



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
September 11, 2020

Advisory Council Members

<input type="checkbox"/> CM Sofia Aragon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Low	<input type="checkbox"/> Lorna Stone
<input type="checkbox"/> Jenny Becker	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> June Michel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Diana Thompson
<input checked="" 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cindy Snyder	

Friends of the Advisory Council

<input type="checkbox"/> Connie Bown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Edna Daigre	<input type="checkbox"/> Cynthia Winters
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Others present:

Guests: Ann Vining, Hafoc Yates, Kevin Lambing

AAA Staff: Cathy Knight, Irene Stewart, Karen Winston, Jane Crum, Sariga Santhosh

Partners: Traci Adair, Mary Snodgrass, Alexis Rinck

I. Medicare Cliff: Ann Vining (Staff Attorney, Northwest Health Law Advocates)

This presentation covered the “Medicare Cliff” and the health care affordability problems for Medicare beneficiaries in Washington State.

II. Meeting Motions

- Motion to approve August meeting minutes
 - Ava: move to modify or accept minutes
 - Moved by Cindy
 - Seconded by June
 - Passed unanimously among council members

- Motion to send HUD letter opposing proposed rule change to the Equal Access Rule

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- Ava: move to accept motion
- Moved by Barb
- Seconded by Cindy
- Passed unanimously among council members

III. Committee Updates

Executive

- Will not meet after AC meeting.

Advocacy

- Motion discussed to send HUD letter opposing proposed rule change to the Equal Access Rule. This proposal would harm transgender women and others who might be denied services on a religious basis.
- Members interested in W4A/SCOA and Senior Lobby conferences should email Sariga.

P&A Committee

- Committee rescheduled to 9/14 due to federal holiday.

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

- Attended 8/18 meeting of full VSHSL Board, where Senior Committee provided a report on senior center hubs. Shared the role of Areas Agencies on Aging and its advisory council, its coordination of older adult program planning and funding, and the partnership with county on VSHSL dollars.

State Council on Aging

- W4A and SCOA will be convening its annual conference: 10/21, 10 am – 2 pm

Northwest Universal Design

- No updates

Mayor's Council on African American Elders (MCAAE)

- Council continues to meet virtually on Zoom. At the August meeting, Cathy provided COVID-19 updates at the federal, state, and local level. For the September meeting, the council will hear from Mary Pat O'Leary (ADS) on holistic approach to fall prevention.
- The second annual Grandparents Day event is Sunday, September 14, from 12 to 2pm.

IV. Nominations Committee Selection

- Dick, June, Zelda and Marli volunteered to select 2021 officers

V. Partners Report

Seattle King County Public Health Department (Mary Snodgrass)

- Lower COVID-19 case counts, but likely attributed to less testing because of smoke. Median age of COVID-19 deaths is 80, but infection is highest among those under 40.
- Cities in South King County along the i-5 corridor continue to experience the highest positivity rates in the county. In the past couple of weeks, Public Health opened two free testing sites in South King County in partnership with Auburn and Renton.
- Mobile teams are working on trauma informed strategies for people living unsheltered to encourage them to enter isolation and quarantine facilities. The workplace investigation team is working with a faith-based taskforce to provide messaging in places of worship experiencing outbreaks due to social gatherings. The schools and childcare team is collecting and tracking case data from universities.
- Flu and COVID-19 will be circulating simultaneously this season and there are many overlapping symptoms. Anyone with symptoms for either should get tested right away.
- Public Health is working with partners to get word out that there will be sufficient supply a flu vaccine. The same high-risk groups (older adults, people with chronic health conditions, pregnant women) impacted by COVID-19 are experiencing the majority of flu-related severe illness and death. Disparities in flu vaccine uptake and treatment disproportionately impacts BIPOC communities.

Department of Community and Human Services (Traci Adair)

- Kinship Care RFP applications are under review and will be announced in coming weeks.
- Older Adults team is still connecting with levy-funded senior centers every other week to figure out how they'll provide access remotely in the longer term.

Sound Cities Association (Alexis Mercedes Rinck)

- Sound Cities is continuing to work with the elected officials in 38 cities in regional collaboration and information sharing.
- Actively organizing an equity and social justice series every second Fridays of the month, on topics ranging from policing to lived experiences of BIPOC youth.

VI. Director's Report (Cathy Knight)

- No updates from Congress on the next economic relief bill.
- AL TSA is still considering severe cuts to the long-term care budget. Protecting our long-term care continuum and keeping Medicaid clients in their homes is our top priority.
- DSHS will be transmitting their decision packet to OFM on Monday. Long term Care Coalition is ready to share press release advocating against deep cuts.
- There is support for programs that offer greater returns on investment, but messaging needs to include equity issues that cuts would pose, especially on BIPOC communities.
- The fall advocacy conferences (10/21 – 10/22) is a great resource for this council. Our keynotes are nationally renowned aging experts, Sandy Markwood and Bob Blancato.
- Mayor's budget comes out soon, but HSD anticipates less severe cuts than other city departments due to nature of our work. Council will deliberate for the next two months and release their budget proposal by week of Thanksgiving.