



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 November 12, 2021

Advisory Council Members

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

Others present:

Guests: Andy Gordon-Maclean, Dat Nguyen, Morgan Shook, Valerie Torres, Kristine Rompa, Sarah Emmans, Christena Coutsobos, Terri Cleveland, Pamela Williams, J Wong

AAA Partners: Mary Snodgrass, Traci Adair, Hali Willis

AAA Staff: Mary Mitchell, Maria Langlais, Andrea Yip, Andrea LaFazia-Geraghty, Karen Winston, Jon Morrison Winters, Lenny Orlov, Angela Miyamoto, Jeff Sakuma, Lori Sanford, Sariga Santhosh

I. Family Caregiver Support Month Proclamation: Seattle City Councilmember Lisa Herbold

Christena from Councilmember Herbold’s office shared Seattle City Council’s proclamation recognizing November as Family Caregiver Support Month and sharing the various programs and supports available for caregivers in the City of Seattle.

II. **Tax Structure Scenarios for Washington State: Andy Gordon-Maclean, Dat Nguyen, Morgan Shook, Valerie Torres, Kristine Rompa, and Sarah Emmans (Tax Structure Work Group)**

This month, we heard from experts with the Tax Structure Work Group about efforts to update Washington’s tax structure. This interactive presentation included background about current tax structure, different scenarios under consideration to improve fairness, adequacy, stability, and transparency, and opportunities for attendees to ask questions and share comments.

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In partnership with:



III. Meeting Motions and Council Business

- Motion to approve September meeting minutes
 - Moved by Cindy
 - Seconded by Barb
 - Passed unanimously among council members
- Motion to send letter to Department of Health's Certificate of Need Program in support of YBG Healthcare proposal to create the first Black-owned hospice in King County
 - Moved by Larry
 - Seconded by Sue
 - Abstention by Barb
 - Passed with approval from rest of present members

IV. Committee Updates

Nomination

- Members – Zelda Foxall, June Michel, Barb Williams
- Committee will introduce slate of 2022 officer candidates at December meeting.

Advocacy

- Members are busy with state and federal advocacy meetings.
- Heard from Nathan Yemane (YBG Healthcare) about proposal to create the first Black-owned hospice in King County with cultural competency in mind. Nathan is looking for support for the Certificate of Need application.

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

- No updates

Northwest Universal Design Council (NWUDC)

- No updates

Mayor's Council on African American Elders (MCAAE)

- Did meet and greet with Rex Brown, Director of HSD's Safe and Thriving Communities Division at the October meeting, who shared his vision and goals for new unit.
- Excited about funding in Mayor's and City Council's budget for African American Nurse Program, a long-time advocacy priority for MCAAE!
- 11/13 African American Caregivers Forum with keynote by LueRachelle Brim-Atkins.

Age Friendly Seattle

- 11/18 Coffee Hour - Rex Brown, Director of HSD's Safe and Thriving Communities Division
- 34 episodes of Close to Home since pandemic started. In 2022, Coffee Hour and Close to Home will merge to monthly events. Exploring hybrid options.
- Hired new Age-Friendly Program Manager. Her first day will be November 24th.

V. Partners Report

Department of Community and Human Services (Traci Adair)

- Finished with VSHSL senior programming RFPs for the year. Focusing now on connecting with contracted providers to identify service gaps.
- Discussions are ongoing about moving away from fully virtual programs (senior hubs, procurements, etc.) and accommodating hybrid needs.

Public Health Seattle/King County (Mary Snodgrass)

- King County is still experiencing high levels of COVID transmission, but there is a big decrease in COVID incidence rate (total number of cases over past seven days per 100,000 residents). In August, our incidence rate was 199. Now, it is 106.
- Incidence rate for nearly all age groups has plateaued over the past week and case counts and incidence rates are falling for all race and ethnicity groups.
- The vast majority of COVID-19 hospitalizations and deaths are among the unvaccinated.
- Booster shots are recommended for everyone, but especially for those 65 and older who have underlying medical conditions or live/work in long-term care settings.
- In King County, 83% of people ages 12 and over are fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and 89% of people 12 and older have received at least one dose.
- The Pfizer vaccine was recently approved for 5- to 11-year-olds and will be available in pediatrician offices, family clinics, and some pharmacies in King County.

Sound Cities Association (Hali Willis)

- No updates

VI. Director's Report (Mary Mitchell)

- ADS has been busy connecting with key state legislators ahead of 2022 legislative session. Thank you to all Advisory Council members who joined meetings to advocate for the AAA Case Management and Personal Needs Allowance. Legislators have been mostly supportive, but stories will be key to making our asks compelling during a short session.
- ADS staff and Advisory Council members have been active with federal advocacy, the latest with Rep. Schrier (10/25), who we thanked for supporting 'Build Back Better' plan
- Last week, the House passed the \$1.2T bipartisan infrastructure bill, which includes \$65B for internet broadband. The bill is on its way to the President for signature.
- Next on Biden's agenda is passing the Build Back Better plan, his social safety net and climate change plan. Current version includes \$1.2B for Older Americans Act Programs, Medicare hearing coverage, and \$150B for home- and community-based services.
- ADS is continuing conversations about return to work, including resuming in-home visits with case managers. Some clients have not been seen for close to 2 years.
- Hiring is underway for HSD Deputy Director who will manage the homelessness and aging portfolios. Hiring process is expected to wrap up by early December.
- HSD is preparing for incoming Mayor-elect Harrell, who will appoint HSD Director.