



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 14, 2023

Advisory Council Members

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| <input checked="" 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"/> Tom Minty | <input type="checkbox"/> CM Tammy Morales |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alex O'Reilly (pending) | <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"/> Barb Williams |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dick Woo | | |

Others present:

Guests: Daaniya Iyaz, Mary Diggs-Hobson, Vicki Lockwood

AAA Partners: Traci Adair, Hali Willis

HSD Staff: Mary Mitchell, Maria Langlais, Jeff Sakuma, Irene Stewart, Karen Winston, Sue Siegenthaler, Jess Chow, Lori Sanford, Sariga Santhosh

I. King County Heat Planning – Daaniya Iyaz (Department of Natural Resources and Parks).

This month, we heard from County staff supporting the development of the region’s extreme heat strategy. This presentation included discussions about issues and barriers to address for older adults and people living with disabilities, the work underway to develop mitigation plans with heat sensitive populations, and a Q&A for attendees.

II. RSJ Moment: [“The Next ‘Big One’ Could Mean Big Displacement for Seattle’s Black Population”](#) by Glen Stellmacher (South Seattle Emerald, February 22, 2023).

III. Meeting Motions and Council Business

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

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ADSAdvisoryCouncil.org

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IV. Committee Updates

Advocacy

- Legislative session is nearly done – many bills we’re tracking are in a good place. The Death with Dignity bill passed both Chambers as is on its way for Governor’s signature.
- Funding for AAA Case Management Program will likely be lower than we asked for.
- Lots of discussion about the upcoming Crisis Care Centers Levy issue on the April ballot.

Planning & Allocations Committee

- Members continue to participate in strategy mapping sessions for outreach using the [People’s Institute for Survival and Beyond](#) principles.

Veterans, Seniors, Human Services Levy (VSHSL) Board

- No updates

Universal Design Council (NWUDC)

- No updates

Mayor’s Council on African American Elders (MCAAE)

- MCAAE met at the [UW Memory Hub](#) in March. Members signed up for committees informed by their 2023 advocacy priorities:
 - affordable housing and rent control
 - social isolation (internet connectivity and affordability, transportation access, etc.)
 - financial literacy and fraud prevention.
 - health disparities and community services for older African Americans.
- April meeting will focus on expectations of committee chairs, timelines, and developing goals and objectives for each committee.
- Working with the Alzheimer's Association on a caregiver resource fair on 6/8 – 6/10 at the Tukwila Community Center.

Age Friendly Seattle

- No updates

V. Partners Report

King County Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)

- Lots of community conversations around Veterans, Seniors, Human Services Levy renewal in August. Actuarial estimates show an increase of \$17 per household per year for the updated levy. The department is hosting open houses and the VSHSL Summit on 5/3 and 5/4 at the Museum of Flight.
- The Age-Friendly Seattle and the Older Adults & Healthy Aging teams are planning follow-ups to the Age-Friendly housing discussions. There will be a virtual meeting on April 23 to dive deeper into the four categories discussed at previous events.

Public Health Seattle/King County

- No updates

Sound Cities Association

- No updates

VI. Director's Report

- ADS is hopeful that we will receive additional funding for the AAA Case Management program. The House budget includes parity language for maintenance funding levels.
- After competitive hiring processes, ADS has filled the Budget Advisor (managing a \$111M budget) and Care Coordination Program Director roles. AC members will get a chance to meet the newest members of the leadership team at the June or July meetings.
- ADS currently has 18 vacant Counselor positions and needs help finding candidates with direct experience serving clients in their homes and communities.



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Advocacy Committee Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2023

I. Attendance

- Advisory Council Members: Larry Low, Diana Thompson, Joe Hailey, Zelda Foxall, Barb Williams, Alex O'Reilly
- ADS Staff: Maria Langlais, Sariga Santhosh
- Guests: Mary Diggs-Hobson, Vicki Lockwood

II. Committee Votes

- Motion to approve March meeting minutes
 - Correction from Diana: change 'bills Bellevue Network on Aging is tracking' to 'bills Bellevue Network on Aging and/or Diana is tracking'
 - Minutes as amended moved by Barb
 - Seconded by Joe
 - Passed unanimously among present members

III. Member Updates

- Larry:
 - Beacon Hill residents concerned about crime and impact on local small businesses.
 - Watching Seattle City Council race, including a new candidate from the International District who is making public safety a top issue.
- Joe:
 - Seattle resident.
 - Signed in support of bills backed by the [Washington Low Income Housing Alliance](#) – all which have cleared both House and Senate:
 - [HB 1074](#) (governing landlords' claims for damage to residential premises)
 - [HB 1474](#) (covenant homeownership program to fight housing discrimination)
 - [SB 5197](#) (technical changes to eviction notices and modifying eviction processes)
 - [SB 5198](#) (concerning sale/lease of mobile homes and property on which they sit)
 - [HB 1260](#) (stability for people with work-limiting disability or incapacity)
 - Sent a letter in support of [HB 1628](#) (increasing supply of affordable housing by modifying state and local real estate excise tax), which died in committee.
 - Responded to several calls for action from [Children's Alliance](#):
 - [HB 1477](#) (Working Families' Tax Credit) passed both Senate and House
 - [HB 1580](#) (supporting children in crisis) got stuck and isn't moving this session

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- [HB 1678](#) (increasing access to oral health) passed after 10+ years of advocacy.
 - [HB 1550](#) (establishing transition to kindergarten programs for children in need) was initially promoted by the Alliance, but after changes to critical protections during session, advocates were asked to reverse support.
- Attended a Kaiser Family Foundation webinar on Medicare Advantage; learned how they determine risk associated with certain populations.
- Attended the Age-Friendly Coffee Hour virtually on topic of senior safety.
- Attended the 3/22 [Advance Planning Basics: An Overview for Advocates](#) webinar through the [National Center on Law, and Elder Rights](#).
- The first permanent men's shelter operated by Congregations for the Homeless opens June. It's a beautiful facility and they will have a ribbon cutting event soon.
- Zelda
 - Thanked legislators for support of [HB 1337](#) (accessory dwelling unit bill). Also thankful that [SB 5179](#) (Death with Dignity bill) passed.
 - Reading '[Being Mortal](#)' by Atul Gawande on aging, death, and the medical professions' mishandling of both.
 - House! The extreme heat utility shut-off moratorium ([SB 5366](#)/[HB 1329](#)) and robocall ([HB 1051](#)) bills are also in a good place.
 - Grateful for Rep. Gregersen's hunger relief bill, [HB 1784](#), as SNAP emergency provisions have expired and we're looking at a hunger crisis.
 - AARP signed on in support of the \$4M to the Housing Trust Fund. They will have a webinar on 3/29 about housing affordability for seniors.
 - Met with Rep. Smith's aide about expansion of Child Tax Credit. Cautioned about chances of passage with current Congress makeup but encouraged more stories. Will be meeting with Senator Cantwell next week on same issue.
 - Read an interesting article titled '[What happened to America](#)' article in the New York Times, where they asked twelve people in their 70s and 80s about the state of society, the realities of being a senior, and their hope for future generations.
- Diana:
 - Writing an article on elder abuse for Bellevue Neighborhood News and having a hard time reaching Adult Protective Services for data on elder abuse cases last year.
- Barb:
 - Concerned about the light rail station sites for the West Seattle to Ballard route. Despite purchasing property on First Hill for a midtown stop, King County Council voted on two stops: one in the International District and one in the North. Sound Transit will donate the First Hill site to low-income housing.
 - Took action in support of:
 - [SB 5179](#) (Death with Dignity bill), which passed and is on its way to the Governor
 - [HB 1181](#) (Improving state's response to climate change) to add climate resiliency goals to the Growth Management Act.
 - [HB 1355](#) (updating property tax exemptions for disabled veterans)
 - [HB 1474](#) (covenant homeownership program to fight housing discrimination)

- Following the Crisis Care Centers Levy discussions and learned that seniors and low-income households may be subject to a tax reduction. The League of Women Voters and Seattle Times endorse the levy due to critical mental health needs in this area.
- Also attended the Kaiser Family Foundation webinar and found it insightful.
- Seconding recommendation to read Atul Gawande's book and listen to his TED talks.
- Attended Universal Design Committee's happy hour and met an architect with the City, whose job entails ensuring accommodations in built environments are up to code. Talked about blind neighbors with service dogs who can't access crosswalks and a ramp for wheelchair users that is still under development.
- Alex:
 - Active with Phinney Neighborhood Association and Greenwood Senior Center. Big concern is affording to stay in their homes. Currently volunteering to help neighbors by driving to appointments, taking out trash, etc.
 - Responded to W4A's call for action for AA case management funding.
 - Attended the [4/12 League of Women Voters webinar](#) on the Crisis Care Centers Levy that would provide \$1.3B over seven years for five crisis centers in different King County. The average home will see a \$120/year increase in property taxes if this levy passes and exemptions may be available for seniors and low-income families.
 - Attending a workshop on disability justice for transportation advocates and urban planners next week at the Taskar Center for Accessible Technology (housed within the School of Computer Science and Engineering at UW).

IV. Federal, State, Local Issues

- State:
 - Operating budgets plans came out last week. Senate budget is higher than House as they drew more from the state's rainy day fund (leftover COVID \$). House tapped into a 1/3 of the amount Senate did and are reserving funds in case revenue collections decrease in the next two years to avoid cutting programs down the line.
 - Asks for Health Home and additional Dementia Resource Catalyst sites are in a good place. Case Management allocation is less than our request, but the House budget includes provisions for maintenance level funding. W4A supports House budget.
 - Budget writers in both chambers need to reconcile differences and finalize budgets next week. W4A is in conversation with key legislators this week.
 - Policy bills with substantive changes as they moved through opposite chamber will also need to go back to original chamber next week to reconcile differences.
 - AL TSA is in early discussions with the AAA network about their role in raising awareness of WA Cares and helping eligible folks sign up for the benefit. AAAs assessing infrastructure and support needs before taking on additional work.