



**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.*

**Advisory Council Meeting Minutes**  
**August 9, 2019**

**Advisory Council Members**

<input type="checkbox"/> Mayor David Baker	<input type="checkbox"/> CM Marli Larimer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cindy Snyder
<input type="checkbox"/> Jenny Becker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Lorna Stone
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ava Frisinger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> June Michel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diana Thompson
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zelda Foxall	<input type="checkbox"/> Tom Minty	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sue Weston
<input type="checkbox"/> CM Debora Juarez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andrea Sawczuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dick Woo

**Friends of the Advisory Council**

<input type="checkbox"/> Connie Bown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe Hailey	<input type="checkbox"/> Cynthia Winters
<input type="checkbox"/> Edna Daigre	<input type="checkbox"/> Barb Williams	

Others present:

**Guests:** Mallory Van Abbema, Stephanie Velasco, Jennifer Lynch, Ana Aguero, Shaun Bickley, Eric Matthes, Demise Malm, Jessica Herzer

**AAA Staff:** Cathy Knight, Andrea Yip, Maria Langlais, Jeff Sakuma, Lori Sanford, Angela Miyamoto, Karen Winston, Phung Nguyen, Sean Walsh, Sara Godinez, Sarah Demas, Harrison Lee, Mary Pat O’Leary, Nani Brockett, Sariga Santhosh

**King County:** Traci Adair

*This month, we invited two guests with ties to the affordable housing sector to share known advocacy issues and upcoming affordable housing developments in King County.*

- I. **Panel Presentations:** Mallory Van Abbema (Housing Development Consortium) and Stephanie Velasco (City of Seattle Office of Housing)

**Mallory Van Abbema, Advocacy and Policy Manager - Housing Development Consortium**

- HDC is an advocate, broker and convener for 180 member organizations (ABC model)
- Population in King County has grown by 700,000 since 2000 – roughly the size of Seattle
- There is high wage growth, but housing demands has not kept up since recession.

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- Loss in affordable homes has continued over the last 10 years. Units for households at or below 80% AMI have declined by 93k, despite growth in total rental stock.
- Slide 5: Orange represents 100% AMI at \$108,600/household. As AMI decreases, you'll notice more affordable housing stock disappearing.
- Housing advocates need government intervention for households at 0-30% AMI.
- 'Affordable housing' to HDC is spending less than 30% of income on rent and utilities.
- HDC has developed a policy snapshot tool to help local lawmakers and advocates understand existing gaps and offer policy recommendations.
- HDC knows the importance of intersectional work and holds "housing and" summits.
- HDC's priorities include increase funding and diversity in affordable housing stock.

### **Stephanie Velasco, Strategic Advisor - Seattle Office of Housing**

- City of Seattle considers 30% income or less on housing 'affordable'
- 3 components of OH's work:
  - Development and Preservation: Population priorities include seniors, people with disabilities, homeless or low income working families, while project priorities include access to transit resident needs and anti-displacement goals
  - Planning and Policy: affordable housing programs, affirmative marketing and community preference
  - Homeowner Assistance: down payment assistance for new owners and home repair and weatherization projects for current home owners.
- New York used preference policy to establish housing for African American families. City of Seattle's approach is to be race-neutral
- Pipeline projects: Filipino Community Village, North Haven Senior Housing, LGBTQ-Affirming Senior Housing in Capital Hill
- Audience questions:
  - Is healthy food access taken into consideration when considering area priorities? Not at the moment.
  - Is waiting list criteria considered when making location choices? OH partners with SHA and developers to identify locations for future housing stock.
  - Once a building permit for construction for submitted, can location move? Most groups usually own site prior to development. OH uses the information to make funding determination. Usually, the city requires \$5 from other sources for \$1 city match.
  - What happens to people making less than 30% AMI? OH fund community organizations like Plymouth Housing that have transitional housing units.

## **II. Meeting Motions**

- Motion to approve June meeting minutes
  - Ava: move to modify or correct minutes
  - Motion moved and seconded by members
  - Passed unanimously among council members

- Motion to send letter opposing the proposed changes to [Section 1557](#) of the Affordable Care Act ahead of 8/13 deadline:
  - Issue discussed and voted on in Advocacy Committee
  - June: move to approve sending the letter
  - Sue: motion seconded
  - Passed unanimously among council members

### III. Committee Updates

#### Executive:

- Committee will not meet at the end of the full Advisory Council meeting.

#### Planning and Allocations:

- Working with Karen Winston on the 2020 – 2023 Area Plan. Organized two public hearings on 7/18 in Seattle and 8/5 in Tukwila. People appreciated the materials received and attention to the priority areas like elder abuse, case management, etc.
- Karen has compiled list of comments received from the two public hearings, emails and social media. Comments are mostly supportive and the questions are to clarify points made in the Area Plan.
- There will be a close-to-final version of the Area Plan distributed at the September Advisory Council meeting. Dick and Ava will also attend a County Council presentation on the Area Plan on September 17.
- Dick met with Nigel Lo, the new Kin On director, who reported 80% of funding comes through Medicaid, but they are successfully operating.

#### Advocacy:

- Diana and June discussed inviting lawyers for Advisory Council presentations. Topics include end of life issues, health directives, elder abuse and guardianship issues.
- Members discussed the Prescription Drug Pricing Reduction Act in great depth.
- There was a robust conversation with guests from the Arc of King County about needs of people with developmental disabilities and how the Advisory Council can support needs.
- Members voted to send letter opposing the proposed changes to Section 1557 of the Affordable Care Act, which would weaken nondiscrimination protections for LGBTQ communities, people with limited English proficiency, and older adults.

#### VSHSL Board:

- At last meeting, the board elected board chair and committee heads. Christopher Porter is the Board Chair and will head the Seniors Committee.

#### State Council on Aging

- Council will not meet for the summer, but members continue to work on priority issues like transportation, social isolation, etc.
- Met with Rep. Adam Smith on July 19 to discuss challenges affecting nursing home closures in the area.

- Issues identified included operational costs, staff turnover, and the high time and financial costs for RN's and CNA's education compared to earnings.
- Patricia Hunter from the Ombudsman's Office highlighted that high acuity care is critical and we'll need 8500 additional skilled nursing care in next 4 years.
- The group also talked about the opioid epidemic and the over-reliance on psychotics to medicate patients and shared that adult day care doesn't have federal mandates.
- The group also discussed Kin On's AiPACE model as a potential savings model at a time when government resources and funding are finite.

NW Universal Design Council:

- The Seattle Festival Block Party is coming up in 2 weeks (Saturday, 8/24 and Sunday, 8/25). Come out and see what we're doing. Council members will be building an installation in the park that showcases accessibility features for homes.

Mayor's Council of African American Elders:

- At last month's meeting, Beth Boram from Beacon Development Group reported on their pipeline projects and discussed strategies to encourage support for extremely-affordable housing.
- Organizing first 'Grandparents Day' in Seattle (Sunday, 9/8) in partnership with Northwest African American Museum.

Age-Friendly Coalition:

- Members are still meeting regularly to rebuild the coalition's Steering Committee and provide a framework that better connects the various regional coalitions and committees working on aging issues, including the Advisory Council and MCAAE.

**IV. Partner Report**

- There will be updates on senior hub awardees at the next Advisory Council meeting.
- The adaptive devices, counseling and training RFP is awarded to Open Doors and WATAP.
- Public Health is putting together a panel to discuss opioid issues that affect older adults.

**V. Director's Report, Cathy Knight**

- ADS staff attended a great n4a annual conference in New Orleans, July 28 - July 31. We talked about age-friendly health systems and learned about the 4Ms (what matters, mentation, mobility, and medication) using social determinants of health. We also discussed the importance of working with Public Health on dementia and brain health issues. ADS also received award for 'the Creating Accessible Events' event and toolkit.
- Cathy attended a NWEGEC event this morning to kick off new partnership.
- Cathy also met with Rep. Smith's staff and talked about how to balance needs of folks in nursing homes and community.
- Today's housing affordability presentation is timely as more clients are becoming homeless or close to losing homes.