

**PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF AGING**

LONG-TERM CARE COUNCIL

EST. 2015

Meeting Minutes

Meeting:	Pennsylvania Long-Term Care Council
Date:	Thursday, June 15, 2017
Start & End Time:	10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Location:	Pennsylvania Farm Show Complex & Expo Center, Keystone Conference Center

Council Members in Attendance

Joan Bradbury, <i>LTC Managed Care</i>	Lydia Hernandez-Velez - <i>Consumer Advocacy</i>	Insurance Cmmr. Teresa Miller (Designee Jessica Altman also attended)
Brig. Gen. Anthony Carrelli (Designee: Andrew Ruscavage)*	Brian Hudson, Sr. (Designee: Gelene Nason)*	Sec. of Health Karen Murphy (Designee: Shannon Baker)*
Dr. Mario Cornacchione - <i>Academic Research</i>	Kathleen Kleinmann - <i>LTSS Consumer</i>	Dr. David Nace - <i>LTSS Physician</i>
Tim Coughlin - <i>Assisted Living</i>	Commissioner Ted Kopas - <i>County Commissioners Association of PA</i>	Vini Portzline - <i>LTSS Consumer</i>
Sec. of Human Services Ted Dallas (Designee: Jennifer Burnett)*	John Kordish** - <i>PA Council on Aging</i>	Kenneth Potter, Esq. - <i>PA Bar Association, Elder Law Section</i>
Representative Pam DeLissio	Ray Landis - <i>Consumer Advocacy</i>	Nicole Pruitt - <i>Adult Day Centers</i>
Sen. Art Haywood (Designee: Liana Walters, Esq.)*	Thomas Lilly, JD, CLU - <i>LTSS Insurance</i>	Sec. of Transp. Leslie Richards (Designee: Emma Lowe)*
Rep. Tim Hennessey (Designee Erin Raub also attended)	Robert Marino - <i>Caregiver</i>	Matt Yarnell - <i>Consumer Advocacy</i>
Anne Henry - <i>Nonprofit SNFs</i>	Joyce McClary - <i>LTSS Nurse</i>	Heshie Zinman - <i>Consumer Advocacy</i>

*Attended on member's behalf

**Participated in Council meeting via teleconference

Council Members Not in Attendance

Sen. Michele Brooks (Designee: Chloe Zittle, Esq.)	Dr. Jason Karlawish - <i>Academic Research</i>
Lynn Fields Harris - <i>Senior Community Centers</i>	Shane Nugent - <i>For-Profit SNFs</i>
Holly Lange - <i>Area Agencies on Aging</i>	Sec. of Aging Teresa Osborne, Council Chair
Diane Menio - <i>Caregiver</i>	Mike Sokoloski - <i>Homecare</i>

PDA Staff in Attendance

Abby Fox, Community Liaison	Donna Reinaker, Council on Aging Executive Director
Chuck Quinnan, Council Executive Director	Sasha Santana, Executive Secretary

Committee Members & Guests in Attendance

Sandra Curlee, Long Term Care Insurance Specialist AC	Rebecca May-Cole, P4A OC
Debbie Dare, CaringPlans Associates	Laura Ness, Bayada Home Health Care WC
Mark Davis, CARIE	Vince Phillips, Phillips Associates AC
Kathy Gillespie, Clearfield County AAA QC	Zach Shamberg, PA Health Care Association WC
Maria Maletta Hastie, LIFE Geisinger OC	Lou Wolkenstein, The Investment Advisor QC
Lori Howe-Gutierrez, Department of Health	Margie Zelenak, PA Assisted Living Association OC
Jeffrey Iseman, PA SILC OC	Andrew Zwally, Greenlee Partners

OC = Outreach Committee; AC = Access Committee; QC = Quality Committee; WC = Workforce Committee

Meeting Minutes

#	Discussion Items	Summary
1	Welcome	<p>Council Executive Director Chuck Quinnan welcomed everyone and explained that he would be running the meeting as Secretary Osborne was unable to attend due to a family health matter.</p> <p>Mr. Quinnan also went over the emergency evacuation protocol and provided the following updates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philadelphia Corporation for Aging President and CEO Holly Lange has been appointed to the Council by Governor Wolf to replace Mildred Morrison who resigned effective April 28, 2017. Ms. Lange was unable to attend today's meeting due to a prior commitment. • The lunch break will be extended to allow interested Council members to attend the World Elder Abuse Awareness Day event at the State Capitol.
2	Introduction of Members & Guests & Remarks by Insurance Commissioner Teresa Miller	<p>Members and guests introduced themselves.</p> <p>After the introductions, Insurance Commissioner Teresa Miller, who the Governor announced will be his nominee to serve as the inaugural Secretary of the prospective Department of Health and Human Services, addressed the Council regarding the proposed unification. In addition to sharing her background, which includes chairing the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) Senior Issues Task Force and its Long Term Care Innovation Subgroup, Commissioner Miller noted that she will strive to ensure that the new, unified agency delivers the services and supports seniors and other vulnerable populations need and deserve by working to innovate, improve, and streamline access, highlighting that unification presents a great opportunity for enhanced collaboration at the state level to improve the customer experience and to reduce bureaucratic hurdles so providers can focus more time on providing care and services. In preparation for her new role, she noted that she has been meeting with various stakeholders from the long-term services and supports community and looks forward to continuing the conversation moving forward.</p> <p>Commissioner Miller also shared concerns with the Council regarding long-term care insurance premiums and policies.</p>
3	Approval of April 20, 2017 Meeting Minutes	<p>Chuck Quinnan noted that a few revisions were made to the April 20, 2017 meeting minutes based on members' feedback and after a motion was made, the minutes were unanimously approved. Representative Pam DeLissio requested that the specific slots members represent on the Council be included next to their names in the attendance section of the minutes.</p>
4	Commonwealth Updates	<p>House Bill 218 (Fiscal Year 2017-2018 General Fund Budget Bill)</p> <p>The following Council designees discussed how the cuts contained in the House-passed version of House Bill 218 would impact their departments' ability to serve seniors and persons with disabilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Department of Human Services (DHS) - Office of Long-Term Living Deputy Secretary Jennifer Burnett</u> noted the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ It contains a \$6 million cut to home and community-based services provided through waivers; the waiver programs impacted include the Aging, Attendant Care, OBRA, and the Independence Waivers. ○ If implemented, 324 waiver individuals would lose services that enable them to live at home and possibly result in entitlement costs as people are forced into nursing homes under the long-term care program or result in additional program costs shifted to future years.

- Elderly Pennsylvanians and those with physical disabilities that rely upon waiver services such as personal care assistance services, home modifications, and skilled nursing coverage would be impacted.
- Department of Health (DOH) - Office of Quality Assurance Executive Assistant Shannon Baker noted the following:
 - The Quality Assurance budget was cut by nearly \$1.5 million. This could result in a loss of approximately 19 positions, placing federal funding and safety of those facilities in jeopardy. Quality Assurance is responsible for ensuring patient safety at health care facilities. If staff complement were reduced, it would impact our ability to conduct licensure and certification surveys and respond to complaints in a timely manner, putting patient safety in jeopardy.
 - The ABC-MAP (Prescription Drug Monitoring Program) Administration was cut by 6%; this would mean staff vacancies may not be filled and enhancements for this new program may be reduced or eliminated. This new tool supports appropriate clinical decision making, prevents prescription drug abuse and diversion, and limits a patient's ability to doctor shop.
 - Local health departments' funding is reduced by nearly \$4 million, meaning that severe cuts to county-based health departments will be necessary. The commonwealth's six county and four municipal health departments offer disease prevention, health promotion, and clinical services to over 40% of our population.
 - State Health Centers were cut by more than \$650,000, putting in peril our retooling of the manner with which public health and clinical services are provided to residents of the commonwealth.
 - The Bureau of Vital Statistics was cut by 7%, causing a reduction in an already thin workforce that will cause even longer delays to an overstressed system. Every year, over 500,000 applications for birth and death records are filed with the department.
 - **NOTE:** A member asked if the cut to the Bureau of Vital Statistics could impact the Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS). Ms. Baker and DOH Executive Policy Specialist Lori Howe-Gutierrez informed the Council that they would look into this question and provide Chuck Quinnan with the answer to share with the Council.
- Department of Military and Veterans Affairs (DMVA) - Bureau of Veterans Homes Director Andrew Ruscavage noted the following:
 - General Government Operations reduced by 6.5%
 - Level-funds Veteran Outreach Services by eliminating the \$500,000 increase in the Governor's budget proposal
 - This will limit outreach efforts to the commonwealth's senior veterans population (464,333 veterans over the age of 65) regarding available programs and benefits.

Federal Continuing Budget Resolution

Chuck Quinnan noted that a federal continuing budget resolution was passed in May to fund the federal government through September 2017 and provided the following budget highlights as they pertain to programs and services impacting older adults and persons with disabilities:

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Senior Nutrition</u> - Older Americans Act nutrition services received a modest increase of \$3 million, which is split between congregate (\$2 million) and home-delivered (\$1 million) meals. • <u>Elder Rights and Adult Protective Services</u> - Older Americans Act elder justice activities received a modest increase of \$2 million to bring the total funding to \$13.87 million. • <u>Home and Community Based Supportive Services</u> - received a \$2.5 million funding increase to bring the total to \$350 million • <u>National Institute of Health</u> - received a \$400 million funding increase for research and support of Alzheimer's disease and related dementia • <u>Senior Community Service Employment Program</u> - This Older Americans Act Title VII Program will be reduced by \$34 million, which represents an 8% cut to the program. • <u>State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)</u> - This program will be reduced by \$5 million, which is a 9.6% reduction. <p>American Health Care Act Mr. Quinnan informed the members that Governor Wolf and Senator Casey were holding a press call this morning to highlight the potential negative impacts of the American Health Care Act on older Pennsylvanians. Council member and Workforce Committee Chair Matt Yarnell noted that this legislation is on the fast track in the U.S. Senate and encouraged members to contact him if they would like to take action.</p> <p>Miscellaneous</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deputy Secretary Burnett provided a brief update on Community Health Choices.
5	Reports on Committees' Unification Charge	<p>The chairs of each committee, including Joan Bradbury who filled in for Access Committee Chair Mike Sokoloski, reported how each committee completed its charge to evaluate the proposed Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and answer the following questions: 1) Should the Council support the proposed unification of the DHHS; and 2) If so, should the Department of Aging remain a standalone agency?</p> <p>It was noted that each committee decided not to take a position on the proposed unification but rather decided to develop guiding principles for the consideration of the Wolf administration and the General Assembly. Attached are the specific responses to the aforementioned questions as well as the guiding principles adopted by each committee, which Ms. Bradbury and Chairs Kathleen Kleinmann, Ray Landis, and Matt Yarnell summarized for the Council.</p>
6	Council Discussion & Next Steps	<p>The afternoon portion of the meeting largely focused on discussion of the committees' work regarding the unification proposal and how the Council should proceed.</p> <p>After a lengthy debate and a few withdrawn motions, the following motions were unanimously adopted by the Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To adopt the committees' guiding principles on unification and forward them to the Governor and General Assembly for their consideration • To forward the Governor and General Assembly each committees' responses to the above questions for their consideration • To have a cover letter drafted and sent by Chuck Quinnan to the Governor and members of the General Assembly forwarding the information referenced in the first two bullets (Members requested that

		<p>the cover letter include background information on the Council and the committees' unification charge.)</p> <p>Quality Committee Chair Kathleen Kleinmann requested that the meeting minutes reflect that she made a motion, which was not voted on as the second to the motion was withdrawn, for the Council to support unification provided that each committees' guiding principles are addressed accordingly.</p> <p>It was decided that the Council would wait until its August 24, 2017 meeting to discuss next steps in terms of priorities as this would allow members the opportunity to see what transpires with the state budget and the unification proposal.</p>
7	Open Session & Announcements	<p>There were no public comments during the open session portion of the meeting.</p> <p>Chuck Quinnan reminded members that the next Council meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 24, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.</p>
8	Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

New Action Items

#	Action Item	Actionee(s)	Deadline	Status
1	Council Membership Slots: Going forward, add the specific slot each member represents on the Council next to their name in the attendance section of the meeting minutes.	Chuck Quinnan	Add before sending the June 15, 2017 meeting minutes out for review	Completed
2	Follow-up re: Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System (BRFSS): Clarify whether the HB 218 cuts to the Department of Health's (DOH) Bureau of Vital Statistics will impact the BRFSS	DOH staffers Shannon Baker and/or Lori Howe-Gutierrez	ASAP	Completed June 21, 2017
3	Unification Cover Letter: Draft & send cover letter from Chuck Quinnan to the Governor and members of the General Assembly forwarding each committees' responses to its unification charge and their guiding principles	Chuck Quinnan	ASAP	Completed June 20, 2017

Old Action Items

#	Action Item	Actionee(s)	Deadline	Status
1	Council Priority: Each of the four committees are to evaluate the proposed consolidation and report to the full Council on the following: 1) Should the Council support the merger; and 2) If so, should the Department of Aging remain a standalone agency?	Committee Chairs & Members	ASAP	Completed at June 15, 2017 Council meeting