

Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services

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

Mailing Address: PO Box 34215, Seattle, WA 98124-4215

Office Address: Seattle Municipal Tower, 700 5th Ave, 51st Floor

Tel: 206-684-0660 TTY: 206-684-0702 FAX: 206-684-0689

www.adsadvisorycouncil.org

MONTHLY MEETING

JULY 8, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT

City of Seattle	King County	United Way
<input type="checkbox"/> Claire Brannan	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mayor David Baker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mary Anderson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Molly Holmes	<input type="checkbox"/> Bev Heyden	<input type="checkbox"/> Marsha Andrews
<input type="checkbox"/> Debra Juarez, Seattle City Council	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carolyn Heersema,	<input type="checkbox"/> Katty Chow
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Kate Miller	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Martenson
<input type="checkbox"/> Kathe Matrone	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Lorna Stone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mac McIntosh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ava Frisinger, SCOA Rep	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sue Weston,
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sue Shaw	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Kathleen Wilcox	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Excused Absence	Claire Brannan, Katty Chow, Kathe Matrone, Kathy Wilcox, Marsha Andrews, Kate Miller, Bev Heyden, Lorna Stone
Guests:	Dave Rogers, Diana Thompson, Helen Sikov
Staff	Gigi Meinig, Lori Sanford, Maria Langlais, Andrea Yip, Irene Stewart, Mary Pat O'Leary, Allison Boll, Angela Miyamoto
Speakers	Judy Kinney, Alex Gramps, Amy Youngblood
United Way Staff	
King County Staff	Linda Wells
City of Seattle	Maria Langlais

Welcome and Introductions – Molly Holmes

Advisory Council Program: It Takes a Village to Age in Place

Amy Youngblood, Membership Coordinator, Wider Horizons Village described the “Village” movement not as a place but a strategy for aging in place. Villages build community, connect members to services and reduce isolation. In 2002, the Beacon Hill Village in Boston became the first village. It used a community organizing model rather than a social services model to bring neighbors together. Since then most villages begin the same way with neighbors meeting to discuss how they can help each other age in place. Currently there are 190 villages operating in the US, Canada, Australia and the Netherlands with 150 in development.

Each Village is unique driven by members’ desires and needs. However, there are some common features:

- Funded by membership fees, donations and grants.
- Governed by non-profit boards.
- Supported by a small paid staff.
- Structured to provide services *such as* transportation, pet care, home repair, social and fitness programs.

Wider Horizons serves Downtown Seattle, Eastlake, Capitol Hill, Mount Baker and the Central Area. Its geographic location encompasses dense urban population, a wide range of incomes and ethnicities, sexual orientations and gender identities. Horizon House was the catalyst for the development of Wider Horizons and it provided the initial funding. It took two years to develop into a non-profit organization with a 10 member board. The median age of participants is 70 but they serve a wide range ages. Costs vary from village to village. Wider Horizons membership fee is \$600 per year (discounted memberships are available based on need) which pays for 1.34 FTEs. Staffing is maximized by using UW interns and volunteers. They receive no government funding but accept sponsorships and donations.

Wider Horizons is guided by the following key principals:

- Community engagement.
- High quality member services
- Inclusion and connectedness
- Intergenerational relationships
- Member participation
- Give what you want; ask for what you need.

Villages in Seattle do not complete instead they each are assigned to a separate geographic area. Each offers a different payment structure, services and programs. The models vary some are connected to senior centers other are grassroots nonprofit organizations.

Alex Gramps, Phinney Neighborhood Association (PNA) Village

Alex Gramps is the interim PNA Village Director and Membership Manager. According to Alex “Asking for help does not make you helpless instead it empowers you to take charge of aging”. The PNA Village is a unique program within the Greenwood Senior Center which is under the umbrella of the Phinney Neighborhood Association (PNA). In 1980 Phinney neighbors created a neighborhood organization to support the community’s needs. At the time their focus was on child care. In 2006 the Greenwood Senior Center merged with PNA giving PNA an opportunity to serve a wide age span and offer activities to all age groups.

The PNA umbrella gave the PNA Village financial & administrative support which kept membership and staffing costs low. The membership fee is \$300 per year for an individual and \$576 per year per household with 110 discounted members who pay on a sliding scale fee. The membership fee supports two part-time staff members. Like most villages the organization uses interns and volunteers (47) to connect the 300 members to services, handle data entry and other important tasks. Vendors provide professional paid services to members. Alex stressed new ideas are continually generated by PNA village members. Their Vision is to expand the Village models throughout the City of Seattle. For toolkit starter kit click the link to Village to Village Network <http://vtvnetwork.org/>.

Judy Kinney, NEST

Judy Kinney, is the Executive Director of North East Seattle Together or “NEST. The NEST Village began February of 2012. The initial 25 founding members raised \$100,000 in the first two years and they are still key advisors who continue to bring expertise from lessons learned during the initial pilot project.

It’s been almost 5 years since NEST began. Their yearly budget is now \$200,000 which includes revenue from dues (50%), donations (30%), foundations and sponsors (20%). The 181 members pay \$300, \$600 or \$900 per year. The budget supports 2.5 FTE staff. NEST uses AmeriCorps volunteers, student interns, and community volunteers. Vendors fill 200 requests a month for professional services. Their key to success is staff communication and community outreach. New programs are initiated by members and include everything from afternoon walks to movies. Since Villages don’t compete, instead they exchange ideas with each other to make the village model more effective.

Question: Are there Villages outside of Seattle?

Answer: Yes, Tacoma, Bellingham, Bainbridge, Methow Valley. Villages continue to develop in other areas of the State.

Question: Are you able to fill all the requests?

Answer: NEST set a goal to fill 95% of requests. They have exceeded their goal and fill 98% of all requests. Their success is attributed to reliable volunteers, vendors and staff who understand the difference between a neighborly volunteer request and the need for a professional.

Question: What is the age range?

Answer: Members range in age from 30 to 95 years with the majority of members in the 75 – 85 year old bracket.

Question: Do the memberships reflect the community?

Answer: Villages – most definitely reflect community, ethnicity, class, race, sexual orientation and other characteristics.

Question: How do volunteers help the organization?

Answer: Volunteers help the organization evolve by offering more choices based on their diverse skills and expertise. Intergenerational programs bring together high school age volunteers (who receive credit for volunteering) and members. No one grows old alone and people remain independent longer.

Question: Do all villages launch?

Answer: Some villages don't launch for a number of reasons. Some are frightened of liability. Part of administering a village is to screen volunteers, and vendors to make sure they are insured and don't have criminal backgrounds.

Question: What are the biggest challenges during the planning process?

Answer: There is a need for a core group of "doers" who make or break the planning phase and start-up process. Other important issues include community/neighborhood readiness, money in the bank, a plan, and the ability to do grassroots outreach to churches and community organizations.

Question: Are nonmembers served?

Answer: It varies, all three villages are open to making limited referrals especially if the caller is in a crisis situation. Callers are viewed as potential members and are encouraged to fill out an application.

Helen Sikov is one of the leaders involved in the development of the West Seattle village called Westside Neighbors Network. She gave a brief update about the progress of the village. The Westside Neighbors Network began their outreach through blogs, house parties, speaking engagements, and regular monthly meetings in which 20-30 people attend. A timeline has been developed to complete the launch, generate enthusiasm and create community connections. The group takes opportunities to reach young people who want to help their community. For more information click the link: <http://www.westsideneighborsnetwork.org/>

Advisory Council Business Meeting

Nominating Committee

Molly Holmes announced that Sue Shaw, Mary Anderson and Bev Heyden agreed to serve as the Nominating Committee for 2017. Molly asked for a vote the slate was unanimously approved.

Minutes were approved as written

Sponsors reports:

King County

- Linda Wells thanked the Advisory Council for their ideas, comments, and questions on the MIDD. Especially helpful were their suggestions about older adults.
- King County staff assigned to the Veterans and Human Services Levy developed a proposal for approval by the King County Executive and the Council. King County residents will have the opportunity to vote on the initiative next year.
- King County's initial 2017-18 budget will be out during the first week of September.

United Way no report.

P&A committee

Did not meet in July. Next meeting will be held August 1

Communication Committee

On August 12, 2016 the Advisory Council will meet at the SHAG Interurban Building – 14002 Linden Avenue North, Seattle, WA to participate in a listening session with Rep Cindy Ryu from the 32nd district. Seattle City Councilmember Debora Juarez will also attend.

The September 9, 2016 Advisory Council meeting will be held at the Seattle Municipal Tower. The speaker, Andy Nichols, Associate Director Fiscal Policy at the Washington Budget and Policy Center will give an overview of the current Washington state budget situation, needed improvements and will provide advocacy ideas the Advisory Council can use to frame the issues during meetings with legislators. Andy specializes in state budget and tax policy and has served on a legislative Task Force on Tax Reform. He has conducted a thorough analyses of Washington's tax structure.

Advocacy Committee

David Baker reported

- The committee finalized their State Legislative priorities in preparation for the Listening session with Rep. Ryu on August 12. The 2-sided flyer will include high level priorities and 3-4 detailed legislative asks.
- A **motion was made and passed** to send a letter to Patty Murray on behalf of the Aging and Disability Service Advisory Council. The letter asks congress to amend the ADA to require hearing loop installations in federally funded public address systems.(e.g., public transit or facilities).
- The Social Security resolution endorsed by the Advisory Council in partnership with PSARA was passed by the Seattle City Council. PSARA will present a second resolution to the King County Council later in the year.

SCOA report from Ava

Ava Frisinger reported hearing about Guardianship issues from a panel that included representatives of the Office of Public Guardian, Washington Association of Professional Guardians, and Adult Protective Services. David Lord, Disability Rights Washington provided written information. The discussion highlighted the need for supported decision making, the under-resourcing of public guardianship, the use lay guardians to increase quality and efficiency.

Proposed 2017 SCOA Legislative Priorities are:

National issues

- Advocate for increased funding for the OAA
- Advocate for "improving Access to Medicare Coverage Act of 2015", HR 1571/S843

State Issues

- Support continued development of the State's Alzheimer's Disease Plan by backing the State Workgroup recommendations and implementation.
- Monitor and support the activities of the Joint Legislative Executive on Aging and Disabilities (JLEC) by advocating for continuation of JLEC, for another biennium and/or by establishing it as a standing committee of the Legislature.
- Advocate for added funding to the Office of Public Guardianship (OPG) to broaden the decision-making services of the OPG to provide a comprehensive range of assistance from agents for power of attorneys, representative payees, and trustees, in addition to guardians.
- Support (HB 2401 and 2402) which will give family members access to incapacitated family through visitation and other means.
- Decrease client staffing ratios by increasing staffing for AAA Medicaid Case Management
- Ava will attend the next Senior Lobby meeting and JLEC hearing on July 18.

Northwest Universal Design Council

Tom Minty reported the Northwest Universal Design Council will sponsor a forum on “Accessible Travel and Tourism” on Monday, August 15, from 9-11 AM at the Bertha Knight Landes reception room at Seattle City Hall (600 4th Avenue, between Cherry & James Streets). This is an opportunity for businesses and tourists to learn more about Americans with Disabilities Act regulations that will ensure a positive experience for travelers.

Five Presenters include:

- Patt Copeland, Vision Loss Connections and Seattle Commission for People with disAbilities
- Steve Lewis, Alliance for People with Disabilities and Seattle Commission for People with disAbilities
- Peggy Martinez, Creative Inclusion
- Jim Parsons, Wheelchair Jimmy
- Michael Richardson, Northwest ADA Center

The forum is free and open to the public. Reservations are encouraged so adequate seating and beverage service can be arranged. RSVP at www.surveymonkey.com/r/NWUDC-Aug15-RSVP.
http://www.environmentsforall.org/files/2016/07/TravelAndTourismForAll_08151-3.pdf

Directors’ report

1. The ADS Case management program is taking part in two new programs:
 - Collaboration between ADS Case Management, Adult Protective Services and first responders to improve the identification and reporting of vulnerable adult abuse and neglect. It is hoped the pilot will increase care coordination and communication among involved agencies, and improve health outcomes of vulnerable adults in Seattle, and King County.
 - The Low Acuity Risk Program helps identify and address inappropriate 911 calls. The calls may include requests to “feed my cat”, “help me dress”, or frequent falls. The pilot will focus on the downtown core. Staff and individual patients will participate in the program.

2. Age friendly communities

Seattle Mayor Murray and his staff are pursuing the designation of an Age Friendly City. The City of Puyallup already received their designation. A stakeholders group has been formed to pursue the designation. Maria attends regularly.

3. Community events

- ADS sponsored a Professional Development Day for providers. Staff received positive feedback after the event.
- Care Transitions Conference led by Irene and ADS staff was a huge success. ADS received 247 reservations. A committee made up of community members collaborated with hospitals and providers to make this event a success. Care transitions is a process in which hospitals and community providers coordinate to improve the quality of health care patients receive after they are discharged from the hospital. Good coordination between the hospital and home lowers the cost of patient care and assures patients do not return to the hospital.

- Better With Age forum sponsored by the Heathy Aging Partnership (HAP) was an opportunity to hear fresh perspectives on aging from four presenters:
 - Kavan Peterson, “Restraining Aging”
 - Debbie Carlsen, “Addressing LGBTQ Intergenerational Social Isolation”
 - Dr. Kristoffer Rhoads “Dementia-focused Community Programs”
 - Dori Gillam, “I’ve Never Been this Age Before”

4. Interlocal agreement

The Interlocal agreement outlines roles of sponsors & responsibilities of each sponsor. In 2011 the Advisory Council formed task force to recommend updates to the agreement. A few months ago the Sponsors began the process of analyzing the document. Maria will keep Advisory Council members apprised as the review process continues.

Announcements:

- Tony Provine recently resigned from the Advisory Council to move to California. A motion was made and passed to send him an appreciation letter.

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING:
Listening Session with Representative Ryu
SHAG Interurban Building
14002 Linden Ave N Seattle, 98133
August 12, 2016, 11:45 – 2:00 PM
Seattle, WA**

<http://www.agingkingcounty.org/advisory-council/>