

**Rhode Island Governor's Commission on Aging  
Minutes of October 15, 2014 Meeting**

**Members present:**

Rick Ryan, Karen Enright, Esther Price, Madeline Ernest, Brian Ott, MD, Rev. Paul F. Bliss, Joan Crawley, Susan Adler, Sue Robbio

**Members excused:**

William Finelli, Bill Flynn

**Staff:**

Larry Grimaldi

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Rick Ryan at 10:15 AM

**Approval of Previous Meeting's Minutes**

Corrections:

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

**Treasurer's Report**

\$ 108.60. Approved.

**Old Business:** (from previous minutes)

1. Discussion regarding the 4 goals within the State Plan on Aging continued. These goals are set by Administration for Community Living and will remain unchanged. It is the objectives that are subject to change. The Commission will therefore work within the goals to request that specific measureable objectives be added or at minimum be revised to stipulate the metrics and timelines as appropriate.
2. The Commission will also continue to support the State Alzheimer Plan so as to enhance and expand those objectives with the new administration.
3. Jim Nyberg has been unable to attend the Commission meeting due to scheduling conflicts. It was suggested that Rick meet with Jim to discuss/review actions in the State regarding the 2 plans. It was also discussed to try telecommunication in the future so that Jim will be able to contribute to the meetings since a meeting time change did not seem possible.
4. The Commission will set the next two meetings to prepare for the new administration including the role of the Commission.
5. Now that the Elderly Affairs is a Division as opposed to a Department, it was questioned as to who will appoint the Division Head in the new administration.
6. New membership was discussed. Members are to bring suggestions (perhaps related to the chosen goal in the State Plan on Aging) to the next meeting. Marjorie Waters has been an advocate for senior issues and was suggested as a possible new Commission member.
7. Larry Grimaldi will request a summary progress report for the State Plan for the December 17<sup>th</sup> meeting. Based on the progress, the Commission will revisit the Plan at the December meeting to review and comment on objective revisions. One revision suggested was to enlist the opinion of the Commission related to the goals' objectives. This action would empower this Commission to be the champion of these issues. It would also create a better interface between the State Plan and the Commission.
8. Additional review of plan highlighted transportation issues for seniors. It appears that transportation impacts every State Plan goal. Without adequate transportation, no goal can be effectively achieved.
9. It was suggested that Rick craft a letter to DHS related to the role of the Commission and issues discussed

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:23AM..

**Submitted**

D. Karen Enright  
Secretary