Welcome and Introductions – Molly Holmes
Advisory Council Program:
City of Seattle and King County Affordable Housing Strategies

City of Seattle Strategies:
Maureen Kostyak works in the Office of Housing’s Policy and Equitable Development Division, where she is responsible for a range of activities including program development, legislative, and community engagement. During the past year she was instrumental in developing the proposed 2016 Seattle Housing Levy ballot measure. The levy will fund development and preserve low-income rental housing as well as provide assistance to low-income homeowners and people at risk of homelessness.

The Office of Housing funds the development of affordable housing, helps residents maintain sustainable home ownership, and creates developer incentive programs to set aside or fund low-income housing. Due to the passage of 5 housing levies, the City of Seattle has created 12,000 units of affordable housing by using non-profit housing developers to rehab older housing or construct new units for seniors, families, and people with disabilities. The median income for those residents is capped at 60% although the majority of residents remain at the 30% median income level. The levy is part of a larger strategy to leverage investments and other funding options. For every dollar raised $3 are attracted. The current levy expires in 2017. The new $290 million dollar levy will be on the ballot this fall. It will cost homeowners with a $400,000 home approximately $122 per year.

The current Seattle housing market has priced many people out of their homes. The average rent for a one bedroom apartment has increased 29% over the last five years. Over 2942 people are living without shelter and 45,000 Seattle households pay over 45% of their income on housing. Seventy five percent of people living in affordable housing units have an average median income below 30% ($29,000) and over half of the people residing in those units are non-white.

The Housing Affordability and Livability Agenda (HALA) committee is another strategy the City is using to increase the number of affordable housing units. The Committee expects to produce over 50,000 housing units during the next 10 years. Of that thirty thousand new market rate housing units will be built and 20,000 affordable housing units will be available for people making less than 60% of the median income. HALA recommendations call for …

- Investing in housing for those most in need through passage of the levy and maximizing city owned property.
- Creating affordable housing as the city grows by expanding incentive programs and requiring affordable housing be part of new multifamily developments.
- Preventing displacement and foster equitable communities by strengthening protections for tenants, stabilize vulnerable populations and those most in need.
- Promoting efficient and innovative development by investing in quality development and design and planning and development best practices that work.
- Creating efficient review and permitting processes.

The Office of Housing Upcoming housing activities include:
- Acquiring short term loans to rehab buildings to preserve affordable housing.
- Fighting source of income discrimination through the Seattle City Council legislation.
- Assessing fair housing with HSD taking the lead.
- Updating the Quiet crisis.

6-10-2016 minutes advisory council
Question: Has the city invested in senior housing?
Answer: In 1981 the city built 1000 units of affordable housing specifically for seniors. Since then seniors and people with special needs occupy a wide range of public housing units.

Question: What other programs seniors are seniors able to access?
Answer: The home repair program helps seniors with health and safety issues by loaning up to $500 for small projects and also provides a weatherization program.

King County Strategies
Valerie Kendall has worked for both nonprofits and government on affordable housing issues, development and planning for 18 years. During the previous five years she has worked for the King County Department of Community and Human Services. She is interested in the full spectrum of housing and has a background in senior housing.

According to Valarie King County set aside $8 million dollars to be used for leveraging additional dollars for affordable housing. The County fosters partnerships, uses developer tax credits, and creates innovative new ways to develop and maximize investments. The challenge is the availability and range of affordable housing.

King County focuses their resources on those with the greatest need and lowest income to empower stability. One of King County’s most recent investments in senior housing is the 77 unit John Gabriel house located in downtown Redmond. It was built in collaboration with the King County Housing Authority. Applicants must be 62+ with an income at 30% of the median income or less. Seniors receive their housing and access to an on-site PACE program which provides health care services.

Other recent senior housing investments include:
- Vantage Point in Renton with an average rent of $200 a month.
- Angle Lake located in SeaTac with an average rent of $500 a month.

Generally, Rents are partially funded through the Section 8 voucher program. In all, King County has made an investment of $23.5 million in 23 senior housing apartment projects totaling 1525 units.

King County offers a Housing Repair Program to keep people safe in their own homes. The program provides low income home owners access to housing repair services and special needs renters may receive adaptive modifications. The most common request is for grab bars. The purpose of the program is to maintain the health, safety and building preservation. The program serves about 125 homes a year and the majority of clients are seniors. Contact information is 206-263-9095, www.kingcounty.gov/Housingrepair.

King County has also invested CDBG funds in Senior Centers located in rural communities such as Vashon, Sno-Valley, Mt Si, Black Diamond, and Enumclaw.

Questions
Question: Given the housing investment in the past 35 years, what percentage of public housing was set aside for seniors living in the city of Seattle?
Answer: The city invested in senior housing a number of years ago, however, many seniors rent apartments in buildings not exclusively set aside for seniors. The consolidated planning process
identified the need for large four bedroom units to house large families and multi-generational households. A need which came up frequently in the planning process. The city has begun to create larger units to accommodate those families.

**Question:** Can you give any background about Sound Transit 3 (ST3) and Upthegrove’s proposal to add workforce housing near transit stations.

**Answer:** Councilmember Upthegrove is a member of the Sound Transit Board. The Board has gathered public input for the ST3. The plan should be adopted by the end of June and will be placed on the ballot in November. Councilmember Upthegrove has proposed the creation of workforce housing near ST3 stations for people making up to 80% of the median income. The high cost of land makes it important to lock down land and projects near transit.

**Question:** How can the NE part of the county, including Kenmore, receive housing project dollars during the annual funding process?

**Answer:** Collaborate with ARCH the Eastside nonprofit housing developer. Get to know nonprofit housing developers. Many receive tax exemptions and are required to set aside 20% of their inventory for low income housing.

**Question:** How many seniors age 62+ are living in low income general housing?

**Answer:** In the future policy makers hope to gather that data for a better understanding of who is housed.

**Question:** How many seniors are on the wait lists?

**Answer:** Severe cost burden is a good indicator of the issue. Otherwise it’s hard to determine. The waitlists for public housing and especially Section 8 are long and only opened during short periods of time. The list closes after it reaches 20,000 names. A lottery is held for the first 4000 slots. The waitlist is worked down then opened again. People sign up for multiple waitlists skewing the numbers making it hard to determine the unduplicated count resulting in a “stale list”.

**Business Meeting**

**Minutes** were approved as written

**Sponsors**

United Way will post it’s investment for older adults. $300,000 will be available for innovative ideas. The RFP will be out next week.

**Planning and Allocation Committee**

**Investment Updates**

The *Health Promotion* RFP is scheduled to be released June 8. The goal is to expand evidence-based programs within communities of color to impact health disparities. Approximately, $150,000 is available.

Final Draft 2017 Discretionary Budget Recommendations

P&A Committee members unanimously voted to adopt the 2017 discretionary budget “as is” with no changes from the previous month.

**Motion:** A motion was made and passed to recommend the approval of the budget for public review in August. The next P&A meeting will be Monday, August 1st, from 12 to 2 p.m., and

6-10-2016 minutes advisory council
will begin with a public hearing regarding the committee’s draft 2017 discretionary budget recommendations.

Other Budget items:
Nutrition programs received a slight increase through the Older Americans Act. The State SCSA allocation resulted in a slight decrease.

ADS Client Profile Report
Angela reviewed the final Client Profile Report.

P&A Site Visits
Several members signed up for site visits. Karen will help coordinate.

Communication Committee
Eric Martinson reported the next Advisory Council Forum will be held on **July 8, 2016** at the West Seattle Library, 2306 42nd Ave SW. The Program will feature an event called “It takes a Village to Age in Place”. A panel representing three local urban villages will describe their Village Models and the advantages for people wishing to age in place. Panelists include:
- Wider Horizon’s Denise Klein
- Nest, Judy Kinney
- PNA Village, Alex Gramps

Note: Advocacy Committee will meeting at Starbucks 1 block away Address: **6501 California Ave SW, Seattle, WA 98136**.

On August 12, 2016 the Advisory Council will meet at the SHAG Interurban Building – 14002 Linden Avenue North, Seattle, WA 98133, 206-707-8026 to attend a listening session with Rep Cindy Ryu’s District 32. Seattle City Councilmember Debora Juarez will also attend.

The September 9, 2016 Advisory Council meeting in the Seattle Municipal Tower will feature Andy Nichols, Associate Director Fiscal Policy at the Washington Budget and Policy Center. Andy specializes in state budget and tax policy and has served on a legislative Task Force on Tax Reform. He has conducted an analyses’ of Washington’s tax structure. He will give an overview of the current system, system improvements and ideas the Advisory Council may use to frame the issues when advocating with legislators.

Advocacy
- **Motion:** A motion was made and passed to support the Social Security resolution to be presented to the Seattle City Council.
- The Advocacy Committee is developing a legislative agenda for the August meeting with Representative Cindy Ryu.
- Several Priorities emerged including:
  - Federal: Social Security stability, Medicare expansion, and Older Americans Act Funding
  - State: Economic Security (Long Term care financing, Transportation, elder abuse, housing, expansion medical hearing and vision coverage, revenue, Long Term services & supports, and family caregiver.

6-10-2016 minutes advisory council
Ava Frisinger reported on the most recent State Council on Aging meeting. The main topics included:

- Medicare observation advocacy on behalf of Senate Bill 843 which amends “title XVIII of the Social Security Act to count a period of receipt of outpatient observation services in a hospital toward satisfying the 3-day inpatient hospital requirement for coverage of skilled nursing facility services under Medicare.” [https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/843/text](https://www.congress.gov/bill/114th-congress/senate-bill/843/text)
- Older Americans Act (OAA) funding increase to pre sequestration levels.
- Fall election turnover includes a high number of legislators expected to retire (over 20)
- Aging and Disability Joint Legislative Executive Committee meets on June 20th
- How Ageism affects the ability for many to retire while others lack job opportunities
- Senior Lobby Day will be held October 28
- Injunction requiring the state to pay for hepatitis C treatment is an unfunded mandate and a financial burden for states by forcing state health care authorities to pay for effective treatment using a drug which costs $95,000 per person.

Finally, Ava was invited to be a member of the SCOA advocacy committee. She found the ADS Advisory Council advocacy priorities are consistent with the SCOA Legislative Agenda.

**Universal design**
The next meeting will be held July 21st, the topic will be about accessibility travel and tourism.

**Director’s Report**
Maureen Linehan reported;

**Age friendly communities**
The core working group will meet July 15 from 9-11 AM. Maureen invited an Advisory Council volunteer to participate. The group will begin to build the community side as a step toward the “Age Friendly” designation for the City of Seattle. The group will coordinate with the City’s Department of Neighborhoods, housing and transportation policy makers, plus community stakeholders such as Kavan Peterson, senior centers, Sound Generations and other community partners.

Washingtonians for a Responsible Future (WRF) continues to promote the importance of Long term care financing options. It can cost up to $10,000 a month for an in home caregiver which forces people to spend down their assets. WRF is sponsoring an event on Monday, June 20th at noon on the Capital steps in Olympia. A JLEC meeting will follow. (WRF will sponsor other events throughout the state including one in Seattle on June 21 from 3:00 – 4:30 at Neighborhood House.

**Alzheimer State Plan**
Recommendations to move the state plan forward is complete the “Dementia Action Collaborative” will begin to implement the plan. Most of the work will be done through the committees:

- Public awareness, education committee.
• Long term service support committee which will develop a roadmap for family caregivers.
• Health and medical subcommittee.

Discretionary allocations recession and sequester
Older Americans Act funding was restored for Nutrition. However Title 3B still remains at sequester levels. Title IIIB funds Information and Assistance, discretionary case management, legal services, health promotion and many other programs. Nationwide advocacy continues to press for restoration of funds for Older Americans Act programs. The Advisory Council is interested in meeting with members at summer recess.

Announcements:
• Paula Houston reported Sound Generations hosted a successful aging awards function where 5 recipients were honored in front of a full room.
• The UW Alzheimer research study needs more research subjects

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:
“It Takes a Village to Age in Place”
July 8, 2016, Noon – 2:00 PM
West Seattle Library
2306 42nd SW, Seattle, WA
Seattle, WA
http://www.agingkingcounty.org/advisory-council/