



Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services
Advocating for local, state, and national programs that promote quality of life for older adults and people with disabilities in partnership with Seattle Human Services and King County.

Aging and Disability Services Advisory Council
Monthly Meeting Minutes
May 11, 2018

Members Present

City of Seattle	King County	Public Health
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Molly Holmes	<input type="checkbox"/> Mayor David Baker, Kenmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Minty
<input type="checkbox"/> Debra Juarez, Sea City Council	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jenny Becker	<input type="checkbox"/> Lorna Stone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Florence Klein	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ava Frisinger, SCOA Rep	<input type="checkbox"/> Diana Thompson
<input type="checkbox"/> Kathe Matrone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andrea Sawczuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sue Weston
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mac McIntosh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cindy Snyder	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> June Michel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dick Woo	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zelda Foxall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Low	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Excused Absence	Kathe Matrone, Debra Juarez, David Baker, Lorna Stone, Diana Thompson
Guests	Pamela Calderon,
Staff	Gigi Meinig, Karen Winston, Mia Kato, Lori Sanford, Maria Langlais, Andrea Yip, Brent Butler, Lenny Orlov, Irene Stewart, Sarah Demas
Speaker	Jon Rudicil
King County Staff	Ingrid MacDonald
Public Health	
City of Seattle	Cathy Knight

Welcome and Introductions: Ava Frisinger

In partnership with:  

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In partnership with:  

Older Americans Act Month Celebration: “Engage at Every Age”

A Conversation with
Kate Baumgartner, Senator Patty Murray’s Office
Raman Khanna, Representative Pramila Jayapal’s office

Moderated by: Jon Rudicil, Director, W4A (Washington Association of Area Agencies on Aging)

Cathy Knight presented information about the history of the Older Americans Act which began in 1963 under the Kennedy Administration, The Older Americans Act was officially enacted during the Johnson Administration in 1973.

Jon Rudicil introduced Kate and Raman.

Kate Baumgartner is Senator Murray’s outreach and engagement director for the Seattle Metropolitan area. She coordinates meetings with constituents, listens to issues brought to her by local community members and organizations.

Raman Khanna is Representative Pramila Jayapal’s outreach coordinator in the 7th Congressional district. Raman specializes in issues related to veterans, older adults and people with disabilities.

Both Senator Patty Murray and Representative Jayapal support policies and measures that keep the social safety net strong.

Panel Question and Answer

Describe how your office works with local and state government to solve difficult issues such as homelessness, housing, economic opportunity and safety net programs?

Kate:

Senator Murray’s office continually builds strong relationships with local government. Cross collaboration solves regional issues easily and makes major infrastructure projects such as transportation more effective.

Raman:

Representative Jayapal’s office acts as a bridge across silos between the community, local, state, and federal government. Raman regularly visits senior centers to hear their experiences and concerns. He listens for gaps in broader systems including Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid. He responds to individual constituents and listens to the struggles they face. He provides education and resource information.

How can the Advisory Council be most effective in their advocacy, what are the most important times to advocate and in what form (email, phone call, meetings, letters)?

Raman:

Effective advocacy includes a number of approaches. When communicating with legislators always include the bill number. Legislative staff tally phone calls, letters and emails on specific issues. Constituent responses are valued. There is never an unimportant time to communicate.

Kate:

There is no bad time to communicate. Senator Murray’s Office provides equal weight to all communication methods and staff tally responses about specific issues.

- Letters - Letters are processed slowly in the federal mail system, allow for 2 weeks
- Online contact form
- FAX
- Phone calls – be succinct and include bill numbers
- Twitter and Facebook are not followed closely by their office

What are your challenges?

Kate:

Legislative offices across the county have seen an increase in political engagement which is good. Offices continue to build capacity to maintain their responsiveness to constituents. Senator Murray’s office has seen an increase in demand for individual casework including many requests for help with immigration issues.

Raman:

Seniors are communicating urgent human service problems. Raman hears heartbreaking stories every day. Many of the issues relate to a lack of economic security. Its important seniors learn more about programs they may be eligible for and reassured it’s not an “entitlement” but a benefit they paid into all their life. Constituent stories illustrate the human impact of policies. Nowhere in the Puget Sound area has escaped the pain.

What are your opportunities?

Kate:

- Personal stories shared by constituents are powerful advocacy tools on the Senate floor.
- New organizations and new voices are becoming involved for the first time.

Raman:

- Town halls and coffee hours give the public an opportunity to tell their stories.
- Staff are taking advantage of Twitter and Facebook.
- Civic engagement works, and grassroots efforts matter.
- Legislative offices are responsible and accessible to citizens. Congressional representatives need to hear new ideas and stories to make better policy and convincing arguments in Congress.

Audience Question and Answer

Question: Is there movement to privatize the VA?

Answer: Both Senator Murray and Representative Jayapal are opposed to privatizing the VA. Representative Jayapal supports allocating full funding and staffing to the VA. Senator Murray’s first question to VA secretary nominees will be about privatizing.

Question: Does your office consider form letters when tallying responses about issues?

Answer: Personalize the form letter to include your signature and whether you are a constituent. Many form letters are not addressed correctly make sure to include the correct address.

Comment: Constituents will receive a faster response from government agencies such as Medicare or Social Security if there is an open case file with a member of Congress.

Question: What is the best way for advocates to use the time during meetings with members of congress?

Answer: Make a clear ask, follow-up and continue to keep the office engaged, build a relationship, they want to get to know you and learn from you.

Question: When sending information what do you prefer, digital or a paper format?

Answer: Digital information and documentation is preferred. Be sure to include specific legislation.

Question: How much weight is given to calls from outside of legislative districts?

Answer: Every office has their policy about outside calls.

Business Meeting

Minutes: Approved as written.

Age Friendly introductions – Brett Butler, Manager, Lenny Orlov, Project Coordinator, Sarah Demas, Project Coordinator

Partner Updates:

Ingrid MacDonald reported on behalf of the King County Public Health and Department of Community and Human Services

- Beginning implementation of the VSHSL transition plan
- The \$3.7 million one-time only 2018 VSHSL Senior Center funding has been released. The initial funding will shore-up senior center infrastructure. The definition of senior center changed which will encourage smaller non-traditional agencies to apply.
- RFP includes four funding options:
 - Increase participation.
 - Update infrastructure, computer systems, and facilities.
 - Capital improvements including minor facility repairs under \$25,000, for refrigerators, building modifications, vehicle repairs etc.
 - Senior programing enhancements e.g., wellness, fitness, socialization, social work.
 - Technical assistance.

Planning and Allocations Committee:

Dick Woo Dick gave an overview of the bylaws then led a discussion about proposed revisions to the bylaws.

Sections:

ARTICLE I - Responsibilities of the Advisory Council

ARTICLE II - Responsibilities of Advisory Council Members

ARTICLE III - Composition of the Advisory Council

ARTICLE IV - Election of Officers

ARTICLE V - Duties of Officers

ARTICLE VI - Committees and Task Forces

ARTICLE VII - Meetings

ARTICLE VIII - Ethics

ARTICLE X - Procedures

P&A Committee recommended revisions include:

- Replace: The word “Sponsor” with partner.
- Reduce: The number of members from 27 to 21 to reflect changes in the Interlocal and the demographic changes in the senior population which is now one third reside in Seattle and two thirds in King County.
- Reduce: The number of people appointed to the P & A to “at least 5”.
- Clarify: The timing of the annual election of officers.

- Add: New members become eligible to vote after the appointment is filed with the clerk of the council(s).
- Eliminate: The Communications Committee.
- Add: Instructions for filling vacated officer positions.

Advisory Council bylaw discussion:

- Mixed reaction to a suggestion to include “a requirement Advisory Council member reside in King County.” Note: The appointing body (King County or City of Seattle makes the final determination). Comments included:
 - The need for a specific skill or expertise.
 - Living in an adjacent county.
 - Commute to King County for work or other regular activities.
 - Limit to a percentage of non-residents.
 - Coordinate with the person’s local AAA to encourage them to join the Advisory council in their county.
- Add: Sexual orientation and gender identity.
- Add: Partners assign someone to attend on behalf of the elected official if they are unable to attend regularly.

Advocacy Committee:

June Michel reported

- Jon Rudicil gave an overview of OAA and the 13 Washington Area Agencies on Aging (W4A) and presented information about “Why advocacy is important”.
- June and Cathy reported back about their trip to Washington DC. They heard policy updates from N4A and visited with members of congress.
- Candidate forums are planned for the North Bellevue Community Center and the Tukwila Village SHAG building.
- Advocacy Tips
- Zelda Introduced the committee to – RESULTS, an organization advocating on behalf of people facing poverty.

State Council on Aging (SCOA)

Ava Frisinger attended the State Council on Aging with Andrea Sawczuk.

- The Legislative Action Committee is encouraging members to write op-eds for local newspapers. Ava found her local Issaquah paper asked about an advertising budget before she submitted her article.
- The Snohomish County SCOA Representative reported Snohomish County is 8th in the nation for the highest number of opiate deaths. They discussed the importance of safety measures to educate the public especially seniors who may have expired or unused medicines in their homes which could fall into the hands of children.

NW Universal Design:

Tom Minty reported two upcoming events sponsored by the NW Universal Design Council:

- May 31, 2018 from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Bethaday Community Learning Space (605 SW 108th St, Seattle 98146). Assistive Technology Tools and Creative DIY Solutions to Support Older Adults and People with Disabilities, hosted by the Northwest Universal Design Council, Age Friendly Seattle, Aging and Disability Services, and the Washington Assistive Technology Act Program. Participants will learn to match functional needs of older adults and people with disabilities to a wide range of assistive technologies and solutions.

- Tuesday, July 24, 2018, 9:30–11:30 a.m. Bertha Knight Landes Room, Seattle City Hall (600 4th Avenue, Seattle). “[Designing for Special Populations](#)” Environmental Works and Community Design Center and SMR Architects, leaders in designing multi-family housing, will team up to present opportunities and challenges of designing for special populations. The presentation will look at a variety of housing types such as homeless supportive housing, homeless shelters, housing for veterans, housing for people with traumatic brain injury, and more. RSVP: surveymonkey.com/r/NWUDC072418

Mayor’s Council of African American Elders (MCAAE):

Karen Winston reported

- Six new appointments are headed to Mayor Durkin’s office.
- Priority: Housing Elders. The MCAAE will have an opportunity to meet with Mayor Durkin to discuss struggles African American elders have to remain housed.

Director’s Report:

Cathy Knight reported:

- It’s Older Americans Act month! ADS and the Advisory Council are celebrating today. The Kennedy Administration first celebrated seniors in 1963. The Older Americans Act was officially enacted during the Johnson Administration in 1973. The most recent Older Americans Act expired in 2011 and 5 years later it was reauthorized in 2016. In 2019 the Older Americans Act must be reauthorized again. There are currently 629 Area Agencies on Aging. Forty percent are non-profits, 28% are part of County government and 3% are part of city government similar to ADS. The budget for ADS is \$47 million. Half of the budget includes Medicaid dollars for in-home long-term services and supports which is well above the average for Area Agency on Aging budgets. Today, each Advisory Council member received the 50th anniversary “placemat” showing date and the evolution of the King County Area Agency on Aging.
- Cathy and the Age Friendly Team met with Mayor Durkin’s Executive Team. They will follow-up with a briefing which will include an action plan and opportunities to collaborate with the Mayor’s priorities including housing, supportive housing, homelessness prevention, supportive services, Medicaid transformation, and family caregiver.
- ADS and King County are collaborating to coordinate efforts during RFP processes such as the most recent senior center RFPs and the PEARLs project. HPRC is renewing their 5-year grant which will expand the model.
- Aging Mastery pilot is now considered an evidence-based program and qualifies for OAA IIID funding.
- Cathy recognized nurses on the Advisory Council during nurses’ week:
 - Jenny Becker
 - David Baker
- Cathy recognized staff for “National Public Service” week.

Announcements

May 17 - Age Friendly Coffee Hour

May 15 - Kitchen Table Talks – discuss 8 livability domains.

Adjourn: 2:00 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING:

Friday, **June 8, 2018**

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