



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

April 8, 2022

Advisory Council Members

<input type="checkbox"/> Zelda Foxall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joe Hailey	<input type="checkbox"/> CM Marli Larimer
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Larry Low	<input 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 type="checkbox"/> Sue Weston
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Barb Williams	<input type="checkbox"/> Dick Woo	

Others present:

Guests: Cindy Black, Alex O'Reilly, Keo Capestany, Michael Weinstein, Janitsa Z. Dolan, Haley Cohen, J Wong, Christy Stangland

AAA Partners: Traci Adair, Hali Willis

AAA Staff: Tanya Kim, Michael Bailey, Mary Mitchell, Maria Langlais, Andrea Yip, Andrea LaFazia-Geraghty, Kevin Mundt, Jeff Sakuma, Karen Winston, Allison Boll, Dinah Stephens, Angela Miyamoto, Sue Siegenthaler, Irene Stewart, Dinah Stephens, Jane Crum, Lori Sanford, Sariga Santhosh

I. Elections + Voting Access: Cindy Black (Executive Director, Fix Democracy First)

This month, we heard about latest issues facing a fair and representative democracy. This presentation covered redistricting, national voter suppression efforts, and a Q&A session.

II. RSJ Discussion: "[Why I'm not seeking re-election](#)" by Rep. Harris-Talley (South Seattle Emerald, 03/29/2022).

III. Meeting Motions and Council Business

- Motion to approve March meeting minutes
 - Moved by Barb
 - Seconded by Larry
 - Passed unanimously among council members

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In partnership with:



IV. Committee Updates

Advocacy

- Discussed 2022 session wins. Shifting gears now to President's latest budget proposal.
- Discussed Direct Contracting Entities (DCEs) and how this policy change could hurt older adults and privatize Medicare.

Planning & Allocations Committee

- Received overview of Minor Home Repair program, which provides home repair services to low-income homeowners who need minor home repairs or accessibility modifications.
- Unlike other programs, eligibility is not tied to age, though 90% of programs clients are older adults. Client services are capped at \$4,000 over 3 years per household.
- ADS invests ~\$450,000 of City of Development Block Grant funds annually into program - subcontracted to Sound Generations. The goals of the program are preventing displacement, aging in place, and preserving low-income housing stock in community.
- In 2018, the program served 438 and staff performed 1,419 jobs.
- ADS conducted an evaluation recently to better understand program needs and found that ~31,000 households could be eligible for program, but flat funding has been flat since 2003. Also, while there is clear need for expansion, capacity has been an issue.
- Recommendations for improvement:
 - Increase countywide coordination (develop contractor list, data sharing, joint intake forms) to help homeowners connect with best resources for their needs.
 - Increase outreach efforts to identify language/cultural barriers and orient new clients
 - Expand scope of program to include chore services (yard work, clutter removal, etc.) and/or CAPABLE (Community Aging in Place – Advancing Better Living for Elders) program that are currently not covered by program.
 - Eliminate 3-year \$4,000 cap to accommodate clients with multiple repair needs.

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

- Presented two issues: caregiver shortage and funding + County grants for older adults.
- Discussed VSHSL renewal activities and plans for the unspent funds.

Northwest Universal Design Council (NWUDC)

- Had first steering committee last Tuesday. Lots of good ideas and public interest. These meetings will take place first Tuesdays of the month at 3 pm.

Mayor's Council on African American Elders (MCAAE)

- At the March MCAAE meeting, members heard from Dinah Stephens, who provided an overview of the last 5 years of Age-Friendly Seattle.
- The April meeting will include a presentation from Dementia Friends about their efforts to recruit BIPOC volunteers and address stigma toward people with dementia.
- SHARP hopes to launch program in July and is recruiting a part-time (8 hours/week) program assistant to help in the Central Area Senior Center with program coordination.

Age Friendly Seattle

- Age Friendly Coffee Hours moved to a panel format starting in March. Coffee Hour will be on hiatus in April and resume in May for a celebration of older adults for Older Americans Month.
- The Age Friendly team is assessing Gold Card program performance. Learned from Seattle Animal Shelter that 5000+ people used their cards for pet licenses. The Seattle Aquarium is another major venue for card use. There will be more robust outreach this spring and summer to reach out to more establishments and encourage businesses to join our discount directory so that more folks can access discounts.

V. Partners Report

King County Department of Community and Human Services

- Levy renewal work is in full swing ahead of ballot vote in 2023. There is lots of community outreach and planning underway. Department is also working on their annual Levy report to share results and success stories. Simultaneously, department is working on reports for the Legislature in preparation for Levy renewal.
- DCHS is planning a hybrid VSHSL Summit May 10 – 12 at the Museum of Flight. There will opportunities for people to register for different days and specific agenda items.

VI. Director's Report

- Mary had a great time in DC at the USAging Policy Briefing, learning more about the issues and meeting with congressional reps. Some of issues discussed were caregiver shortage, affordable housing, and building equity into OAA planning.
- ADS Director hiring update: There is a position description out and we're collecting community feedback. ADS is also looking at various channels to share job posting, especially BIPOC channels. Hoping to fill position by August.