

FAIRFAX AREA LONG TERM CARE COORDINATING COUNCIL (LTCCC)

MEETING INFORMATION:

Committee Name:	Government Affairs Committee
Meeting Location:	Held Virtually, due to the COVID-19 Pandemic
Date & Time:	Wednesday, June 22, 2021, 2:30 p.m.
Note Taker:	Lucy Beadnell

ATTENDEES:

April Pinch-Keeler, Committee Chair; Lucy Beadnell, Sharon Canner, Elizabeth McCartney, Robin McGlothin, Steve Morrison, Robin McGlothin, Doris Ray, Patricia Rohrer, Robert “Sarge” Sargeant, Chuck Thornton, and Season Zellman.

AGENDA ITEMS ADDRESSED:

Agenda Item	Discussion	Outcome/Action Steps
Call to Order	The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m. by April Pinch-Keeler, Committee Chair.	
Motions to Proceed with Electronic Meeting	<p>The Government Affairs Committee of the LTCCC conducted a wholly electronic meeting because the COVID-19 pandemic made it unsafe to physically assemble a quorum in one location or to have the public present. The meeting was held via video and audio using Zoom for computer access and a toll free telephone number for access via telephone.</p> <p>To assure public access, April (Committee Chair) asked committee members to state their names and where they were joining the meeting from. The Committee Chairman passed the virtual gavel to Assistant Committee Chair, Lucy Beadnell. The Chairman moved that each member’s voice was adequately heard by each other committee member, and specifically that each voice was clear, audible, and at an appropriate volume for all other members. The motion was seconded by Chuck Thornton.</p> <p>Next the Chairman moved that the State of Emergency caused by the COVID-19 pandemic makes it unsafe for this committee to physically assemble and unsafe for the public to physically attend any such meeting, and that as such, Freedom of Information Act</p>	<p>The Motion carried unanimously.</p> <p>The Motion carried unanimously.</p>

	<p>(FOIA's) usual procedures, which require the physical assembly of the Government Affairs Committee of the LTCCC and the physical presence of the public, cannot be implemented safely or practically. I further move that this committee may conduct this meeting electronically through a dedicated video and audio conferencing line. The motion was seconded by Steve Morrison.</p> <p>Next the Chairman made a motion that it is required that the matters addressed on today's agenda are statutorily required or necessary to continue operations and the discharge of the LTCCC's lawful purposes, duties, and responsibilities. The motion was seconded by Sharon Canner.</p> <p>The Assistant Committee Chair passed the virtual gavel back to the Committee Chairman.</p>	<p>The Motion carried unanimously.</p>
<p>Approval of Summary Notes from June 9, 2021 Meeting</p>	<p>The summary notes from the June 9, 2021 meeting were reviewed.</p>	<p>The Summary Notes from the June 9, 2021 meeting were approved as written.</p>
<p>Review Actions from Last Meeting and continue drafting of the LTCCC Input for the 2022 BOS Human Services Issues Paper</p>	<p>April Pinch-Keeler, Committee Chair, asked that we review the follow up edits made to the document based upon input from the June 9, 2021 meeting. The committee reviewed the Action Column on the meeting notes and those identified to follow up, provided updates.</p> <p>Substance Use: CSB updates were shared from Elizabeth McCartney. Data has been updated and sent to Patricia to be incorporated. The Opioid Taskforce Coordinator sent data to Elizabeth showing increases in opioid use during the pandemic. This trend is expected to continue throughout 2021. Elizabeth shared the data, including a 40% increase in usage and 93 deaths in 2020 (up from 83 in 2019). All but 6 fatalities were due to Fentanyl. Emergency room visits are also increasing. The Committee agrees to incorporate the changes and updates shared by Elizabeth.</p> <p>Medicaid Waivers: Lucy Beadnell shared that she had sent the updates promised in the Medicaid Waiver section to Patricia that we had discussed at the</p>	<p>The committee agreed that the LTCCC will include the CSB edits into its input.</p>

	<p>last meeting with no additional edits. The edits were included in the draft issues paper sent with this meeting's notice. Doris Ray noted that though the federal government had funded the Money Follows the Person (MFP) Program being extended, we should continue to include language in the paper to ensure that Virginia continues its MFP program. Doris suggested that the state Department of Medical Assistance Services (DMAS) be directed to reestablish this program. Doris asked if this section should be duplicated in the Medicaid Waiver section. The Committee ultimately agreed to look at language recommendations from Doris, but to keep MFP information in the section on Independence and Self-Sufficiency for Older Adults and People with Disabilities. Doris will send a bullet point to direct people to review the MFP language from the Medicaid Waivers section.</p> <p>April Pinch-Keeler noted that she believed retainer payments to providers were being reconsidered. Lucy and Elizabeth echoed they believed that American Rescue Plan funds were being looked at for this need.</p> <p>Disability Services Board: The Committee agreed to wait to hear from the Disability Services Board on their recommendations at the July meeting.</p> <p>Independence and Self-Sufficiency for Older Adults and People with Disabilities: Doris reiterated her desire to provide new language on MFP. Doris shared concerns on funding for the personal care assistance program within DARS and some other independent living supports.</p> <p>Accessibility: No changes discussed.</p> <p>Adult Protective Services: We are still awaiting input from Jacquie Woodruff and Claudia Vila on this section at our July meeting.</p>	<p>Doris will send language on the importance of Virginia continuing its MFP program, as well as a bullet point statement to reference the MFP issue from the Medicaid Waiver section. Doris will send this language to Patricia at least one week in advance of the next meeting.</p> <p>Elizabeth will share updates on this at the July meeting.</p> <p>Doris will provide language on MFP and send to Patricia at least one week in advance of the next meeting.</p> <p>Claudia and Jacquie will be asked for input about this at the July meeting. Patricia will follow up with them in advance of the next meeting.</p>
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	<p>Robin McGlothin shared that some additional funding (approximately \$3.5 million) may be made available for people with dementia, but it will likely not affect the Human Services Issues Paper. Elizabeth noted this may be relevant in the mental health section, however that CSB is not planning to add additional language because funding is already approved. Robin shared that a workgroup is starting that will look at projects for older adults with dementia who are in mental health treatment institutions.</p> <p>Doris asked about including information on the need for more Long-Term Care Ombudsman staff to protect people in nursing homes. This could be noted in the Older Adults and People with Disabilities section. Doris would like to see language about ensuring and protecting people who may be vulnerable to abuse and neglect.</p> <p>In the section on Affordable Housing, Doris suggested including the Easy Living tax credit and that funding for home modifications, made by a homeowner or developer, and should be a separate bullet. She also noted that the General Assembly should consider directing the Virginia Housing Authority to require 10% of all new multi-family projects be accessible.</p>	<p>Patricia will check with the Adult and Aging unit of the Fairfax County Department of Family Service (DFS) to see if there are needs for additional funding for the ombudsman program. Doris will provide information on contacts for the statewide ombudsman, housed within the state Department of Rehabilitative Services (DARS.) She will provide to Patricia at least one week in advance of the next committee meeting.</p> <p>Doris will provide proposed language for the affordable housing section to Patricia at least one week prior to the next committee meeting.</p>
<p>New Positions for Consideration</p>	<p>April recapped the discussion from the last meeting about possible requirements for staffing and time mandates for people living in nursing facilities that was presented by the Health Care Advisory Committee (HCAB) at the last committee meeting. Doris wanted to ensure that any salary recommendations that would affect nursing care would also include community agency and consumer directed services. Patricia mentioned that the Commission on Aging (COA) voted to support HCAB's new position paper.</p>	<p>Patricia will follow up with Sherryn Craig to see when the committee can obtain a copy of the new position, so that it can be discussed at the next committee meeting.</p>
<p>Adjournment</p>	<p>Meeting adjourned at 3:52 p.m.</p>	

Next Committee Meeting Date: Tuesday, July 14, 2021, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Next LTCCC Meeting: TBD.