

CONNECTICUT CONTINUING CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Office of LeadingAge Connecticut, Berlin, CT.

Wednesday, September 26, 2012. 10:00 AM

As President of the host organization, LeadingAge Connecticut, Mag Morelli welcomed the members of the Continuing Care Advisory Committee and a few guests.

Attendance

Present were the following appointed members of the Advisory Committee: Billie T. Alban, Mag Morelli, Darrell Pataska, Jennifer Rannestad, Keith Robertson, Daniel Robinson, Margie Sullivan, William Thompson, Jon-Paul Venoit, and Maureen Weaver. Absent was Robert L. Rolett.

Also present were: Connecticut State Legislative Representative John Shaban, Carolyn M. Treiss, Legislative Program Manager, Connecticut Department of Social Services, Office of Public Affairs; Heather Rossi, Legislative Liaison, Connecticut Department of Social Services and Andrew Nesi for Roderic L. Rolett.

Committee Charge

During a discussion of the charge of the Committee, Mag Morelli asked Representative Shaban to describe how the reactivation of the Advisory Committee came about. He made reference to Section 17b-535 of the Connecticut Statutes that mandates the appointment of the Advisory Committee by the Commissioner of Social Services which states, in part, as follows: *“The advisory committee shall assist the continuing-care staff in its review and registration of functions, shall report to the commissioner on developments in the field, any special problems associated with continuing care, and concerns of providers and residents, and, when appropriate recommend changes in relevant statutes and regulations.”* Representative Shaban related to the Committee how, with a great deal of help from LeadingAge Connecticut and the Connecticut Continuing Care Resident Association (ConnCCRA), he assisted in the successful effort to reinstate the Committee.

Some of the provisions of the regulations that came up during the discussion are as follows:

Section 17b-533-11

(b) The committee shall have the following purposes:

- (1) To assist the commissioner in the various reviews and the registration functions to be performed under the Act and these regulations;*
- (2) To report to the commissioner on developments in the field of continuing-care;*
- (3) To report to the commissioner any special problems in the field of continuing care;*
- (4) To recommend changes in relevant statutes, and these regulations; and*
- (5) To advise on any other matters referred to the committee by the commissioner.*

Procedural Matters

For the purposes of complying with the regulations, after a discussion, the Committee unanimously agreed to the following:

- To accommodate the members, meetings will be held at various locations throughout the state.
- In addition to meeting notices to the members, required public notice of the meetings will be posted by the Department of Social Services.
- The regular meetings of the Committee will be held on the third Friday of the first month of the calendar quarter.
- The next meeting of the Committee will be held on Friday, January 18 at 10:00 AM, in the Legislative Office Building in Hartford. Following that date, the other meetings in 2013 will be held on April 19, July 19 and October 18.

Meeting Agendas

It was unanimously agreed that prior to each meeting Committee members will submit their suggestions for agenda items to the Chairperson, who will then develop a draft agenda. The Chairperson will forward the draft agenda to the Commissioner of Social Services for approval, with a copy to Carolyn Treiss, Rich Wysocki and Heather Rossi, at least one week before the scheduled meeting. A questionnaire will be sent the members before each meeting soliciting their agenda suggestions containing the following questions:

- (a) Are there any issues or updates that might affect CCRCs of which the advisory committee should be made aware?; (e.g. demographic, federal and state legislative, regulatory, others.)
- (b) Are there any concerns; trends in the external environment of which the advisory committee should be made aware?; (e.g. Medicare, economy, financial markets, town real estate taxes, other?)
- (c) What other items would you like to have discussed?

It was also agreed that the agenda items should focus on financial matters and other broad industry issues and trends germane to DSS's statutory and regulatory responsibilities. In addition the Committee agreed that it should also be apprised of residents' concerns regarding compliance with the statute and regulations. Details on the management and operation of individual CCRCs will be avoided. The Committee decided that matters to be brought to the attention of the committee by the DSS Commissioner should be a standing item on all agendas.

Mag Morelli agreed to send copies of relevant statutes and regulations to the members.

Agenda Items for the January 18, 2013 Meeting

The Committee discussed the following potential agenda items for the January 18, 2013 meeting:

- I. Review the oversight responsibilities of the Department in relation to the CCRCs. (DSS will supply)
- II. Report from the Department regarding the current procedures for reviewing the annual disclosure statements and annual reports.
- III. Develop recommendations, if necessary, to assist the Department in improving the efficiency of the review process.

Appointment of Committee Chairperson

After a discussion, the Committee unanimously decided to recommend that Mag Morelli be appointed to the position of Committee Chair. Ms. Treiss will convey that recommendation to the Commissioner.

Ed Lawlor graciously volunteered to record the minutes of each meeting. The Chairperson will review and revise minutes, as necessary, and then distribute copies to the Committee and the Commissioner for review.

Respectfully submitted,
Mag Morelli