

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

AUGUST 14, 2015

MEMBERS PRESENT

City of Seattle	King County	United Way
<input checked="" 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"/> Kris Fredrickson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marsha Andrews
<input type="checkbox"/> John Okimoto, Sea City Council	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ava Frisinger, Chair & Former Mayor, Issaquah	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Katty Chow
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tony Provine	<input type="checkbox"/> Bev Heyden	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> George Dicks
<input type="checkbox"/> Kathe Matrone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kate Miller	<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Minty
<input type="checkbox"/> Mac McIntosh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dave Rogers, Senior Lobby Rep	<input type="checkbox"/> Dr. Elizabeth Phelan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sue Shaw	<input type="checkbox"/> Berta Seltzer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lorna Stone
<input type="checkbox"/> Diane Snell, SCOA, Past Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eric Martenson

Excused Absence	Dr. Elizabeth Phelan, Kathe Matrone, Tom Minty, Berta Seltzer, Bev Heyden, Mac McIntosh, Kris Fredrickson,
Guests:	Diana Thompson, Frances Biderman, Robert Canamar, Manuelita Ybarra, Betty Locke, Paige Blazei, Jess Chow, Dolores Maria Rossman, Rinkle Shah, Carmen Rodriguez Orton, Carolyn Heersema, Ellie Wilson Jones, Sue Holloway, Asmeret O'Habte, Ana Bacler, Jill Watson,
Staff	Gigi Meinig, Karen Winston, Andrea Yip, Maria Langlais, Mary Pat O'Leary, Irene Stewart, Wendy Holman, Angela Miyamoto
Speakers	Michael Richardson
United Way Staff	Linda Woodall
King County Staff	Linda Wells
City of Seattle	Andrea Yip

Welcome and Introductions:

Ava Frisinger, chair, welcomed Advisory Council members and ADS staff to the meeting. She asked those present to introduce themselves.

Program
Michael Richardson, Director Northwest ADA Center
University of Washington, Department of Rehabilitation Medicine

The Northwest ADA Center provides technical assistance, training, materials, research and public awareness about the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). The purpose of the 1973 Americans with Disabilities Act, “Section 504”, was to provide a “clear and comprehensive national mandate to end discrimination against individuals with disabilities and bring those individuals into the economic and social mainstream of American life”. As a civil rights act, the ADA guarantees equal opportunity for individuals with disabilities in employment, transportation, telecommunications, private sector/business, state and local government services.

People with disabilities face a number of barriers including stereotypes and negative attitudes. There is a general lack of awareness from the general public on the adverse impacts of inaccessible buildings, inflexible policies and procedures, and ineffective communication techniques. Accessibility means “People of all ages, physical, sensory, and cognitive abilities must be able to enter and use the services provided in a facility”. There are two main types of accessibility:

- Physical accessibility which includes the design and layout of the facility.
- Communication accessibility or methods of information delivery.

What does the ADA mean for boomers? While boomers are relatively healthy, active and wealthy they cannot escape “aging out”. While aging is not defined as a disability, some age related impairments will meet the ADA definition if the impairment substantially limits one or more major life activities. Developing hearing, vision and impairments to cognitive functioning are a few examples. Needing glasses does not count.

Many boomers wish to continue working. The ADA prohibits employers, employment agencies and unions from discriminating against qualified individuals with a disability in job application procedures, hiring firing, advancement, compensation, and job training. However, employers are not required to lower production standards, and an employer can hold employees with disabilities to the same standards of production, and performance as other employees performing similar job functions. Employees with an ADA disability may ask for a “reasonable accommodation” which is a modification or adjustment to a job or work environment that will enable the applicant or employee to perform essential job functions.

State and local government services which include transportation, libraries, and social security offices, etc., must remove barriers and operate programs accessible to people with disabilities giving them the same opportunity to participate, and also insure individuals with disabilities are not excluded because of inaccessible buildings or transportation. They must offer auxiliary aids to effectively communicate (such as Braille) or might include using written notes or a smart phone to write and exchange messages for someone who is deaf. For more lengthy exchanges, the use of a sign language interpreter or Computer Assisted Real Time Translation (CART) is available.

Businesses, non-profits, commercial facilities, and educational programs must also provide similar accommodations. However, under the ADA, businesses are not required to change their policies in any way that would cause a “fundamental alteration” in the nature of their goods and services, undermine the safe operation of the business, cause a direct threat to the health and safety of others

or be an undue burden. For example a book store with no online or delivery services cannot be forced to provide delivery.

Note: Religious organizations and private clubs (e.g. country clubs) are exempt.

Many people with disabilities rely on a service animal which is any dog that is individually trained to work or perform tasks for the benefit of an individual with a disability. This includes physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual or other disability. Owners of service animals are not required to carry proof of certification although some animals may wear vests or have special collars or tags that identify them as service animals. The use of service animals is covered under the ADA. The fair Housing Act passed in 1968 also protects renters from discrimination. Comfort animals used for emotional support or companionship are not considered service animals. No training is required for comfort animals.

For more information:

Technical Assistance resources 1-800-949-4232, <http://watap.org>

The Job Accommodation Network 1-800-526-7234

Questions and Answers

Question: Give an example of a reasonable accommodation in the work environment.

Answer: Parking next to the building.

Question: Must historical buildings be accessible?

Answer: If the building is renovated it must be made accessible.

Question: Can you ask for proof that a Service Animal is valid?

Answer: You must accept the person's word. You can ask:

- Is this a service animal required because of a disability?
- What tasks have the animal been trained to perform?

You cannot ask:

- What is your disability
- Where is the animal's certification?

Business Meeting

Minutes were approved

Sponsor's Liaisons

King County: Linda Wells reported on King County's efforts to seek community input for the King County Equity and Social Justice Strategic plan. King County wants to understand:

- What issues matter to community partners?
- Where equity partnership opportunities already exist?
- What do others see as King County's unique role as a partner in furthering regional equity?

Linda passed out an information sheet and a short questionnaire. She asked Advisory Council members to fill out and return.

United Way: Linda Woodall reported United Way's plan to schedule additional meetings to receive feedback from community and providers on the new strategic plan which shifts their investment focus. United Way plans to lift 50,000 people out of poverty's. The goals include:

- Giving kids an equal chance
- Ending homelessness
- Keeping families stable –

Linda Woodall is leaving United Way. Her last Advisory Council meeting will be September 11

P&A Committee

Budget Updates

Maureen reported that ADS received the Older Americans Act funding allocation for 2016.

Regionalism

1. ADS staff were scheduled to brief Sound Cities on the Area Plan in August, but the meeting was cancelled. Sound Cities may still choose to provide written comments on the plan.
2. ADS staff are scheduled to brief the King County Council's Health, Housing and Human Services Committee, on August 18. The briefing will include an overview of the Area Plan.

3. **United Way Strategic Plan**

Advisory Council members and other ADS staff, attended several meetings that United Way held regarding their Strategic Plan, 2015-2020. The new plan will shift funding away from aging programs, and narrow their focus in order to improve tracking and determine community impact. The new focus will be on children, youth, families and homelessness. It is unclear how the funding will be re-allocated, however, this will be a topic at upcoming meetings hosted by United Way with providers impacted by the funding shift. United Way will continue to be an ADS Sponsor, as indicated in Interlocal Agreement. The report can be found at:

<https://www.uwkc.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Strategic-Plan-United-Way-of-King-County-2015.pdf>

Other Announcements

1. The Seattle Housing Levy will be up for renewal in 2016. ADS staff continue to participate in internal meetings and highlight housing for older adults and kinship care support. Updates will be provided as the process continues.
2. Mayor Murray's final Housing Affordability and Livability Agenda (HALA) has been released. The agenda is intended to be an action plan to address Seattle's housing

affordability crisis. A 28-member HALA Advisory Committee made up of affordable housing advocates, developers, land-use experts, tenants, businesses and nonprofits, developed several recommendations. However, senior housing was not specifically called out. The complete plan is available at: http://murray.seattle.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/HALA_ActionPlan_2015.pdf

3. ADS will use the information from the three public hearings to finalize the Area Plan in September. The plan is due to the State by Oct 5. On August 18 the Area Plan will be unveiled at a gathering hosted by King County Councilmember Upthegrove.

Advocacy Committee

Local update

1. Tony gave an analysis of the HALA plan. He expressed concern that the plan seemed to be slanted toward developer's needs. Housing Affordability and Living Agenda (HALA) Recommendations Link: http://murray.seattle.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/HALA_Report_2015.pdf
2. The United Way strategic plan calls for the reinvestment of \$1.9 million dollars currently invested in senior programs to the new goal areas. United Way plans to target young emerging leaders as their donor base and they will no longer emphasize work place giving. The final budget will be finalized in November. Until then advocates and providers have an opportunity to give feedback about programs. Providers are concerned not only with losing United Way's funding but the validation they receive as a United Way provider as they apply for new funding. Advocates and providers may advocate with King County and City of Seattle to request funding to fill the gap left by United Way cuts.
3. The Advocacy Committee considered the feasibility of developing an advocacy coalition with PSARA, AARP, Bellevue Network on Aging, WA State Senior Citizens Lobby, providers and other partners.
4. The Hyde Shuttle letter sent to the King County Council, King County Executive, Seattle City Council and Seattle's Mayor was successful. Metro agreed to cover the monthly funding gap of \$19,000. Meetings will be held to review service and funding options for the Hyde shuttle and the Access program.

State

1. McCleary decision - Today's Seattle Times headlines read "Court to State: Pay up" The justices ordered \$100,000 a day fines over inadequate education spending. Lawmakers may be called back into a special session. Most likely the court will hold off on fines until the end of 2015.
2. DSHS will not forward a funding request for case management in the 2016 supplemental decision package. However, a pre-Medicaid program funding request could be sent through the supplemental budget process.
3. There are five issue areas in the ADS Area Plan, four are defined by the state: case management, pre-Medicaid services, health initiatives, and the Native American 701 plan. The fifth area is defined by the individual area agency. ADS added Livable Communities as the fifth issue area.

Federal

1. The meeting with Congressman Reichert went well. He understands the importance of senior programs and the need to tweak Medicare. He is not in favor of adding costs, although he may consider shifting costs to investments with better outcomes.
2. A meeting with Congressman Adam's Smith's deputy Debra Entenmen will be held next Friday August 21. The following Advisory Council members agreed to attend: Lorna Stone, Marsha Andrews, Molly Holmes, and Diane Snell. Topics for discussion are Social Security, Medicare, Older Americans Act, and hearing loss tax credit.
3. Jim McDermott has been contacted but we have not heard back. David Loud retired. Rita Stewart is the new Senior Director of Constituent Services.

Regionalism

On August 18th, Maureen Linehan gave a briefing on the 2016-2019 Area Plan on Aging, to the County Council's Health, Housing and Human Services Committee.

Seattle Commission for People with Disabilities

Sue Shaw reported.

1. Dylan Orr, was hired by the Seattle Office of Civil Rights to enforce minimum wage ordinance, investigate wage theft and compliance sick leave policy. He recently left the Department of Labor after 5 years with the Obama administration.
2. Kate Martin described the plan for an elevated feature (400 feet of the existing viaduct) as part of the Waterfront Park. Initiative 123 will be on the November ballot.
3. Waterfront Park - Employees from the SDOT and the Office of the Waterfront made a 4th visit to the commission to update progress and describe the staging of the work to be done. They will take public comment through August 12.
4. Anniversary Celebration - The films were well attended. Sue, Molly and Marsha represented the Advisory Council at the events. 500 people participated at Westlake Park with Cyrus Habib as the main speaker. Bruce Harrell gave an excellent presentation at the lunch and learn session. Three people with disabilities told their stories.

State Council on Aging (SCOA)

No meeting in July

Communication Committee

July - great meeting

August - Michael Richardson NW ADA director

September – SE Seattle Senior Center. The topic will be housing

October State meetings - October 27 & 28, Tacoma Murano Hotel

January retreat - Place Tukwila

NW Universal Design

U.S. Access Board member Karen Braitmayer, FAIA will address the Northwest Universal Design Council, Seattle Commission for People with Disabilities, and anyone interested in accessibility for all at a public meeting on Wednesday, October 7, 2015 (12 noon–1:30 p.m.) in the Bertha Knight Landes Room at Seattle City Hall (600 4th Ave, between James & Cherry Streets in

downtown Seattle). On Sept 12 the NW Universal Design Council will co-sponsor a rolling-walkshop with Feet First in the Pioneer square area.

ADS Director's Report

Andrea Yip reported on behalf of Maureen Linehan

Area Plan

1. Maureen Linehan will present the ADS Area Plan to the King County Council Health, Housing and Human Services Committee on August 18. Then on September 17 Maureen will give a similar presentation to the Seattle City Council.
2. Maureen learned the state is not planning to put together a decision package to increase the case management rate, although they explore other options. More information will be available in September.
3. The US department of Health and Human Services announced \$35.7 million in awards to 44 organizations in 29 states to support quality care for older adults through the Geriatrics Workforce Enhancement Program. The University of Washington is one of the successful applicants. ADS partnered with the UW to develop the grant application and will help provide patients, families and caregivers with the knowledge and skills to improve health outcomes and quality of care. ADS will hire a primary care liaison who will work with the Community Living Connections program and health care clinics.

Community Living Connections

1. Staff is meeting with agencies to implement Community Living Connections in King County.
2. The new phone numbers are 206-962-8467, or toll free 1-844-348-5464. The September AgeWise will include an article highlighting the new numbers.
3. ADS hired a marketing consultant to develop a marketing and communications plan during the implementation this fall. Thanks to Sue Shaw who was part of the interview process.
4. The State is requesting feedback for the State Community Living Connections Website by August 20. They are populating the resource directory which should be completed by next year.

Staffing update

1. Angela Miyamoto is now a permanent member of the planning team she will continue to focus on the Community Living Connections and the family caregiver programs.
2. Judy Summerfield, Manager Seattle Case Management is leaving ADS for an opportunity as the executive director of a child care consortium. An out-of-class case manager will fill in until the end of the year, giving ADS time to do a thorough candidate search.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:
September 11, 2015, 11:30
Southeast Seattle Senior Center
4655 South Holly Street, Seattle, WA
<http://www.agingkingcounty.org/advisory-council/>