



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 10, 2021

Advisory Council Members

<input type="checkbox"/> Jenny Becker	<input type="checkbox"/> Ava Frisinger	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Zelda Foxall
<input 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dick Woo		

Others present:

Guests: Marc Dones, Christa Sherbet, Avelino Estrada, Terri Cleveland, Catherine Swearingen

AAA Partners: Mary Snodgrass, Traci Adair, Hali Willis

AAA Staff: Mary Mitchell, Andrea Yip, Maria Langlais, Irene Stewart, Karen Winston, Jon Morrison Winters, Gemma Borg, Sue Siegenthaler, Jane Crum, Lenny Orlov, Angela Miyamoto, Sariga Santhosh

I. Homelessness in King County – Marc Dones, CEO (King County Regional Housing Authority)

Marc joined us this month for an informal introduction as the CEO for the county’s first regional homelessness authority. They shared their background, KCRHA’s work to date, and how the AC can be a better partner in finding solutions to address the homelessness crisis.

II. Meeting Motions and Council Business

- Motion to approve August meeting minutes
 - Moved by Cindy
 - Seconded by Larry
 - Passed unanimously among council members

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In partnership with:



- Motion to approve ADS' proposed 2022 discretionary budget plan
 - Moved by Larry
 - Seconded by June
 - Passed unanimously among council members

- Motion to approve the 2021 Area Plan update ahead of November 1 state deadline
 - Moved by June
 - Seconded by Sue
 - Abstention by Diana
 - Passed with approval from rest of present members

III. Committee Updates

Advocacy

- Members are busy with state and federal advocacy meetings.
- Discussed WA Cares updates and healthcare worker shortage – two issues for the Legislature to address this session.
- W4A/SCOA and Senior Lobby conferences are on 10/20 and 10/21 respectively. Let Sariga know if you're planning on attending.

Planning and Allocations

- Received update on the 2022 discretionary budget (\$7.5M) plan - will remain status quo except for 2.4% COLA adjustments to city contracts. Most \$ goes to nutrition programs.
- Allison Boll and Jon Morrison Winters shared plans for ARPA funds - \$7.5M over 3 years
 - Primary goal is to sustain and grow allowable Older Americans Act activities (nutrition, elder abuse case management, transit fare subsidy program, etc.)
 - Secondary goal is to focus funds on newly allowable expenditures to negative health effects of social isolation due to COVID-19 (CAPABLE, etc.)
 - Administrative costs to manage new contracts and a mandated data infrastructure transition will phase out in years 2 for more social-connectivity projects.
- Karen Winston shared the most recent version of the Area Plan update, which included feedback from the public hearing (Appendix II). Needs a vote ahead of state submission.

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

- Moving to bi-monthly meetings. Next meeting is in September

Northwest Universal Design Council (NWUDC)

- Met with Jon Morrison Winters and continuing work to engage interested individuals (via listserv and social media) to ramp up NWUDC activities.

Age Friendly Seattle

- Groundbreaking ceremony today for Pride Place (Sound Generations), Washington State's first ever LGBTQIAA++ affirming and affordable senior housing community.
- September Coffee Hour will feature Andres Mantilla, Director of Dept of Neighborhoods.

IV. Partners Report

Department of Community and Human Services (Traci Adair)

- King County has an ARPA-funded RFP out for intergenerational programming at senior centers to address social isolation/loneliness in communities hit hardest by COVID-19.
- Another ARPA-funded RFP focused on senior centers will be released later this year.

Public Health Seattle/King County (Mary Snodgrass)

- High levels of transmission with Delta variant – average of 558 new cases a day. Still too soon to tell how this will change as schools reopen and people move indoors.
- The unvaccinated are 7x more likely to test positive for COVID, 50x more likely to be hospitalized for COVID, and 30x more likely to die from COVID-19.
- Masking is back. Last week, an order went into effect in King County mandating masks in most indoor settings and events with 500+ people. A similar state mandate is coming.
- Boosters (Pfizer, Moderna) are available for people who have significantly compromised immune systems. FDA and CDC are working on approval for boosters for everyone.
- State employees, health care workers, K-12 and higher education staff, and childcare providers must be fully vaccinated by 10/18. King County and many large employers are instituting similar policies. Yesterday, President Biden announced mandate requiring businesses with 100+ employees require employees get vaccinated or get weekly testing.
- King County is working on a vaccine verification policy for entrance to certain businesses (restaurants, gyms, movie theaters, etc.) and events. A copy of your vaccine card, screenshot of myIR, or documentation from medical provider works. Medical and religious exemptions are not accepted, but individuals can be admitted if they have proof of a negative test within 72 hours. This policy does not apply to those under age 12.

Sound Cities Association (Hali Willis)

- New liaison to the Advisory Council. Graduated from University of Washington's Public Policy program in June and interested in human services and social issues.

V. Director's Report (Mary Mitchell)

- At the federal level, House and Senate passed \$3.5T budget resolutions with many of our federal priorities (Medicare expansion, \$ for HCBS, etc.). Coming weeks will see negotiations to reconcile different packages.
- With area hospitals (especially in northern Idaho and eastern WA) at capacity/in triage mode and the Delta variant still around, COVID will be on legislators' minds this session.
- W4A will host an advocacy training on 9/13 about our case management ask. Our other priorities this session include strengthening Personal Needs Allowance and WA Cares.
- Vaccine mandates and low pay are causing workforce issues in the long-term care field.
- Mayor's budget comes out this month and we don't anticipate big changes, except modest increases for COVID work. Council will release their budget in November.
- ADS working on return to work (mandates, home assessments, in-person services, etc.)