



Lewis - Mason - Thurston Area Agency on Aging

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Area Agency on Aging

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Advisory Council

Wednesday, October 6, 2021

9:30 – 12:00 p.m.

Via ZOOM

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83640152824?pwd=VE90Zm5mUFA4NVRoaUUyL3hSQWREZz09>

By phone: 253 215 8782; Meeting ID: 274 391 4614; Passcode: 359778

Members Present

Lewis County: Carol Brock; Cynthia Clark; Liz Hicker, Heidi Buswell, Amy Turnbull, Tim Wood
Mason County: Bill Bezanson; Diane McLean; Jamie Queen Glenn Harper (Chair); Alison Voss
Thurston County: Howard Burton; Michele Horaney; Angela Hock, Judy Stratton

Members Absent

Lewis County:
Mason County:
Thurston County: Eileen McKenzie-Sullivan (Vice-Chair)

Staff Present

Nicole Kiddoo, Executive Director; Jemma Williamson, Deputy Director; Alison Lord, Contracts Manager; Alice Cunningham, Contracts Manager; Lisa Jolly, Contracts Manager; Carrie Petit, Contracts Director; and Lori Thom, Executive Assistant

Guests

Anna Schlecht, Co-chair of Thurston Thrives Senior Housing Team

Welcome & Introductions Glenn Harper called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m. This was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Attendance was taken and introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes and Agenda Glenn Harper, Chair, entertained a motion to approve both the draft meeting minutes for 9/1/2021, as well as the draft agenda for today's meeting, October 6, 2021, meeting. Bill Bezanson, Mason County, made a motion to amend the minutes. Liz Hicker, Lewis County, moved to approve the minutes from 9/1/2021 with amendments and approve the agenda as written for 10/6/2021. Bill Bezanson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Comments from Council Chair – Glenn Harper

Connect to Purpose story was shared to exemplify what the LMTAAA does to support real members of our communities.

Welcome to our newest members, Tim Wood and Carol Brock, each representing Lewis County.

Senior Housing: Key Strategies, resources & needs data

Anna Schlecht

Anna gave a presentation regarding challenges with senior housing options. The data presented was based on Thurston County. Seniors are the fastest growing demographic in Thurston County, and 30% of seniors get 90% of their income from social security, averaging less than \$19k annually.

Reports/Committee Updates

Thurston: *New homeless shelter called Unity Commons, will open in December and contain 65 housing units (and 60 shelter beds) for the older and more vulnerable/frail, low-income seniors. Contact Meg Martin from Interfaith Works to learn more.*

South Sound Senior Services is having a silent auction starting Friday. Please stop by the website to participate.

The Timberland Library has opened the kiosk again on Tuesdays and Thursdays, so books can be picked up from that location again.

Mason County: *Senior Center is serving hot meals again, must be vaccinated and wear a mask when not eating.*

Lewis County: *Carol Brock says waiting for approval for bids to get the centers cleaned up. Waiting for AAA to give approval. Meals are still being delivered, and people are receiving meals at the centers.*

Socialization and Engagement – Angela Hock

Committee has changed their meetings from the first Mondays of the month to the last Mondays of the month.

Result of the GrandPad Surveys shows that the device is most appreciated for games, internet connection, and especially the zoom feature. Training was very helpful.

Grand Pad: doing some zoom meetings so they know how to use it. Sharing info with the clients on resources. Communicating about their QOL. Has proven to be a very beneficial and positive tool.

State Council on Aging – Michelle Horaney

At the meeting on the 28th, Lynn wrapped up her chairmanship. Snohomish Co. Sr. Survey was presented in conjunction with COVID. Results showed that seniors of the area are doing well. Not as many needs in that area, not as many people who participate in senior activities or need AAA services.

Advocacy & Legislative Updates – Michelle Horaney

ALTSA went over legislative issues that we have discussed here, showing that we share goals and priorities. Washington State of Traffic Safety Commission spoke about some proposed changes to help bring aging pedestrians and drivers additional safety.

Executive Director's Report – Nicole Kiddoo

Nicole shared the draft of our new mission statement. Council members gave feedback, most focused on the lack of clarity on the demographic that we serve. The council agreed that our language should be inclusive and use the preferred nomenclature but clarify the audience. The potential of re-branding the LMTAAA in the future was also discussed, as several other AAAs in the state have done. Nicole also shared some dates and registration options for upcoming conferences and webinars.

LMTAAA Area Plan 2022 – Jemma Williamson

Jemma gave an update to the [Area Plan Document](#). Some updates include: our response, goals, and operations update during COVID; a plan to return to in-person field work; maintaining relationships with community partners; socialization and engagement opportunities. Need to reschedule the next Advisory Council meeting on November 17 so this council can approve the plan to move it along to the CoG on November 18.

Voting on approval for the Area Plan will be moved to the beginning of the agenda at the next meeting. Voting will be done by email, if necessary, as allowable by Robert's Rules of Order.

Application process

Need to streamline and standardize the process. Put on CoG agenda for next meeting. Also, we need an elected official. Ideally, council actively solicits members, then applications are submitted to the county and to Lori Thom, who can bring it to CoG. Also, will address any conflicts of interest that may arise earlier in the process. Need to find a way to bring the word to the community that we need members. Need a more robust "advertising" campaign.

Next Advisory Council Meeting

Advisory Council Meetings will continue via teleconferencing until further notice. The next scheduled meeting will be on Wednesday, November 17, at 9:30 a.m., via Zoom.

Glenn asked for volunteers to serve on the Nominating Committee. Angela Hock, Liz Hicker, and Tim Wood volunteered. Vote in December. New chair takes over in January.

Anyone who is interested in serving as chair or vice chair should send an email stating why you are interested to Lori.Thom@dshs.wa.gov.

Adjournment

Glen Harper called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Angela Hock made the motion to adjourn, and Bill Bezanson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 11:48 am.

Submitted by: Lori Thom, Administrative Secretary

Comment