

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

DECEMBER 12, 2014

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

Excused Absence	Dr. Elizabeth Phelan, Kathe Matrone, Bev Heyden, Sally Clark, George Dicks
Guests:	LaTonya Brown, Kate Miller, Ginger delos Angeles, Marsha Andrews, Donna Allis
Staff	Gigi Meinig, Karen Winston, Andrea Yip, Lori Sanford, Mary Pat O'Leary, Maree , Irene Stewart
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.

Holiday Meeting

Committee Accomplishments

NW Universal Design: Tom Minty, Liaison, NW Universal Design Council, gave a summary of their 2014 events.

1. January: “Remodeling for Accessibility”.
2. April: “Universal Design: Applications in Education”.
3. July: “The Upside Risk of Aging in Place: How to Live Happily Ever After at Home”.
4. September: Seattle Design Festival Workshop - “Community Mobility & Universal Design”.
5. October: “Home Modifications for Successful Aging in Place”.
6. Outreach presentations:
 - a. Building Industry Association of Washington Age 50+/Accessible Housing Council, Olympia (Scott Starr & Tom Minty).
 - b. Seattle Mayor’s Office for Senior Citizens Senior Coffee Hour (Tom Minty).
 - c. Rotary Club of West Seattle (Tom Minty).

Other Accomplishments included a collaboration between the NWUDC and BIAW to review the “Practical Guide to Universal Home Design,” produced in Minneapolis-St. Paul by a coalition that includes the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging. The NW Universal Design Council received tentative approval to reprint their booklet.

Planning & Allocations Committee, Berta Seltzer, Chair, Planning and Allocations Committee
Allocations Committee members: Berta Seltzer, Bev Heyden, Timmie Faghin, Kathe Matrone, Dr. Elizabeth Phelan, Tony Provine.

The primary purpose of the P&A committee is to develop recommendations to send to the Sponsors about the development of the Area Plan and Discretionary funding. The P&A committee members are the eyes and ears of the community and stay informed of relevant information that impacts older people and adults with disabilities. Below are the highlights:

1. Developed and finalized 2014 and 2015 discretionary funding allocation recommendations, using feedback gathered by hosting two public hearings.
2. Assisted with the development of the ADS Regional Partnership. In 2014 the City of Seattle appropriated \$225,000 one-time only funding to backfill federal sequestration and DSHS reductions. As part of the funding package, the City Council requested that HSD/ADS pursue regional partnerships and funding for older adult services; and 2) develop a policy to ensure future City investments do not inadvertently subsidize non-Seattle residents in King County. P&A Committee members assisted with the process by:
 - a) Reviewing county demographic data.
 - b) Targeting specific suburban cities to begin partnerships.
 - c) Assisting in the development of regionalism talking points.
 - d) Assisting in the development of a brochure about “Preparing for the Age Wave”
 - e) Conducting briefings with elected officials and attending regional Human Services Council meetings
 - f) Researching funding cycles and processes for major suburban cities

3. Hearing briefings about the King County Veterans and Human Services Levy, the 2015 procurement processes for Community Living Connections (CLC) and Family Caregiver Information and Support (FCIS).

Advocacy Committee, Diane Snell, Chair, Advocacy

Advocacy Committee Members: Diane Snell, Ava Frisinger, Tony Provine, Dave Rogers Molly Holmes, Sue Shaw, Mac McIntosh, George Dicks, Lorna Stone, Kris Fredrickson, Mary Anderson, Timmie Faghin, Diana Thompson and Eric Martenson.

Diane Snell gave an overview of the 2014 accomplishments:

1. Participated in a successful Senior Lobby Day. Nine Advocacy Committee Members met on-on-one with 19 elected officials and their aides in Olympia.
2. Legislative Action:
 - a. Met on-on-one with 10 legislators during the off legislative season (Rep Chad Magendanz, Rep Mia Gregerson, Rep Tina Orwall, Rep Eileen Cody, Sen Sharon Nelson, Speaker Frank Chopp, Rep Jerry Pollet, Sen David Frockt, Rep Ross Hunter, and Brady Walkinshaw).
 - b. Met with Congressman Dave Reichert and sent a follow-up letter asking him to support funding to all Older Americans Act (OAA) programs, provide adequate resources for Medicare Part D enrollment assistance, provide funding to the Elder Justice Act, and allocate funding for prevention and public health to fund aging evidence-based programs.
3. Sent letters on behalf of the Advisory Council to:
 - a. The Seattle City Council regarding the restoration of funding to the Urban Rest Stop Program which offers basic hygiene and laundry services to the homeless.
 - b. Suburban City Planning Commissions urging them to include demographic information and infrastructure supporting older adults in their comprehensive plans.
 - c. Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell asking them to support the repeal of Medicare's "doctor fix". The provision reduces the pay doctors receive from Medicare.
4. Planned two legislative forums (Eastside & Tukwila) in collaboration with the Outreach & Communication Committee, Bellevue Network on Aging, and Kirkland Senior Council. Over 60 people attended each forum and a total of 18 candidates spoke.
5. Ongoing Advocacy issues
 - a. Ava and Berta Seltzer chaired a Regionalism Task Force to elevate the regionalism conversation to elected officials. During meetings with elected officials they plan to provide information about the age wave, the value of Area Agency services, and budget challenges.
 - b. Sue Shaw regularly attends the Seattle Disability Services Commission and brings the Advocacy Committee up to date on their activities and how their priorities intersect with the Advisory Council.
 - c. The Advisory Council is lending support to the Bellevue Network on Aging and Kirkland Senior Council on their efforts to bring awareness about the Medicare Observation loophole - a gap in Medicare funding when seniors are hospitalized but not admitted. The patient becomes responsible for the hospital bill which can be thousands of dollars.

6. Education and guest speakers:
 - a. Ben Miksch, Affordable Housing Policy and Advocacy Specialist, Washington State Low Income Housing Alliance spoke about the loss of funds for the housing trust fund.
 - b. Sharon Lee, Executive Director, Low Income Housing Institute and Katie Porter, Housing Developer, Capitol Hill Housing stressed the importance of affordable housing.

State Council on Aging

Diane also spoke about her role on the State Council on Aging (SCOA) which is an advisory council to the Governor, the Secretary of Social and Health Services, and the State Unit on Aging. The role of the SCOA includes:

1. Serving in an advisory capacity on policies, programs, and services affecting older persons;
2. Creating public awareness about the special needs and the potential of older persons;
3. Providing training, through workshops and conferences etc.

Outreach and Communications Committee, Dr. Natalie Ellington, Chair Outreach & Communications Committee

Outreach and Communications Committee members: George Dicks, Katty Chow, Dave Rogers, Claire Brannan, and Suzanne Pak

1. The Communication Committee developed a successful formula which included:
 - a. Partnering with local organizations such as senior centers, churches, human service and advocacy organizations.
 - b. Providing food (or a food stipend).
 - c. Arranging for speakers of interest to the community and resource tables.

2. Educational community forums:

March – Central Area Senior Center, attendance 89

Topic: Dementia/Alzheimer’s Disease

Speakers: Bob LeRoy, Director, Western and Central Washington State Chapter of the Alzheimer’s Association, and Mari Becker, from Seattle Parks and Recreation

May: ICHS International District, attendance 35-40

Topic: Providing health care to underserved populations.

Speakers: Michael McKee, M.Ed., Director of Health Srvs and Community Partnerships, ICHS, Dorothy Wong, Executive Director Chinese Information and Service Center, and George Dicks, Supervisor, Geriatric Psychiatric Services, Harborview Medical Center.

July: Kent Senior Center, attendance 130

Topic: Health Care Insurance – Updates

Speakers: Senator Karen Keiser – 33rd District and Liz Mercer – Washington State Office of the Insurance Commissioner.

September: Vashon Island (Vashon Presbyterian Church in coordination with the Vashon Social Service Network and Vashon Senior Center), attendance 105

Topic: Overview types and causes of memory loss & dementia with excerpts from the Film “*The Forgetting: A Portrait of Alzheimer’s disease*”

Speaker: George Dicks, Geriatric Mental Health Practitioner, Harborview

3. Educational Programs in the Tower:
 - February:** Dementia and Alzheimer's,
Speaker: Bob LeRoy
 - April** Senior Centers: The Next Generation
Speakers: King County and City of Seattle Senior Center Directors
 - June:** Film: Place at the Table –One Nation. Underfed showed *how* hunger poses serious economic, social and cultural implications for our nation, and that it can be solved.
 - August:** Housing: Update on the Committee to End Homelessness strategies
Speakers: Mark Putnam, Director, Committee to End Homelessness, and Todd Burley, Communications Director, City of Seattle Office of Housing

Recognition 2014 Committee Officers, Chairs, Liaisons,

1. Tony Provine, Chair of the Advisory Council
2. Dave Rogers, Vice Chair
3. Molly Holmes, Secretary
4. Suzanne Pak, At Large
5. Tom Minty, NW Universal Design Liaison
6. Diane Snell/Dave Rogers, State Council on Aging
7. Berta Seltzer, Chair Planning and Allocations
8. Diane Snell, Chair Advocacy Committee
9. Natalie Ellington, Chair Outreach and Communications Committee

Looking ahead: Tony Provine & Ava Frisinger passed the gavel

Introduction of New Officers and Committee Chairs

Officers

Ava Frisinger, Chair
Suzanne Pak, V Chair
Sue Shaw, Secretary
Tom Minty, At Large

Committee Chairs

Mac McIntosh, Advocacy
Berta Seltzer, P&A
Claire Brannan & Suzanne Pak Outreach & Communications

Farewell to Retiring members:

1. Diane Snell – City
2. Dr. Natalie Ellington – King County
3. Katty Chow – United Way
4. Timmie Faghin – United Way

Sponsors: 2015 Challenges & Opportunities

John Okamoto, Interim Director, City of Seattle Human Services Department

John gave his appreciation to the retiring and continuing Advisory Council members. He expressed optimism about opportunities ahead as a result of society's shift to an aging population which will result in greater cultural complexity, additional challenges, and needed changes in federal and state regulations. According to John, providers have already begun to develop new relationships and experience different consumer choices as a result of the Affordable Care Act. He is concerned government will face budget challenges in order to continue providing the same level of services with fewer dollars, and funding mandates faced by the state legislature to balance the budget and comply with court decisions such as the McLeary act. This could affect, AAAs as they continue to sustain case management services due to a flat reimbursement rate. He praised Mayor Murray's recent initiatives including raising the minimum wage to \$15 an hour, expansion of the utility discount program and other programs benefiting the most vulnerable.

Theresa Fujiwara, Associate VP, Community Services, United Way reported United Way's yearly budget is approximately \$30 million. Based on recent trends, that number continues to shrink. Funds targeting older adult programs are allocated from a small flexible fund source in which several wellness programs for older adults are funded. Theresa discussed the renewal of United Way's five year plan and its focus on basic needs (including hunger), homelessness, early learning, employment, and opportunities for youth. Theresa said she appreciated the dedicated work of the Advisory Council and encouraged them to continue their good work.

Question and Answer

Question: What is the status of the Sponsor's inter-local agreement and the Advisory Council's previous recommendations? Is there an initiative to include additional sponsors from suburban cities?

Answer: The Sponsors agreed the document needs to be updated. It's a good legislative exercise. Theresa followed up by asking what the vision of success is and what the Sponsors' expectations for outcomes are.

Question: United Way's current priority appears to be on youth. Are there any plans given the population shift to include more funding for seniors?

Answer: Theresa suggested the Advisory Council and other advocacy groups determine their most important priorities and take the opportunity to weigh in on conversations during the 5 year local planning process.

Question: Currently King County is focused on younger vets. Will the 2017 Levy place a greater emphasis on older vets?

Answer: The current levy allocated funds to the PEARLS project for older adults. The next levy is an opportunity to look at any new specifics related to the older adult population since older vets are the fastest growing segment of veteran population.

Question: In planning for the 2017 King County Levy how will gaps in services be determined?

Answer: Planning for the prior levy looked at the goals and service gaps to determine what needed to continue and what gaps should be filled. This could an opportunity for the Advisory Council to Advocate for seniors and people with disabilities.

Announcements:

1. The Advisory Council Retreat will be held on Friday, January 9, from 9-2:00 at the Tukwila Community Center 12424 42nd Ave S, Tukwila, WA 98168. They will have the opportunity to preview the ADS History project video. (Note: The premier screening will be held on Thursday, February 19 from 10-Noon in the Bertha Landes Room.)
2. Senior Lobby Day will be held on Thursday, February 26, 2015.

Advisory Council
NEXT REGULAR MEETING:
Friday, February 13, 2015
Seattle Municipal Tower
700 5th Ave, Suite 4060
Noon – 2:00 PM
www.adsadvisorycouncil.org

