



Area Agency on Aging

Lewis - Mason - Thurston Area Agency on Aging

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Advisory Council
Wednesday, May 4, 2022
9:30 – 12:00 p.m.
Via [ZOOM](#)

Minutes

Members Present

Lewis County: Elizabeth (Liz) Hicker; Heidi Buswell; Amy Turnbull; Tim Wood; Carolyn (Carol) Brock, Cynthia Clark

Mason County: Glenn Harper; William (Bill Bezanson); Margot Conolle; Jamie Queen; Diane McLean

Thurston County: Howard Burton; Michele Horaney; Eileen McKenzieSullivan; Angela Hock; Anna Schlecht

Members Absent

Lewis County:

Mason County:

Thurston County:

Staff Present

Nicole Kiddoo, Executive Director; Carrie Petit, Jemma Williamson, Deputy Executive Director; Mary Beth Mercer, H.R. Director; Jessica Hodges Executive Assistant, Donna Feddern, Community Supports Director; Carrie Petit, Contracts Manager

Guests

Ellen Wendt

Sharon Trask

Kathy Howard

Marla Lund

Louise Ryan

Welcome & Introductions

Eileen called the meeting to order at 9:33 AM, followed by introductions.

Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Glenn Harper made a motion to approve the April 6, 2022, draft meeting minutes and May 5, 2022, draft Agenda. Howard Burton seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Comments from Council Chair – Eileen McKenzieSullivan

Older Americans Month; Distribution of Resource Guides

Goals for 2022 (Review pre-pandemic then and now)

- Focus areas and review - Update goals to reflect staffing changes
- Desire to formulate goal on Socialization and Engagement & Housing Committee as it relates to advocating for housing for seniors in our 3-county area.

Community Updates & Announcements – Anna Schlecht

Glenn Harper reported the commencement of the first Friday fun night in Mason County since pandemic. Anna Schlecht reported on Providence St. Peters moving forward on a project to create 76 homes from chronically ill seniors near the hospital. Building Together is preparing to launch A/C project for seniors. Oil hotel project is not moving forward.

State Council on Aging (SCoA) – Michele Horaney

May SCoA speaker to discuss improving broadband over WA. Michele to email meeting dates to Council.

Socialization & Engagement Committee – Glenn Harper / Angela Hock

Grandpad users update. Flyer is in a place that is ready to distribute. Draft Flyer shared with Council. Printing 2k of these flyers. 500 to meals on wheels, bulk of balance go to senior centers at 25-50 at a time.

Advocacy & Legislative Committee – Michele Horaney

Discussion on issues and topics that need to come to our attention, and best practices. W4A could be pulled in to learn best ways to reach out to our legislators. Waiting to set exact meeting date; everyone invited to join us. Proposed for May 16th 11:15 AM
State Legislative Session Update – Not in session, no update.

Housing Committee – Anna Schlecht

Senior housing needs are the fastest growing demographic. Present information on opportunities, habitat project, Providence and Rebuilding Together. Oya hotel is not moving forward. Whenever Anna can present the formal language, happy to help with that to get in writing into the charter. Invite available to zoom meetings where she brings people in to present on local events. Next Housing Committee meeting 2PM PST May 20th. Providence St Peter will be asked to present.

Older Americans Month – Louise Ryan, Region X Administrator ACL

Report on aging and disability programs within health and human services. Assisted technology act has been essential with COVID whilst older Americans navigate how to live in a digital world. ACL is celebrating 10 years and becoming the federal home for Elder Justice and Adult Protective Services. Prior to COVID, there was no funding for APS – that changed with the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021 which also supports technical center called Sage providing support for LGBTQ. How to put Equity into action was presented with a focus on language access, rural outreach, LBTQ+ and collecting data to build the case. Compliment to the elder care locator.

Executive Director Report – Nicole Kiddoo

Updates and Announcements. Currently, we have 75-1 caseload ratios for Case Managers. AAA is facing challenges in terms of filling those spaces with workforce. No statute change: if any increases happen over the next year, will be asking for the same parody piece. Looking for funding in terms of hospital transition dollars. Governor Inslee had an initiative that was transitioning out of hospital during omicron. Legislature allocated dollars for AAAs to continue that work. In June meeting, looking at a hybrid model. Protocols will be sent out ahead of time as it relates to entering AAA facilities. Request that Council Members hold a brief conversation on questions and concerns on items available to you i.e., assisted listening devices, materials printed, coffee and pastries. Concerns around local counties desire to go back to masks.

Adjournment

Glenn Harper motioned to adjourn the meeting; Margot Connole seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously at 11:57 a.m.

Submitted by: Jessica Hodges, Executive Assistant