

TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS

HOUSING AND HEALTH SERVICES
COORDINATION COUNCIL MEETING

Stephen F. Austin Building
Room 220S
1700 N. Congress Avenue
Austin, Texas 78701

February 7, 2011
2:00 p.m.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

MICHAEL GERBER, Chair
PAULA MARGESON, Vice Chair
NICK DAUSTER
KENNETH DARDEN
MARC GOLD
MIKE GOODWIN
SHERRI GOTHART-BARRON
AMY GRANBERRY
JIM HANOPHY
JEAN LANGENDORF
PAIGE MCGILLOWAY
JONAS SCHWARTZ
DONI VAN RYSWYK
MARK WYATT

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P R O C E E D I N G S

MR. GERBER: Let me call to order the meeting
of the Housing and Health Services Coordinating Council.
We'll have a roll call.

Mark Wyatt?

MR. WYATT: Here.

MR. GERBER: Paige McGilloway?

MS. MCGILLOWAY: Here.

MR. GERBER: Jonas Schwartz?

MR. SCHWARTZ: Here.

MR. HANOPHY: Here.

MR. GERBER: Marc Gold?

MR. GOLD: Here.

MR. GERBER: Nick Dauster?

(No response.)

MR. GERBER: Sherri Gothart-Barron?

MS. GOTHART-BARRON: Here.

MR. GERBER: Doni Van Ryswyk?

MS. VAN RYSWYK: Here.

MR. GERBER: Jimmy Carmichael?

(No response.)

MR. GERBER: Michael Goodwin?

MR. GOODWIN: Here.

MR. GERBER: Amy Granberry?

MS. GRANBERRY: Here.

1 MR. GERBER: Paula Margeson?

2 MS. MARGESON: Here.

3 MR. GERBER: Felix Briones?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. GERBER: Kenneth Darden?

6 (No response.)

7 MR. GERBER: Jean Langendorf?

8 MS. LANGENDORF: Here.

9 MR. GERBER: Great. There is a quorum present,
10 so we can conduct business.

11 As our first order of business, I'd like to
12 open up the meeting for public comment. Is there anyone
13 here who would like to make any comments in this public
14 comment period?

15 (No response.)

16 MR. GERBER: Seeing none, public comment is
17 closed.

18 The next item is approval of the minutes.
19 Council members should have received a copy of the minutes
20 from the November 1, 2010 meeting. Are there any changes
21 to the minutes, and if not, I would entertain a motion to
22 approve the minutes.

23 MR. HANOPHY: I so move.

24 MR. WYATT: Second.

25 MR. GERBER: Any objection?

1 (No response.)

2 MR. GERBER: So with that then the minutes are
3 approved.

4 You should also have received a copy of the
5 minutes from the December 15, 2010 special meeting. Are
6 there any changes to those minutes, and if not, I would
7 ask for a motion to approve those minutes.

8 MR. GOODWIN: So moved.

9 MS. MCGILLOWAY: Second.

10 MR. GERBER: Great. Any objection to the
11 approval of those minutes?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. GERBER: Then they are approved.

14 The first part of this is the summary of
15 committee discussions. Earlier today the Cross-Agency
16 Committee and the Policy and Barriers Committee each met
17 to discuss their next steps as the Council moves forward.
18 Each committee discussed how to proceed with the possible
19 implementation of the recommendations that were made in
20 the biennial plan. And Ashley Schweickart and Suzanne
21 Hemphill will provide a quick update and summary as to
22 what was discussed at each of those meetings.

23 MS. SCHWEICKART: Yes. I'll start with the
24 Cross-Agency Committee since that's the one that was
25 heading up.

1 And so the main thing that we were talking
2 about at the Cross-Agency meeting was creating the
3 reference guide that we had discussed and recommended as
4 part of the biennial plan was creating a state agency to
5 state agency reference guide that would have a basic
6 breakdown of the programs that are relevant to the
7 Council's mission of creating community-based services and
8 supports as well as community-based housing for persons
9 with disabilities and persons who are elderly.

10 So they saw a draft of the reference guide
11 which is right here, all 60 pages of it, and they provided
12 their feedback about what to add, anything that we need to
13 clarify to make sure that this could be a reference guide
14 that's not only helpful to state agencies staff but also
15 to those sub-recipients contractors that receive funding
16 from our state agencies and that it would also be very
17 helpful to them. And so we discussed that at length, and
18 then staff will be making those edits and then submitting
19 a final draft to that committee to make sure that it
20 includes everything.

21 And then the idea for the implementation of the
22 reference guide that the committee had was to have the PDF
23 link on the Council's web page and then have the state
24 agencies involved linked to that page, so have somewhere
25 on that page that could link to the guide.

1 MR. GOLD: Ashley, are people who aren't on
2 that committee going to have a chance to look at it prior
3 to it being finalized?

4 MS. SCHWEICKART: Yes. So one of the things
5 that was recommended was to have all the state agency
6 representatives look at the whole thing but particularly
7 the sections that involve their programs. So obviously,
8 yourself and those that are on the Policy and Barriers
9 Committee, I would be sending out the draft to as well to
10 receive feedback.

11 MR. GERBER: And it's fair to say also that for
12 each agency section. Like in our case, one of the
13 concerns I had was you could throw a program into the
14 reference guide, the resource guide, but you sort of need
15 to draw the connection as to how this can actually help in
16 the coordination of housing and health and human services.
17 So for example, the Tax Credit Program, one of the ways we
18 do that is through the SRO program that we have, so we
19 need to add a little emphasis there, highlight that and
20 what the connection is. And I would encourage other
21 agencies to do the same so people aren't just trying to
22 figure it out.

23 MS. SCHWEICKART: Right. And we did talk about
24 having that introductory page that would highlight the
25 possibility for connections as well as having at the top

1 of each program the relevance, you know, like this
2 division's staff member would be the direct person to
3 contact and this is how you can facilitate connection,
4 basically.

5 MS. MARGESON: Can you also put a link in a
6 Word document for accessibility? Anyone who uses a screen
7 reader is probably going to have trouble with PDF.

8 MS. SCHWEICKART: Sure. We can link on our
9 Council website to a Word document. We'd just do a read-
10 only so it can't be changed.

11 MS. MARGESON: That will work.

12 MS. SCHWEICKART: And so then the next steps
13 for the Cross-Agency Committee were looking at ways in
14 which the next step which was the training modules -- that
15 was another thing that was recommended that was also an
16 outstanding statutory task -- of looking at how we make
17 sure we have all of the pertinent information in the power
18 point presentation that could be something that could be a
19 training that could be also available on the website in a
20 webinar format. So that' s the next steps.

21 So Suzanne, do you want to take over?

22 MS. HEMPHILL: Yes. So I worked with the
23 Policy and Barriers Committee this morning.

24 Just an update from the Disability Opportunity
25 Fund meeting with Charles Hammerman in December. He has

1 gotten the initial go-ahead with the Federal Reserve Bank,
2 they are interested in meeting, and they're looking at
3 September for that, so just to kind of check in. It's a
4 little bit later than what Mr. Hammerman initially
5 thought.

6 And we spent the majority of our meeting
7 talking about the service provider survey. This comes
8 from the statutory directive which says, and I'm quoting,
9 "Conduct a biennial evaluation regarding capacity of
10 statewide long-term care providers and interest by housing
11 developers in investing in service-enriched housing." So
12 that's the goal of the survey.

13 And we did a lot of wordsmithing and we'll be
14 sending it out for continued edits with the committee, and
15 we're hoping to have it out March 1. So that is very
16 exciting and we're moving right along.

17 I think that's it.

18 MR. GERBER: I would note for the record that
19 Pastor Darden is here, and we welcome you.

20 MR. DARDEN: Thank you.

21 MR. GERBER: Any comments on either Ashley's or
22 Suzanne's report?

23 MS. MARGESON: Well, I'm just thinking too,
24 Suzanne, that wouldn't we be working with the full Council
25 to actually disseminate the surveys, not just our

1 committee?

2 MS. HEMPHILL: Yes, absolutely. So we'll be
3 sending that out, and we're hoping that everyone, or just
4 the state agency reps, Ashley, we'll be forwarding?

5 MS. SCHWEICKART: We had first discussed the
6 state agency reps because they have a list of all of
7 their -- I think you guys call them vendors -- your
8 vendors to send it out, however, I think that it would
9 probably be helpful to give it to the entire Council
10 because obviously our local providers are going to know
11 people that maybe have missed in that dissemination, so I
12 think we'll send it to everybody.

13 MR. GOLD: This is going to be the survey?

14 MS. HEMPHILL: Yes. We'll have an introduction
15 to the survey that explains everything and then the survey
16 itself.

17 MR. GERBER: Any other comments on that item?

18 (No response.)

19 MR. GERBER: Okay. Ashley, do you want to give
20 a report on the interim report of House Urban Affairs that
21 relates to this committee?

22 MS. SCHWEICKART: Yes, I will do that.

23 So you guys, just basically this is kind of
24 just an FYI to give you a heads-up and let everyone know.
25 In their interim report to the 82nd Texas Legislature, the

1 House Committee on Urban Affairs made a recommendation
2 that actually concerns this Council. So basically the
3 Urban Affairs Committee, one of their tasks is to make
4 recommendations regarding the feasibility of a housing
5 initiative that promotes independence and prevents
6 unnecessary institutionalization of eligible populations.

7 So in their findings the committee referenced
8 that there was the passage of Senate Bill 1878 which
9 created this Council and how this Council is moving the
10 state forward in providing an atmosphere to allow elderly
11 persons the ability to live in their homes as long as
12 possible through service-enriched housing initiatives.

13 And then in addition to their findings they
14 made a recommendation that the Council's scope be expanded
15 to set a goal to reduce the premature institutionalization
16 of people at the state expense under the Medicaid Program
17 by 20 percent over the course of five years, and that's by
18 redirecting funds for people to remain in their homes
19 instead of going to nursing homes or hospitals. So that
20 was a recommendation that was made by the House Committee
21 on Urban Affairs.

22 MR. GOLD: Could you send that link to me,
23 please? And how that goes along with what was discussed
24 in Senate Finance.

25 MS. SCHWEICKART: Sure.

1 MR. GERBER: I would note that this
2 recommendation has been talked about in a bunch of
3 different contexts for quite some time by Representative
4 Davis, who is chairman of the House Urban Affairs. I
5 think the expectation is that virtually none of the makeup
6 of that committee will be the same this session from where
7 it was last session.

8 MR. GOLD: Well, and Representative Davis knows
9 long-term service.

10 MR. GERBER: Absolutely.

11 MR. GOLD: I mean, it's really a promoting
12 independence issue, so I'm just curious how we're going to
13 go about and do that.

14 MS. SCHWEICKART: Right. And obviously, at the
15 end of the legislative session I can keep you guys
16 informed if there was any legislative changes to our
17 Council

18 MR. GOLD: That's interesting. I'm glad that
19 they put that part back of that conversation.

20 MS. MCGILLOWAY: Now, what would be our role in
21 that, again?

22 MS. SCHWEICKART: Well, I can only quote to you
23 what they said.

24 MS. MCGILLOWAY: Right. And that's okay, you
25 can read it again.

1 MS. SCHWEICKART: Yes. I can only quote to you
2 what they said, but they said that the Council's scope be
3 expanded to set a goal to aggressively reduce the
4 premature institutionalization of people at the state
5 expense under the Medicaid Program by 20 percent over the
6 course of five years by redirecting -- and they say
7 housing funds, energy-related funds and other funds -- to
8 remain in their home instead of going to nursing homes and
9 state hospitals.

10 MS. MCGILLOWAY: That's a big one. Okay.

11 MS. SCHWEICKART: So anyway, it was basically
12 just to say, hey, people are talking about the Council.

13 MS. MARGESON: I don't like that word
14 premature. It sounds like it's a foregone conclusion that
15 eventually.

16 MR. GOLD: Well, and it's about diversion,
17 though, diversion versus anyone sort of deteriorating
18 their health and welfare.

19 MR. SCHWARTZ: I think it's great because it's
20 just another indication that the housing world and the
21 human services world need to work together and need to
22 talk to each other, so I think it's excellent.

23 MS. LANGENDORF: And that would really support
24 the Amy Young trust fund, for those of you worried the
25 trust fund might go away or be drastically reduced.

1 MR. GERBER: Any other comments on House Urban
2 Affairs or any other legislative item that anyone would
3 wish to talk about?

4 (No response.)

5 MR. GERBER: Why don't we talk then about the
6 timeline and the progress of the Council's tasks. I know
7 last meeting we discussed our priorities during this
8 interim year, looking at which outstanding statutory
9 duties we all have that staff needs to focus on in the
10 short term and the long term. Has everyone been provided
11 a copy of that chart?

12 MS. SCHWEICKART: Everyone has this chart. And
13 I'm actually also going to pass around our directives.

14 MR. GERBER: So has everyone had a chance to
15 review the timeline for completion of the outstanding
16 statutory tasks?

17 And we're pleased to be joined by Mr. Dauster.
18 Welcome.

19 MR. DAUSTER: Thank you.

20 MR. GERBER: The timeline breaks down each
21 staff responsibility into a series of steps and the time
22 frame allotted to each step, and we can walk through
23 those.

24 MS. SCHWEICKART: Sure. And I wanted to
25 provide to everyone, this is two pages out of our biennial

1 plan just to refresh everyone on the tasks that we are
2 required to do, and specifically, as defined in SB 1878,
3 the duties of the TDHCA Council staff starts on page 11
4 but it's mostly on page 12. And the way that I created
5 the table that was sent around to everybody is that I used
6 those tasks that we had not touched on or fully completed
7 with the biennial plan that staff could do more work on.
8 So that's the way that everything is broken down is by
9 those outstanding statutory duties, so I can name them off
10 quickly so that everyone is on the same page.

11 Within that one-page table there is the
12 financial feasibility model which was an outstanding
13 statutory duty. There is the existing capacity evaluation
14 survey, so existing service-enriched housing capacity
15 providers, that was an outstanding statutory duty that we
16 evaluate them. There is the creation of state-to-state
17 training materials so that includes the reference guide
18 and the training modules, as well as the state-to-local
19 training materials, again a reference guide and training
20 modules.

21 Fifth was the identification and dissemination
22 of state and federal funding information, so we crafted a
23 couple of ideas about how that would work given Council's
24 direction. And then finally number six is the creation of
25 an online information clearinghouse, and so then, again

1 with Council's direction from the biennial plan, looking
2 at the ways in which we would make that happen.

3 So just to kind of give you a direction is that
4 we took what was written in the statute and put it in a
5 table and gave it some deadlines, gave ourselves some
6 deliverable deadlines, looking at the Council meetings
7 from now through the next year. So that is the way that's
8 laid out.

9 We'd love any feedback you have if you have any
10 feedback as to the actual implementation steps to get to
11 our end product of what we're hoping to create or at least
12 hoping to do in terms of whether it be having a survey and
13 collecting data and then creating a tracking database with
14 that data -- that's one example. But if there's any
15 feedback about our outstanding duties and the way that
16 we're trying to go about them, we'd love any feedback.

17 MR. GERBER: And I would just add that with the
18 timetable, and I think we're going to talk in a minute
19 about sort of how we're organized, and the next meeting, I
20 think, is scheduled for June, so there's some big gaps
21 between now and when we'll see each other next. And we
22 certainly would encourage any of you who have time or
23 staff who would have an interest in trying to help support
24 the work of the Council staff to be active and engaged. I
25 know many of you have been, and we appreciate that and

1 want to certainly not discourage that in any way because I
2 think we need all the help we can get in trying to make
3 these as high quality products as we want them to be.

4 MS. SCHWEICKART: Right.

5 MR. GERBER: Any thoughts on these items?
6 Anything look off in terms of the Council's work -- or
7 staff's work, rather, and anyone want to add anything for
8 good measure?

9 MR. HANOPHY: It looks like you were right on
10 track for today, so the question is did you put these Xs
11 in after you did this or before?

12 (General laughter.)

13 MS. SCHWEICKART: Well, I've got to tell you,
14 Jim, I'm not that smart. I put down what we had already
15 started on first and went from there, however, at the
16 November meeting I believe that we decided that these
17 first three that I have here are the ones that we wanted
18 to move forward on first, so in terms of following our
19 short-term versus long-term goals that we had discussed.

20 MS. HEMPHILL: Because some of the first three
21 feed into the others. The provider survey is going to be
22 really helpful in the next steps, and the clearinghouse
23 information and the tracking database.

24 MS. SCHWEICKART: Right. They kind of add on
25 top of each other. In a way, if we have one then we can

1 have a few more. It will be a lot easier with that basis
2 of information.

3 We actually didn't mention the financial
4 feasibility model in our committee meetings, so I don't
5 know if, Suzanne, you want to give a like a really brief
6 summary of that.

7 MS. HEMPHILL: Sure. Right now I'm looking at
8 some of the underwriting reports, and if anyone has
9 expertise in this area, we are looking for some assistance
10 and collaboration. We want to use all the Council's
11 skills and expertise. So we're looking at underwriting
12 reports, doing some informational interviews to figure out
13 what's happening, what kind of model is realistic. We'll
14 be looking at a variety of projects, but it may or may not
15 end up being something that you can just plug numbers into
16 because we know this is very contact-specific and the
17 Council has a lot of different service-enriched housing
18 opportunities that we're looking at, so right now it's
19 just gathering information.

20 MS. LANGENDORF: Have you all studied or do you
21 have it on your radar to study the Melville Act, the
22 federal Frank Melville Act that recently passed? Because
23 I know it could take them several years to put together
24 the rules, or they could do it rather quickly, because it
25 was based on a study that was actually done by somebody

1 here in Austin.

2 So I was just wondering with that there's a
3 state component where you all could apply for -- what do
4 they call it? It's not going to be every state is going
5 to get it but it's going to be competitive, and I would
6 hope that Texas would go after it to mesh tax credits with
7 what traditionally has been 811 funds which are for people
8 with disabilities.

9 So I would really kind of point you all towards
10 that. If you don't have the study it was based on, we can
11 get that for you. Mandy Mayo was the person who did that.

12 MS. SCHWEICKART: Oh, Mandy did it?

13 MS. LANGENDORF: Mandy did it under John Garden
14 when he was up at HUD. So it's based on old reports under
15 the Bush Administration but got passed under this last
16 Congress.

17 I'd love for us to on the forefront and be
18 ready to pounce on it should HUD move swiftly.

19 MS. MCGILLOWAY: So it's HUD funds.

20 MS. LANGENDORF: Yes, it's HUD funds. I think
21 it would fit really well, and particularly the Department
22 would have to look at underwriting under your Tax Credit
23 Program. It's all done by the states now. It would all
24 be done by the state's underwriting department which would
25 be a blessing for those of us that have done it before, I

1 think, to not have it underwritten by HUD -- just because
2 it takes so long.

3 MR. GERBER: Now, how rare is that, someone
4 says it would be a blessing to have it underwritten by
5 TDHCA.

6 (General talking and laughter.)

7 MS. LANGENDORF: It's got to be faster than
8 HUD, it just has to be. But anyway, it's a concrete
9 something to look at right and hopefully would be used
10 well in our state.

11 MR. HANOPHY: Building on a comment you made
12 earlier, I assume our commitment to this extends beyond
13 showing up to meetings. Having said that, we may never be
14 quite sure to know when to ask when you need something, so
15 if you need help with followup or informational
16 interviews, we may know the context of an answer that you
17 might not. If you wanted us to look at raw data and have
18 us share it among our folks and see what they think,
19 anything like that.

20 I guess what I'm saying is you need to come to
21 us between meetings and say, Hey, could you help us with
22 this or could you help us with that. We'd be happy to do
23 it. I just wouldn't know when to ask what you needed
24 next.

25 MS. SCHWEICKART: Sure.

1 MR. GOLD: And I'm sure, Ashley, that Steve has
2 told you we're hiring four housing navigators to be placed
3 with our Aging Disability Resource Centers across the
4 state. We have the money.

5 If there's something specific that you feel
6 those navigators could be doing to assist, even one year
7 if you wanted to pilot one particular area to get some
8 specific information, we can certainly write that into
9 some of the requirements for the housing navigator. I
10 think that would be a great utilization of the money.
11 Certainly it would meet the mission of the demonstration
12 of the state's general goals, the goals of this Council.
13 That's why we're all here together.

14 MS. VAN RYSWYK: With conducting the capacity
15 survey.

16 MR. GOLD: I think that's a great thing. And
17 again, for everybody around this room, this is sort of a
18 work in progress so how we can help shape what these
19 navigators can do and how they can function and really be
20 a real utilization so then we can go back and ask for even
21 more navigators.

22 MS. SCHWEICKART: Right. And I caught the tail
23 end of the Policy and Barriers Committee meeting, but
24 definitely one of those things that we're hoping is that
25 once we have kind of this more general survey go out to

1 everybody, perhaps, based on the responses that we
2 receive, going more in-depth with some followup that would
3 be more specific to a specific provider and specific
4 location. So that may be a very helpful component.

5 MR. GOLD: Whatever is needed.

6 MR. HANOPHY: Just ask. That is my point.

7 MS. SCHWEICKART: And we definitely, now that
8 we've received feedback on the drafts to the survey and
9 the reference guide, we know now what questions we still
10 need answers for and who to follow up with.

11 MR. GOLD: Well, I know at some of our agencies
12 some of us are losing staff, we have these housing
13 navigators out there, and it is all federal money, and we
14 may have an opportunity, we're going to go back to the
15 well and ask for more.

16 MS. MARGESON: In which ADRCs will they be
17 placed?

18 MR. GOLD: We're hoping that all the ADRCs will
19 apply. Obviously, we're going to be looking at those with
20 really large housing inventories, I mean, certainly the
21 Houston, Dallas-Fort Worth areas. We'll fund some sort of
22 rural area. But a place that we can get the biggest bang
23 for our buck, that's what we really would like to go for.
24 But we want to look at applications the way that we did
25 with the additional benefits counselors and see what's out

1 there. But we would love to get somebody where there's a
2 lot of housing stock and really can go out there and
3 really do some work, especially in those areas of one of
4 the goals from House Urban Affairs. If the discussion is
5 to reduce the institutional Medicaid population, then we
6 want to make sure there's good housing stock out there.

7 MR. GERBER: Any other comments on this item?
8 We thank everyone in advance for their offers of help and
9 we will take you up on it.

10 I think we want to talk just a moment about
11 committee restructuring. Because the Council doesn't need
12 to produce a biennial plan this year that means the two
13 committees that we established in 2010 have a
14 significantly reduced workload, and it may make some
15 sense, given the legislative session and other
16 responsibilities that people have, to maybe just try to
17 meet again as a committee of the whole for purposes of
18 this coming year.

19 So I guess I'd ask for any comments on that or
20 entertain a motion to go ahead and just dissolve the two
21 committees, and we'll come back if we need to in a year's
22 time and revisit the question after the legislative
23 session to see if there's other requirements.

24 MR. HANOPHY: Do you foresee a need to, at some
25 point, for any purpose to pull those committees in? I

1 mean, I'm perfectly happy with it. If you want us out,
2 that's fine, but maybe put them on hold in case you decide
3 this stuff came up and we didn't think about that.

4 MS. SCHWEICKART: Right. Maybe more on an ad
5 hoc basis.

6 MR. HANOPHY: Maybe maintain an ad hoc for this
7 year, and then if we need it, we need it, if we don't, we
8 don't.

9 MR. GERBER: Well, if there's not any
10 disagreement, then we'll go ahead and we'll take Jim's
11 suggestion and we'll just meet on an ad hoc basis with
12 those two committees if necessary, but we'll just assume
13 that, for purposes of this year, we'll just meet as a
14 committee of the whole.

15 MR. HANOPHY: So we don't have to have a
16 meeting to reestablish the committees to have a meeting.

17 (General laughter.)

18 MR. GERBER: We like seeing you, Jim.

19 Any comments on the structure overall, or is
20 everyone generally okay with the structure?

21 (No response.)

22 MR. GERBER: Legislative update. I know that
23 we talked for a few minutes about House Urban Affairs and
24 that open call. Does anyone want to talk about any other
25 legislation? Let me just put that out again since it's on

1 our agenda. Is there anything related to agency budgets
2 or items that you'd want to talk about here? I know we
3 could go on for days, but is there anything in particular
4 related to this group that for the common good folks would
5 want to share? If so, I'd invite you to do so. I know
6 there's lots of information flying around.

7 MS. BOSTON: I would just mention, and this may
8 have come up already, but right now the FTEs and the money
9 associated with the Council are in both the House and
10 Senate versions of the bill.

11 (General talking and laughter.)

12 MS. SCHWEICKART: And obviously, at our June
13 meeting the hope is that we will be done with the session
14 and that staff can do some research from what has finished
15 happening with the legislative session to provide you guys
16 some information about how maybe any of our biennial plan
17 recommendations may have been altered or will be altered
18 due to the status of the programs that are in each agency.

19 MR. GERBER: I think we'll endeavor to try to
20 keep people updated as we go through that if we see
21 something that hits the Council.

22 MR. HANOPHY: Where did the plan go to, to what
23 committee?

24 MS. SCHWEICKART: It went to the Governor's
25 Office and the LBB, so those were the two main in terms of

1 the statute, and then obviously, I gave it to those
2 senators and representatives that authored and sponsored.

3 MR. GOLD: I would just say from DADS
4 perspective which is a lot of Medicaid and somewhat
5 managed care, they put the caseloads in but they didn't
6 give us the money to provide services by about coupled by
7 \$1.2- or \$1.5 billion. One of our exceptional items,
8 obviously, put money in to get back to those caseloads
9 where they were. Obviously, there's no growth in the
10 system whatsoever, and so that's going to be the biggest
11 shortfall. Plus 20 to 30 percent cuts to provider rates
12 which, again, is an exceptional item to try to get those,
13 because if we lose the provider base then all of this is
14 what's the point.

15 I mean, that's really the big, I think,
16 discussion going around right now from the Medicaid
17 perspective is trying to restore things back to current to
18 pay for the caseloads because of the loss of all that
19 stimulus money.

20 MS. LANGENDORF: And there's House Bill 309
21 that would kind of go against some of the philosophies of
22 our report. I think there's been trying to be some
23 education on that going on. I understood it to not
24 exactly have been well received, so we'll see what
25 happens.

1 MR. GERBER: That bill sets aside a part of the
2 Tax Credit Program.

3 MS. LANGENDORF: To do assisted living. That
4 can be a tax advantage to a nursing home. Kind of
5 disturbing; not exactly a step forward.

6 MR. GOLD: Well, we have more assisted living
7 than nursing facilities already in existence. It's a well
8 built industry within the State of Texas and the occupancy
9 rate is around 67 percent.

10 MS. LANGENDORF: Sixty-seven percent?

11 MR. GOLD: It's a private pay industry.

12 MR. GERBER: Anything else legislative people
13 would like to share and commiserate about?

14 (General talking and laughter.)

15 MR. GERBER: So we are tentatively set to meet
16 next time on Friday, June 10 at two o'clock. That's a
17 long way away from now.

18 MS. MARGESON: Can we move that up if we're not
19 going to do the committee meetings? Because then it puts
20 those of us who are flying in on like a six-something
21 flight

22 MS. SCHWEICKART: Sure, we can move that up.

23 MR. GOLD: When is the next meeting?

24 MS. SCHWEICKART: Friday, June 10.

25 MR. GERBER: A lifetime away.

1 (General talking and laughter.)

2 MR. GERBER: Well, we will make this tentative,
3 and if folks have other conflicts that become apparent,
4 there's some flexibility on the date. I think we'll all
5 have quite the rollercoaster ride by June 10, and so if it
6 needs to be pushed back a little bit or people have other
7 things, I think we would all be very receptive to it. So
8 keep Ashley abreast of your schedules.

9 Anything else that anyone would like to
10 discuss?

11 MS. SCHWEICKART: Suzanne and I will definitely
12 be in contact with everyone within the next two weeks,
13 because we are setting internal deadlines for those tasks
14 that we have to do that we've started today at the
15 committee meetings. So we'll be in touch.

16 MR. GERBER: Thanks everyone. We're adjourned.

17 (Whereupon, at 2:34 p.m., the meeting was
18 concluded.)

