

North Central Elder Justice Council Meeting Minutes

July 27, 2023 -Teams Meeting

I. Welcome

- A. Present: Jennell Huff, John Stevenson, Mary Grossman, Sabrina McQuinn, Al Ward, Kathy Foley.
Absent: Lisa Baxter.

II. Review of previous minutes- Janelle Huff added the following motions for amendments: Correct Susan Bivens as a victim of an "online scam" to imposter scam. Correct spelling for Chris "Bensen" is Benson. Correct Governors "Council" on Aging to Governors Conference on Aging. Minutes Accepted.

III. Old Business

- a. **Contacting other councils.** Jennell followed up with South Central contact, Nancy Anderson. The South Council is focused on events for WEAAD next year. Al Ward will reach out to the Eastern Council as they have new members. He is no longer a member of the Eastern Council. He stated the Salish, Kootenai tribes are working on fraud and exploitation of seniors.
- b. **Needs Assessment.** Al Ward sent the Eastern Council needs assessment to Janelle and Lisa Baxter. Janelle will send the needs assessment to the rest of us after this meeting. Al stated the Eastern Council did not receive many responses. NCEJC members agreed to send it out since the post Covid 19 responses may be different. Members will review the assessment and send questions to Lisa Baxter and copy the whole group.
- c. **Ideas for Advocacy.** Susan Bivens presented her story on Aging Horizons Radio/TV Show. She will be attending the Governors Conference on Aging in October 2023.

IV. NEW Business

- a. **World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) 2024.** Discussion of WEAAD events for June 15, 2024. Janelle suggested WEAAD should be held in Cascade County, specifically Great Falls. A walk around Gibson Park is one theme. Invitees would include the public, families, caretakers, law

enforcement, APS, AARP, Area Agencies, Easterseals, Meals on Wheels, Alzheimer's Association, Assisted living Communities, etc. Discussed other locations in case of bad weather as Gibson Park does not have shelter. Mary Grossman will contact the Parks department for more info. Kathy Foley will contact University of Providence events center for more info. Al stated planning this event is part of the Governor's mandates for each council.

- b. Governor's Conference on Aging.** Jennell stated each council will participate in a roundtable discussion at the conference. Al is a member of the Governor's Advisory Council. They meet in 2 weeks and he will provide more information at our next meeting.
- c. Discussion with law enforcement and elder justice prosecutor.** Discussion to reschedule Mike Fanning and Chris Benson to attend our next meeting. This council seeks to understand their challenges with elder justice issues and investigations. Al stated we need to ask what help they need from this council? Al stated he will contact Jacob Griffith from the Attorney General's office. Also, Chuck Harwood from the FTC may be able to attend. Al will contact Chuck Harwood. Sabrina McQuinn stated GFPD General Case Det. Sgt. assigns his GFPD detective to conduct criminal investigations after APS has made referrals of indicated abuse, neglect and exploitation to him/GFPD. We will invite Sargent Derek Mahlum to our next meeting. Janelle will contact Mike Fanning and Chris Benson to meet with us (they were unable to reschedule for this meeting).
- d. Appointment letters.** Mary stated she received her appointment letter from the Governor's office by mail and email. Thus far, she is the only member to receive their appointment letter.

V. Public Comment-No comment

VI. Next Meeting- August 31st, 2023 at 1pm

VII. Adjournment at 2:18pm.

Submitted by Kathy Foley