



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

June 14, 2024

Advisory Council Members

X	Alex O'Reilly		Dick Woo	X	Lorna Stone
X	Barb Williams	X	Dolores Wiens		CM Marli Larimer (Kent)
	CM Cathy Moore (Seattle)	X	Joe Hailey	X	Patricia Schnepf
X	Cindy Snyder	X	Dr. Joel Domingo	X	Tom Minty
X	Diana Thompson		CM Kim-Khánh Văn (Renton)		Zelda Foxall

Guests: Kimberly Meck, Pamela Williams (MCAAE)

AAA Liaisons: Mariel Torres-Mehdipour

HSD Staff: Michael Adusah, Maria Langlais, Dinah Stephens, Mary Mitchell

I. Presentation

- Disability Empowerment Center – Kimberly Meck, Executive Director
Please see [presentation](#) for more details

II. Race and Social Justice Moment

- A video link [How To Stop Artificial Intelligence From Marginalizing Communities?](#) was distributed prior to the meeting, and a discussion was held during the meeting. Feedback included:
 - An important video on how AI can impact all of us and points out the shortcomings and biases of AI.
 - AI can and has been misused, which may lead to further marginalization in the future.
 - Address how AI is being used, how it's being monitored, how the information is being disseminated, and who is doing the monitoring.
 - Regarding its use within the health industry and its effect on various populations, we must be advocates for controls.
 - AI is currently a buzzword that attracts much attention, so it is imperative to speak up and question potential bias or misuse of AI. As AI is now a part of our lives, we are reminded of our responsibility to monitor its use.
 - Recommend having guardrails and controls on how AI can be used and

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In partnership with:



the overall validity of its use – especially regarding judges using it as a tool for sentencing or employers using it as a tool for hiring.

- The WA State Legislature passed a bill that ensures any fair representation and advocacy of those with disabilities and their advisory committees regarding legislation impacting people with disabilities. The implication is that if AI is to be introduced or enacted, the affected parties should be part of the conversation.

III. Advisory Council Business

- Advocacy Committee – Diana Thompson
 - May meeting minutes were corrected
 - Vote no on Initiative 2109: Repeal of the capital gains tax initiative
 - Vote no on Initiative 2117: Initiative that prohibits carbon tax credit trading, repeals carbon tax credit trading, and repeals carbon cap and investment program.
 - Vote no Initiative 2124: Opt-out of the long-term services insurance program initiative.
 - Previously voted in opposition to the three above-mentioned initiatives. Currently still opposed to the three above-mentioned initiatives.
 - Request that the AC send a letter to the editor voicing our opposition to the initiatives. Request that our opposition be included in the AgeWise King County, if possible.

MOTION: A vote was taken to oppose Initiatives 2109, 2117, 2124, and send a letter to the editor detailing the Advocacy Committee’s opposition to them, and, if possible, have the opposition to these initiatives included in the AgeWise King County.

Move to Accept: Alex O’Reilly

Seconded: Barb Williams

Vote: All members voted in favor of approval without opposition or abstention.

- Planning and Allocations Committee – Lorna Stone
 - Met on June 3, 2024, and discussed updating the guidelines for the Discretionary Allocation Process. It was decided that it was time to rewrite those guidelines. Also discussed requests for qualifications and the various contracts requests that have come to ADS. Those are currently being processed and rated. No reports on that currently.
- VSHSL Board Seniors Committee – Cindy Snyder
 - The committee meeting for last month was canceled. Nothing to report.

- NW Universal Design Council – Tom Minty
 - Met on June 11, 2024.
 - Application for the Seattle Design Festival from August 17 – 22, 2024, has been approved.
 - Working with Dinah Stephens and Age Friendly, Becky Fry with the City of Redmond, Housing and Dorsol Plants with South King Housing, and Homeless Partnership on bringing universal design conversations into comprehensive planning for local cities and counties.
 - Mayor’s Council on African American Elders – Pamela Williams
 - A potluck is being held during the June 21 meeting in recognition and celebration of Juneteenth. Committee updates will be received during that meeting, as well as a discussion with Mary Mitchell about future planning and structure. Everyone is welcome in-person or via Zoom. Contact Karen Winston for the Zoom link.
 - Age-Friendly Seattle (AFS) – Dinah Stephens
 - Continuing to roll out Anti-Ageism training to City of Seattle staff. The animal shelter has made it mandatory for their staff and meaningful discussions were had with them. It was learned that people at the animal shelter often are the first people to touch base with those experiencing a cognitive decline or mobility challenges. AFS was able to ensure the animal shelter staff have the resources to help when faced with those situations.
 - Looking forward to meeting with the Disability Commission of the City of Seattle with Alex O’Reilly and Barb Williams as a peer ambassador to share the Anti-Ageism training. Reach out to Dinah if anyone is interested in becoming an ambassador.
 - Business outreach is underway this summer. Staff and interns are out in the community to recruit businesses to offer discounts for the Gold and Flash Card discount program.
- I. **Advisory Council in the Community**
- Alex O’Reilly
 - New elements of the Senior and People with Disabilities Reduction in Property Taxes Initiative. Attended a presentation from the King County Assessors Office at Greenwood Senior Center on June 5, 2024. staff from the Assessor’s Office took the time to answer many questions. A question regarding issues with the online application process, especially regarding the uploading of documents, came up. Confirmed with staff at the County Assessor’s Office that the IT

department is still working on this, and paper applications were handed out as a temporary solution.

- Questions were asked regarding how certain rental income is being applied to the income requirement. An email was sent to Cathy MacCaul at AARP as this is an issue that must be addressed in the legislature.
- Encourage and continue sharing the Age Friendly “We Love Aging” training with various networks and within communities.
- Lorna Stone
 - Considering the above-mentioned initiatives, the question of why people must continuously fill out multiple applications for programs such as food and COPES rather than one application for various programs is raised.
- Joe Hailey
 - Age Friendly’s announcement of public availability of “We Love Aging” training was shared via Joe’s LinkedIn network and reached about 800 people.

A. ADS Director’s Report – Mary Mitchell

- Attended the Staff Development Conference in Leavenworth, WA.
 - Fiscal panel discussing AL TSA monitoring process.
 - Race: Let’s Talk About It panel discussing how we talk about race and what is being done within ADS.
 - Highlighted the Community Living Connections RFQ process.
 - Multi-Sector Plan.
 - Presented Dinah’s Age Friendly presentation at the W4A conference and played Module 1 of the Anti-Ageism Training, which was well-received. A Zoom working session will be held with other AAAs regarding the creation, roll-out, buy-in, and outreach of anti-ageism training and program set-up.
- In the process for WA Cares, the new long-term care benefit program that is the first in the nation in Washington state. All working people are paying into this fund to have access to benefits starting July 2026. Participating in a media tour to share information about what WA Cares is and its benefits.
 - Spoke with Converge Media, The Day with Tray, Rainer Avenue Radio, and did an interview with Tony B. Two more appearances are scheduled.
 - Want to ensure communities of color understand the WA Cares benefits and when the benefit could be used as there is a ballot

measure for opting into WA Cares.

- Mike Wong is the new ADS Contracts Manager. He was previously the ADS Case Management Manager. Congratulations to Mike!
- ADS will participate in a new pilot, led by Catholic Community Services, for remote caregivers, which will allow clients to opt-in to have some of their caregiver hours used for remote caregiving. This is only applicable for non-physical tasks in areas like medication management and meal reminders. This pilot is an effort to address the caregiver shortage in Washington and will go through October 2024, it is anticipated it will become a full-fledged program. A tablet device will be installed in the client's home to facilitate remote caregiving. Internet access in the client's home is required. The state is funding this pilot.
 - Caregiver tasks that can be done remotely include:
 - Reminding and providing oversight.
 - Monitoring, encouragement, or queuing for ADLs such as bathing, personal hygiene, eating, dressing, medication, and toileting programs, meal preparation, essential shopping, transportation arrangements, blood glucose monitoring, insulin injections, nebulizer treatments, and active range of motion.
- The AAA directors, through the W4A organization, banded together to create a letter for Senator Murray in support of the Older Americans Act reauthorization to emphasize the important roles the AAAs play. The letter requested that a separate title is not carved out in the Older Americans Act to fund senior centers and instead use the existing titles to ensure the AAAs have a role in helping the dispersion of funds.
 - This is important because AAAs provide support to senior centers that may not have the financial support or resources within their communities when money is allocated to their senior centers and to navigate the request for proposal processes done at the federal level. AAAs want to ensure funds are dispersed in an equitable manner regardless of political connections or financial resources.

ACTION: Mary Mitchell will gather more information about the pilot program and the tablet device that will be installed in the client's home, including if the pilot program will pay for internet access in the client's home should the client not be able to afford it.

- **Meeting Adjourned**