

# Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services

*Creating choices for elders and adults with disabilities in Seattle-King County*

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www.adsadvisorycouncil.org

## MONTHLY MEETING JULY 13, 2007

### MEMBERS PRESENT

CITY OF SEATTLE	KING COUNTY	UNITED WAY
<input type="checkbox"/> Vacancy	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacancy	<input type="checkbox"/> Midge Levy, Secretary
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barbara Hurst	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacancy	<input type="checkbox"/> Lorna Stone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diane Snell	<input type="checkbox"/> Elsie Erickson	<input type="checkbox"/> Thelma Pegues, Member-At-Large
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Pierre Loebel	<input type="checkbox"/> Silversity Madrazo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Jonathan Wanagat
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Rasmussen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kaylene Moon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Don Moreland, Chair
<input type="checkbox"/> Marie Cook	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rose Finnegan	<input type="checkbox"/> Phil Pitruzzello
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Houston Brown, V- Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Art Mussman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michael Miller
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dr. Robert Gross	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kate Slaminko	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ann Ballard
<input type="checkbox"/> Candace Inagi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cathy	<input type="checkbox"/> Amy Astle-Raaen

**Excused Absence** Marie Cook, Candace Inagi, Elsie Erickson, Silversity Madrazo, Midge Levy, Lorna Stone, Thelma Pegues, Phil Pitruzzello, Amy Astle-Raaen

**Guests** Daphne Tomchak, Will Parry, David Woolf

**ADS Staff** Pamela Piering, Selina Chow, Rosemary Cunningham, Margaret Casey, Marcy Kubbs, Karen Winston, Doug Ricker

**United Way Staff** Linda Woodall

**King County  
Staff**

## MINUTES

**Don Moreland, Chair**, welcomed Advisory Council members and ADS staff to the meeting. He asked those present to introduce themselves.

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In association with the Area Agency on Aging for Seattle-King County and sponsored by:



## **PROGRAM : ROOM AT THE INN? HOUSING FOR TOMORROW'S SENIORS**

**Stephen Norman**, Executive Director, King County Housing Authority (KCHA) and **Tom Tierney**, Executive Director of Seattle Housing Authority (SHA) discussed current housing issues in Seattle-King County and how the aging population may impact housing needs. **Stephen Norman** emphasized the following points:

### Background

Together, SHA and KCHA house 30,000 households in King County. In spite of this support, there is increasing demand for low-income housing and long waitlists for Section 8 housing. At the same time, conversion of rental units to condominiums is causing a net reduction in rental units for those of any income and especially for those of low income. For example, of 65,000 rental units in our area only 300 are affordable to households with incomes 0%-30% of the area's median income.

To complicate matters, the federal government has reduced its funding for low-income housing in recent years increasing the pressure on housing authorities. At the same time, King County has experienced a 6-8% increase in rental costs. As less affordable housing is available in Seattle, individuals of low income have increasingly moved to the outlying county, primarily into South King County. This migration has increased the need for other services such as public transportation in those areas.

### Current and Future Needs

Mr. Norman's thoughts with regard to current and future housing needs in King County included the following:

- Additional affordable housing needs to be created to respond to current and future needs.
- Good planning will be important to adequately house the aging Baby Boomers.
- Questions to be answered in planning for the future include:
  - What level of financial support is needed?
  - What level of support services will need to be associated with the housing?
  - How many households will have annual incomes from \$8,000-10,000?
  - What costs should be picked up by government versus the private sector?
  - What groups should have priority (i.e. homeless, aging population, individuals with disabilities)?

**Tom Tierney** of SHA reiterated a number of points made by Stephen Norman including the decline of federal support for housing, the increase in housing prices and bulge of aging Baby Boomers that will need affordable housing. Points he stressed included:

- There are currently huge numbers of older adults and adults with disabilities with low incomes and their numbers will only swell as the "Boomers" age.
- There are 1,400 older adults eligible for Section 8 housing, housing that lacks supportive services. Of these adults, 650 of them are over 70 years of age.
- The average cost for a single bedroom apartment in Seattle is \$780 a month while the SHA rent subsidy is \$255 for an eligible single person household and \$242 for a two-person household.

### Housing Redevelopments

Partnerships with organizations such as ElderHealth Northwest, ElderPlace and PACE were forged when some low-income housing complexes were redeveloped. These organizations provide supportive services to help older adults and adults with disabilities remain in their homes. These however are small steps. Two challenges include: a) the expectation that people in housing should live independently without additional services and b) the swelling numbers of aging Baby Boomers.

### Summary

In preparing for the housing needs of the aging Baby Boomers, decisions will need to be made on what service models will best support individuals as they age. Since the federal government is currently “missing in action” on the housing front, new strategies will be needed such as seeking a new housing levy or exploring how to use Medicaid differently. In either event, SHA and KCHA will need to work closely with Aging and Disability Services (ADS) to study the issue and coalesce as a community to address future housing needs.

## **BUSINESS MEETING**

### **Minutes**

**Action Taken:** It was moved/seconded and passed that the June 8, 2007 minutes be approved as written.

## **COMMITTEE AND TASK FORCE REPORTS**

### **Seattle City Council**

Councilmember **Tom Rasmussen** reported the Phase II Senior Center Study Report was recently completed. It recommends additional financial support for Senior Centers as well as re-thinking the service model. Councilmember Rasmussen indicated it is appropriate for the Human Services Department and ADS to be involved in future planning and service coordination.

### **Planning & Allocations Committee**

**Rose Finnegan** reported the committee finalized the draft 2008 Discretionary Allocation Recommendations. They include the following in order of priority:

1. Maintain the 2007 allocations and establish a contingency fund of \$30,000
2. Fund an inflationary adjustment with additional revenue and a reduction in Client Specific and Technology funds
3. Should additional funds be available, bring the inflationary adjustment to 3.7% to match the anticipated City inflationary adjustment of 3.7%
4. Restore the 2007 funding reduction made in the Discretionary Case Management Program

**Action Taken:** It was moved/seconded and passed that the Advisory Council accept the Draft Recommendations for 2008 Discretionary Allocations.

These draft recommendations will be presented to the Sponsors at their July 17<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **Outreach and Advocacy / Health Care Task Force**

**Michael Miller** reported on the following activities.

1. The joint committees will review the Area Plan for those objectives with an advocacy focus. The joint committees will narrow those topic areas to three or four and bring to the Advisory Council their recommendation of topics for them to focus on in the coming year.
2. An update on the need for increased Senior Citizens Services Act (SCSA) funding was provided. Advocacy efforts will focus on the need to restore funding to the 1990 level. Talking points will be prepared to assist Advisory Council members when they communicate with their legislators.
3. The committees recommended the Advisory Council support two nutrition-related proposals being considered by the King County Board of Health.

**Action Taken:** It was moved and seconded that the Advisory Council send a letter to the King County Board of Health supporting the following:

- Proposed regulation requiring nutritional information be listed on the menus of chain food restaurants.
- Proposed regulation eliminating the use of trans fats in restaurant food.

The vote was as follows: Yeah – 8 and Nay - 3. The motion carried.

## **Communications Committee**

There was no report.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **October Events**

**Don Moreland** advised members that the annual Statewide Gathering of Advisory Council and State Council on Aging members will be held on October 18<sup>th</sup> in Tukwila. This year W4A will host the event. The following day, October 19<sup>th</sup> will be the Senior Lobby Conference. Members were undecided about whether to cancel the regular October 12<sup>th</sup> Advisory Council meeting. The Nominating Committee was reminded that if the October meeting is canceled, they will need to present their slate of candidates to the Advisory Council at its September 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## **Director's Report**

**Pamela Piering** reported on a number of items including the following:

1. **Housing Authority** – Pam indicated today's presentation on housing was a valuable start to the discussion of how to house the aging Baby Boomers.
2. **Thank You** – Pam thanked Councilmember Tom Rasmussen for all his work in support of older adults. She indicated that the City Councils' discussions on the needs of older adults is the result of Councilmember Rasmussen's efforts.
3. **Washington Area Agency on Aging (W4A)** - Pam has been meeting the last few days with members of W4A. They reviewed the State budget and determined that Area Agencies on Aging (AAA) need a 4% increase in funding for Case Management Programs in order to adequately fund services.
4. **Homecare Services** - In July, 2008, ADS will begin managing contracts with agencies that provide homecare services for individuals with developmental disabilities.
5. **Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC)** – Discussions have begun with the State about the appropriate level of funding to be provided for ADRC.
6. **Area Plan** - A draft of the 2008-2011 Area Plan will be out on July 23, 2007. Pam encouraged Advisory Council members to attend the Area Plan public hearings that are scheduled.
7. **2008 Legislative Goals** – The W4A has determined its Legislative Goals for 2008 are the following:
  - Increase Senior Citizens Services Act (SCSA) funding which lags as the population grows
  - Increase funding for the Respite & Family Caregiver programs that received only half the desired funding last session
  - Increase funding for Chronic Care Management (repeat from last session)
  - Fund ADRC programs
  - Fund Eldercare Alliance items

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 pm.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

**Friday, August 10, 2007**

**Noon – 2:00 p.m.**

**6070 Conference Room**

**Seattle Municipal Tower**

**700 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

**Seattle, WA 98104**

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