Advisory Council on
Aging and Disability Services

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

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MONTHLY MEETING
AUGUST 8, 2014
MEMBERS PRESENT

City of Seattle	King County	United Way
☐ Claire Brannan	☒ Dr. Natalie Ellington,	☒ Mary Anderson
☒ Molly Holmes	☒ Kris Fredrickson,	☒ Katty Chow
☐ Sally Clark, Sea City Council	☒ Ava Frisinger, Former Mayor, Issaquah	☒ George Dicks
☒ Tony Provine, Chair	☒ Dave Rogers, Senior Lobby Rep, SCOA	☒ Timmie Faghin, Past Chair
☐ Kathe Matrone	☒ Berta Seltzer,	☒ Tom Minty
☒ Mac McIntosh	☒ Suzanne Pak	☐ Dr. Elizabeth Phelan
☒ Sue Shaw	☒ Bev Heyden	☒ Lorna Stone
☒ Diane Snell, Past Chair	☐	☐

Excused Absence	Dr. Elizabeth Phelan, Kathe Matrone, Claire Brannan,
Guests:	LaTonya Brown, Eric Martenson, Bo Du, Sue Winters, Jessica Shew, Mattie Taplin, Jason Johnson, Janet Zielasko, Maria, Guzar, Scott Ninneman
Speakers	• Mark Putnam, Committee to End Homelessness • Todd Burley, Seattle Office of Housing
Staff	Gigi Meinig, Karen Winston, Andrea Yip, Angela Miyamoto, Jane Crum
United Way Staff	Linda Woodall
King County Staff	Linda Wells
City of Seattle	Maureen Linehan

Welcome and Introductions:

Tony Provine, Chair, welcomed Advisory Council members and ADS staff to the meeting. He asked those present to introduce themselves.

Tony Provine introduced John Okamoto, the new HSD interim Director. He comes to HSD with an extensive background in government and nonprofits. John has a long track record of successful leadership positions, and is well known by community, public and business leaders. His extensive management experience includes leadership positions with the Port of Seattle, the Washington

State Department of Transportation, Director of the former Department of Engineering and former Director of Personnel for the City of Seattle.

He began his career in public service in the Human Services Department many decades ago as a summer youth worker, job developer, and counselor. His family has deep history in elder care programs with the creation of Keiro nursing home, the Midori senior housing and Nikkei Manor assisted living facility. He stressed the importance of reaching out to the nonprofit service provider community and other external stakeholders to make sure his leadership is informed by their insights and perspectives.

Program Update on Housing and Homelessness

Mark Putnam, Director of the Committee to End Homelessness (CEH) in King County described CEH as a broad coalition of government, business, faith communities, nonprofits, and homeless advocates working together to end homelessness in Seattle/King County.

He gave an update on the status of the "Ten-Year Plan to end Homelessness" and stressed a regional approach is essential. While homelessness continues to be an issue, 36,000 people have received permanent housing during the CEH 9 year mission. The data collected show 87% of individuals experiencing homelessness are from King County. They are truly our neighbors. Ten percent are from other counties in Washington State and only 3% are from other States.

The CEH has learned a great deal about what ends homelessness. New strategies are emerging to make homelessness a rare, brief and one-time occurrence. Since 2005, CEH has increased resources for people experiencing homelessness. King County now has the third highest housing stock in the country. Only New York and Los Angeles have more housing. King County's housing stock includes emergency shelters, transitional housing, rapid re-housing, and permanent housing with supports. CEH has created several strategies to make homelessness rare. Most important is to divert people from entering shelters through a variety of options including short-term assistance, conflict resolution with landlords, shared housing and financial assistance all of which keep people in their communities.

Shortening the length of time families and individuals are homeless reduces the trauma to individuals and families and increases the capacity of the crisis response system. In 2013 the average length of stay in the housing crisis system was 141 days. The CEH goal is to reduce that number to 20 days by using a Rapid Re-housing (RRH) approach. RRH provides housing search, move-in costs, employment training, and short-term rental assistance. Already the average length of stay for families in shelters is down to 139 days and 38 days for families taking part in the RRH pilot project. Another strategy prioritizes those who have been stuck in shelters the longest (180 days or more) – mostly older men with a median age of 56. Long-term shelter stays make up 26% of shelter users but consume 74% of shelter bed nights.   Housing these individuals frees up capacity. In 2013, 15,300 bed nights were freed up.

In 2013, approximately 50% of homeless individuals experienced homelessness for the first time. CEH set a goal to make homelessness a one-time occurrence with no more than a 5% return to homelessness.   A variety of approaches are used including employment training (career counseling, and job training), and a Landlord Liaison project in which landlords agree to use alternative screening criteria for applicants in exchange for access to a 24 hour call line, and risk reduction funds. Tenants receive case management to ensure stability.

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Once people are moved to permanent housing, CEH strategies work to assure they do not become homeless again. To make homelessness rare, brief and one time there must be enough housing and effective supports to stabilize people in their homes.

Todd Burley the Communications Director for the Seattle Office of Housing, gave an update on what the City of Seattle funds to keep people in their homes and avoid homelessness. The Office of Housing works closely with the CEH. The Seattle Office of Housing is aware many households are severely cost burdened which means many people pay more than 50% of their income in housing related costs. This trend is a result of the tight housing market making affordable housing difficult to find. This is especially burdensome for people with the lowest incomes or people on fixed incomes. The City of Seattle offers assistance through many programs.

The Multifamily Property Tax Exemption (MFTE) Program provides a tax exemption for landlords making residential improvements on multifamily projects in exchange for setting aside 20% of the units for moderate-wage workers.

Down Payment Assistance Program through the Office of Housing provides up to $45,000 per household in down payment assistance to lower-income buyers through partnerships with local nonprofits and lending institutions. Seattle's partners use Office of Housing funds in their programs to create affordable homeownership opportunities in Seattle.

The Seattle Foreclosure Prevention Program helps homeowners avoid default and work out repayment plans in order to stay in their homes, or gain enough time to sell their homes on their own terms. The program provides financial and mortgage counseling, assistance in working with lenders and stabilization loans of up to $5,000 and is administered by non-profit partner organizations.

The Home Repair Loan program provides loans to repair owner-occupied, single family homes with low- to moderate-income households.

Free Weatherization services are available to Seattle homeowners and rental property owners if they meet income qualifications. Work includes: Energy Audits, Sealing cracks, Insulation, Weather-stripping, Window caulking, venting.

Housing Levy bond approved in 1981 has resulted in four levies which created 10,000 affordable apartments for low and moderate wage workers, former homeless individuals and seniors. There are five programs including: Rental Production & Preservation, Operating & Maintenance Fund, Rental Assistance, Homebuyer Assistance, Acquisition & Opportunity Loan Fund.

Business Meeting

Minutes: Approved as written.

Welcome and Introductions: Tony Provine, Chair**,** welcomed Advisory Council members, guests, and John Okamoto, the new HSD Interim Director to the meeting.

P&A Committee
Berta Seltzer reported there was no meeting this month. The allocation recommendations were approved and Karen Winston was thanked for reporting at the previous meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 8.

Bid Process update
Angela Miyamoto, ADS staff gave an update on two RFI bid processes.
1. Family Caregiver Support Program (FCSP) helps unpaid caregivers of adults age 18 and older. By helping to reduce caregiver stress, the program enables care receivers to remain at home and independent.
2. Community Living Connections formerly called the Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRC) - an expansion of the Information and Assistance (I&A) Program.

ADS is in the early planning stages of the bid process and will begin gathering feedback from the community through various engagement activities.   Including:
- Conversing with older adults at community and senior centers.
- Asking for feedback from I&A, Family Caregiver Support, and Nutrition providers
- Requesting information from Directors and staff at Disability Organizations
- Interviewing key stakeholders (Mayor's Council on African American Elders, African American Elders Program, Deaf-Blind Service Center, Hearing Speech and Deafness Center, Family centers)

Angela asked for feedback to help refine the community engagement process and inform the bid process. She will email the draft questions to Advisory Council members for comments.

United Way Liaison Report
No report

King County Liaison Report
No Report

Communication Committee
Natalie Ellington reported the next community forum will be held on Vashon Island. The Committee is also providing input for the upcoming Legislative Forums on September 19 at the Tukwila Community Center and September 29 at the North Bellevue Senior and Community Center.

Advocacy Committee
The Advocacy reviewed talking points for the upcoming one-on-one meetings with legislators. They made a decision to give a high level overview of the agewave and services needed for older adults to remain independent. For legislators already familiar with health and aging services, a more detailed discussion would be appropriate. They will use the flyer "Preparing for the Age Wave" developed by the P&A Committee which includes both statistics on the increased population over 60 and a description of services.

Regionalism Committee
Ava Frisinger reported Aging and Disability Service and the Advisory Council's ad hoc committee on regionalism is re-examining how to communicate the Agewave to municipalities and collaborate across municipal borders.

The Committee identified 15 cities and several community organizations in which to make connections. The committee will prioritize cities beginning with those having the largest percentage of people over 60 years of age.

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They will begin by creating a human service inventory of the 15 jurisdictions and plan to write a letter to mayors, with copies to city councils, human service commissions and staff to notify them about the inventory.

A second letter will be send to Planning Commissions requesting they place information about the change in demographics for the 60+ population in COMP plans. The Committee asked to see the letter before forwarding it to cities.

Cathy VonWald is no longer able to continue serving on the ad hoc committee but suggested Alex O'Reilly replace her.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, September 9 at 11 AM, probably at Bellevue City Hall.

Disability Commission
Sue Shaw reported 60% of cases referred to the Office of Civil Rights are ADA issues.
Several new Disability Commission members are affiliated with the University of Washington.
Their background will help the commission develop surveys and statistical information.

Bruce Harrell and a representative from the Mayor's Office presented information about the $15 per hour wage waiver for people with disabilities. The Disability Commission is concerned this may result in people with disabilities receiving lower wages. The commission will study this complex issue further and make recommendations.

Legislative Forums
The Advisory Council will host two King County Legislative Forums scheduled for
- Monday, September 29 at the North Bellevue Community and Senior Center
- Friday, September 19 at the Tukwila Community Center

Transportation
Diane Snell expressed concern about bus route cuts. While an initiative will be on the ballot in November, the City needs to find alternate ways to buy back at least some of the cuts so routes are not cut completely. Alternative methods should be explored by municipalities such as:
- Institute a parking tax
- Extend parking payment hours
- Expand paid parking to more areas
- Increase the cost of parking in high demand areas
- Employee head tax

Diane encouraged small businesses in her area to come together to write a letter expressing concern for their employees and customers.

Housing incentive Zoning Petition
Tony asked Gigi to send the Advisory Council the housing zoning petition link
http://www.growingtogetherseattle.org/ which includes creating affordable housing for low and modest wage workers; Requires residential and commercial development to contribute toward solving affordable housing needs; Promotes on-site development of affordable homes within market-rate developments; Promotes urban density needed to grow sustainably and take advantage of public transit investments.

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<u>Update on Squire Park</u>
Diane reported the Squire Park low income housing building was sold to Capitol Hill Housing
They will accept people making up to 60% of the median income.

SCOA
Diane reported there was no meeting.

Director's Report
1. Maureen reported the senior center bid process has been released. She talked about the opportunity to use an outcome framework during this bid process.   Information sessions have already been completed.

2. Irene Stewart is working with the city clerk to install hearing devices in the City of Seattle council chambers.

3. Maureen is developing a report for the City Council about the *Regionalism Statement of Legislative Intent* (SLI). The report is due in September.   Part of the SLI is to identify funding from other sources in King County for Aging Services.

4. The White House Conference on Aging will be held in 2015. The Older Americans Act will turn 50 and ADS 25.

5. The Alzheimer's Association will host several Town Halls. This is an opportunity for the community to learn about services and supports available and provide input about local needs and challenges. Schedule for the Puget Sound Area as follows:
   Friday, August 8, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, Tukwila Community Center
   Friday, August 15, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, St. Joseph Parish Hall
   Friday, August 22, 6:00 – 8:00 PM, Issaquah Swedish Hospital
For more information contact Hailey Thomassen at 206-529-3882, or hthomassen@alz.org

Northwest Universal Design Council
Tom Minty gave a presentation to the Bellevue Network on Aging, which was well received.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:
September 12, 2014, 11:15 AM
George, Dicks, Geriatric Mental Health Specialist, Harborview
Movie: <u>The Forgetting: A Portrait of Alzheimer's</u>
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8-8-2014 minutes Advisory Council