suggested that the Maine Attorney General's Office be included in efforts to report all scams to MIAC.
 - The next phase of this project will be to determine what is happening with the new information.
 - Council members interested in working on the issue of scams were encouraged to join the Working Group.

- Judy Shaw also provided the following update on Senior Safe:
 - Four additional trainings (2 to banks/2 to credit unions) were successful.
 - To-date training has been provided to over 300 people
 - Conversations are occurring about the possibility of offering a joint training for banks and credit unions in Aroostook County in June, with the hope of including Senator Collins.
 - As a result of this project, 33 reports have been received by the Department of Professional and Financial Regulation. At least one of those reports resulted in Adult Protective Services and law enforcement becoming involved.
 - The Financial Services Workgroup is planning to meet in the Fall to develop a report on the success of the program.

- It was noted that Senator Collins has introduced legislation around this issue.

General Discussion:

- Judy Shaw was thanked for her commitment and work as the co-chair of the Council.

Meeting adjourned at 10:58 a.m.

Next meeting: March 4, 2016, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

Submitted by Betty Balderston, Legal Services for the Elderly