



# 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 December 11, 2020

### Advisory Council Members

<input type="checkbox"/> CM Sofia Aragon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Low	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lorna Stone
<input type="checkbox"/> Jenny Becker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> June Michel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diana Thompson
<input type="checkbox"/> Ava Frisinger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Minty	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sue Weston
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zelda Foxall	<input type="checkbox"/> CM Tammy Morales	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barb Williams
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe Hailey	<input type="checkbox"/> Andrea Sawczuk	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dick Woo
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> CM Marli Larimer	<input type="checkbox"/> Cindy Snyder	

### Friends of the Advisory Council

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Edna Daigre	<input type="checkbox"/> Kevin Lambing	<input type="checkbox"/> Cynthia Winters
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#### Others present:

**Guests:** Sabrina Jones, Robin Nelson, Min Chang, Cassie Giampetro, Liz Mills, Jon Rudicil, JJ Wong

**AAA Staff:** Cathy Knight, Maria Langlais, Irene Stewart, Andrea Yip, Karen Winston, Andrea LaFazia-Geraghty, Brent Butler, Allison Boll, Lorraine Sanford, Sariga Santhosh

**Partners:** Traci Adair, Mary Snodgrass

#### I. Geriatric Regional Assessment Team: Sabrina Jones, Robin Nelson (Sound Generations)

*This presentation covered how GRAT's licensed clinicians use outreach, comprehensive assessment, and early intervention to reach aging adults who are escalating toward crisis. The GRAT program supports older adults in King County learn about their health, their strengths and difficulties, day to day functioning, and what they care about most.*

#### II. Meeting Motions and Council Business

- Motion to approve November meeting minutes
  - Ava: move to modify or accept minutes
  - Moved by Larry
  - Seconded by Barb
  - Passed unanimously among council members

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In partnership with:



- Motion to approve slate of candidates for 2021 officer roles – Dick Woo (Chair), Lorna Stone (Vice Chair), Cindy Snyder (Secretary), Diana Thompson (At-Large Member)
  - Ava: move to modify or accept minutes
  - Moved by June
  - Seconded by Barb
  - Passed unanimously among council members

### III. Committee Updates

#### Executive

- Will meet briefly after the AC meeting.

#### Advocacy

- Zelda met with Sen. Murray to discuss SNAP, Social Security, and nursing homes issues.
- Members starting to meet with legislators ahead of 2021 session. Joe and Sue met with Rep. Cody on 12/10/20. Three more legislator meetings by end of year.
- COVID vaccines and priority for seniors is a hot topic. Cathy shared home health workers were eligible to receive vaccine as part of their work.
- Jon Morrison Winters gave an update on affordable housing for older adults in county.

#### Veterans, Seniors, and Human Services Levy (VSHSL) Board

- VSHSL serves three priority populations: veterans, older adults, and vulnerable populations. To reflect their ability to survive and thrive, vulnerable populations was recently renamed ‘resilient communities.’
- At last meeting, board approved funding reallocation ahead of county council vote for 2021-2022 budget cycle. There were leftover funds in 2020 from underspending of certain programs due to COVID-19. The board also discussed broad governance policies.
- ADS should invite Traci and other Levy administrators to provide Levy overview and how the county partners with ADS on funding and service area coverage.

#### State Council on Aging

- Next SCOA meeting is on 12/23/20 at 8:30 am.

#### Northwest Universal Design

- No updates

#### Mayor’s Council on African American Elders (MCAAE)

- Council did a focus group at October meeting with DOH on vaccine distribution. Anne Shields from Public Health was the November meeting speaker.
- The December meeting on 12/18/20 will be the annual holiday meet and greet to raise MCAAE’s profile and share 2020 accomplishments. Anyone interested can email Karen.

#### **IV. Partners Report**

##### **Seattle King County Public Health Department (Mary Snodgrass)**

- King County is averaging 750 - 850 new COVID-19 cases a day and continues to impact BIPOC communities and low-income people most.
- Public Health is reporting outbreaks in long term care facilities again and volume of cases is challenging the ability to respond with contact tracing and technical assistance. Public Health is prioritizing follow ups at locations with 5+ cases.
- We are approaching a 12/31/20 funding cliff date when federal funding for COVID-19 will lapse. Expecting Congress will pass another relief package, but state and county leadership and philanthropic partners are trying to identify short-term funding to continue Public Health's work till federal dollars come in.
- FDA is expected to approve the Pfizer vaccine soon, and WA is expecting a shipment of ~62,000 doses next week that will be prioritized for front line health care staff and long-term care facility residents. Much of our planning within the department has started to shift towards vaccine distribution in the coming months and working with our healthcare and community partners.

##### **Department of Community and Human Services (Traci Adair)**

- Older Adults team is still connecting with levy-funded senior centers every other week and in coordination with ADS to align program and funding needs.
- Priority for end of year is wrapping up 85+ contracts related to senior centers.
- Hired a new Senior Centers Program Manager dedicated to long-term hubs strategy.

#### **V. Director's Report (Cathy Knight)**

- Congress is considering an omnibus package that has Older Americans Act dollars attached that they are hoping to pass next week.
- We're hearing from legislators that they're not interested in making cuts to the LTSS budget. We've been effective in communicating the damage done during the last recession that social safety nets never recovered from.
- Legislators are interested in progressive revenue sources and social isolation this year.
- Jason Johnson will be leaving HSD next month. Helen Howell will be interim Director.
- Key ADS staff is busy with COVID coordination and planning with county partners. Our home care workers are on priority list for vaccines. We still need to address vaccine hesitancy and reach community leaders who can help spread the word.
- ADS staff continue working on emergency food and social isolation planning.
- Thank you, Ava, for chairing the Advisory Council for so many years! Your skills and expertise will be missed. And congrats to Dick Woo, our 2021 AC chair!