



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
March 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kim-Khánh Van	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sue Weston	<input type="checkbox"/> Barb Williams
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dick Woo		

Friends of the Advisory Council

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

Guests: Marvin Eng, Jena Yang, Josette Wicker, Pamela Williams

AAA Staff: Cathy Knight, Maria Langlais, Irene Stewart, Andrea LaFazia-Geraghty, Andrea Yip, Angela Miyamoto, Karen Winston, Sue Siegenthaler, Brent Butler, Jane Crum, Sariga Santhosh

Partners: Traci Adair, Mary Snodgrass

I. Casework Program – Office of Congressman Smith: Josette Wicker, (Caseworker) and Jena Yang (Casework Director)

This month, we heard from Congressman Smith’s Casework team about programs the office facilitates and addressed questions related to federal issues.

II. Meeting Motions and Council Business

- Motion to approve February meeting minutes
 - Dick: move to modify or accept minutes
 - Moved by Cindy

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- Seconded by Larry
- Passed unanimously among council members

III. Committee Updates

Advocacy

- Congress passed the American Rescue Plan, which was signed by President Biden yesterday. Includes \$1.4 billion for Older Americans Act programs, mostly for nutrition and Title 3b programs. Also includes a 7.5% increase to FMAP.
- Discussed status of bills in legislature on long-term care, progressive revenue, and digital divide. Sariga sent priority bills tracker prior to meeting to AC members.

Planning and Allocations:

- Had two prospective new members join us at the March P&A meeting: Joe and Barb
- Interlocal agreement passed County Council and formally recognizes the partnership between AAA and our county partners. Excited about next steps, which includes recruiting from districts not currently represented on Board.
- City budget update: ADS is looking at 2022 budget. In March, ADS starts assessing community need and submits proposal to the city by end of March. In early April, we finalize plans and start early projections. Compared to state and federal \$, city funding is a small part of ADS budget and typically dedicated for programs within city boundaries.
- Received an emergency food planning update from Angela Miyamoto. ADS received \$5.4M from first two stimulus packages for nutrition programs. With enhanced funds, ADS created two new programs: short term meal and grocery delivery programs. A tight criteria (over 60, living in King County, not able to get food or meal for themselves, not have resources to get meals on their own) might have excluded some people, so ADS loosened restrictions in 2021 to serve more people. ADS also recently sent out a survey to congregate and home delivered meal providers to assess current financials and anticipate future \$ needs. Angela will share results once results are available.

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

- Elections to replace outgoing VSHSL Board Chair won't happen till June 2021.
- Seniors Committee received a presentation on awardees of veteran childcare grants, a resource that helps meet childcare needs for veterans while completing their education.

State Council on Aging

- Continuing conversations about challenges to getting vaccines.
- Workgroup under ALISA is looking at ways to address social isolation and digital divide.

Northwest Universal Design

- Business partner finally received state approval to offer continuing education classes for realtors about accessibility in homes. Goal is to get realtors educated about the needs of universal design, but hoping to customize classes for other groups as well.

Mayor's Council on African American Elders (MCAAE)

- Speaker at February meeting was County CM Girmay Zahilay and it was a great meeting. Members were engaged and we learned about his priorities and accomplishments.
- March meeting will include speakers from Community Health Partners on their services for older adults and the State Department of Health as a follow-up to an earlier presentation in October.
- Received 5 applications for MCAAE and waiting on Mayor's office for approval.

Age Friendly Seattle (MCAAE)

- Recently released the [2020 Age-Friendly report](#).

IV. Partners Report

Seattle King County Public Health Department (Mary Snodgrass)

- County is averaging 128 new COVID cases daily. Keeping an eye on contagious variants.
- While we're seeing a downwards trend in COVID-related hospitalizations and deaths overall, the most impacted remain older adults and BIPOC in South King County.
- Efforts to improve access for BIPOC elders. Age at Kent and Auburn sites reduced to 65.
- J&J vaccine was recently approved. Only one shot, but won't be available till late March.
- Last week, K-12 school staff and childcare workers became eligible for the vaccine.
- County wide coordination with EMTs to vaccinate adult family homes and low-income senior housing is ongoing. Starting a pilot project to vaccinate homebound older adults.
- There is a team that works on setting up community vaccination events and pop-ups.
- By May, we'll start getting plentiful supply of vaccine. President Biden recently announced there will be enough vaccines for every adult in the country by May 31. We've built the infrastructure over the past months to deliver 300,000+ doses per week.

Department of Community and Human Services (Traci Adair)

- In the process of updating 85 contracts and will be working on an annual report this year. Will be available to share in early summer.
- Continuing to host calls with VSHSL-funded senior centers across King County and will be adding on 13 additional centers through contracts.

V. Director's Report (Cathy Knight)

- We'll likely see \$7B coming to the state through the American Rescue Plan. \$4.3B is tied to state government and another \$1.5M to counties.
- State revenue forecast looks good, especially with infusion of federal dollars.
- HSD will be hiring a new Director for the Safe and Thriving Communities division soon.
- City budget planning process is beginning for 2022.