

**Rhode Island Governor's Commission on Aging  
Minutes of February 20 Meeting with Governor Chafee**

**Members present:**

Susan Adler, Libby Arron, Rev. Paul F. Bliss, Joan Crawley, Bill Flynn, Jim Nyberg, Sue Robbio, Rick Ryan, Sister Marietta Walsh

**DEA Staff**

Larry Grimaldi and Catherine T. Taylor

**Excused**

Madeline Ernest

**Call to order**

Chairperson Rick Ryan call the meeting to order at 10:02 and thanked the Governor for taking time out of his busy schedule to participate in this annual meeting with him.

**Introductions**

Governor Chafee greeted each member warmly and introduced himself and staff members Kelly Mahoney, Chief of Policy, Catherine Taylor, Director of Division of Elderly Affairs and Larry Grimaldi, DEA Staff Liaison.

**Discussion with Governor Chafee**

Rick thanked the Governor and Director Taylor expressing the commission's wishes to continue working closely and to express some of our current concerns; namely:

- Status of "Re-Balancing" Medicaid Long Term Care Services  
Toward More Community-Based Services: Global Waiver
- Monitoring of Implementation of Dual Eligibles and Health  
Insurance Exchange: Effect Upon Elders & Adults with  
Disabilities
- Restoration of Community Service Grants for Senior Centers
- Commission's Role in Assisting Governor's Office: Enhanced  
Communication

Several Commission members offered their thoughts on these compelling issues and the Governor's overall response was "I Hear You...Maintaining seniors in the community with adequate supports is what is needed and is what will ultimately save the state money; while meeting seniors' needs and wants".

### **Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes**

Susan made a motion to approve the previous meeting's minutes, seconded by Joan. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report**

No report.

### **Re-Introduction of New Members**

Rick re-introduced our new members who originally introduced themselves to the Governor and were well known to the commission as established members of the aging network.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:34 am.

Respectfully submitted by Rick Ryan, Acting Secretary.