



Lewis - Mason - Thurston Area Agency on Aging

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Area Agency on Aging

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Advisory Council Meeting Minutes for Wednesday, February 1, 2023 9:30 – 12:00 p.m. Via ZOOM

Members Present

Lewis County: *Tim Wood, Carolyn (Carol) Brock*

Mason County: *Glenn Harper, Vice-Chair, Tamra Ingwaldson*

Thurston County: *Eileen McKenzieSullivan, Chair; Cat McGaffigan; Ellen Wendt; Michele Horaney; Angela Hock; Anna Schlecht*

Members Absent

Lewis County: Liz Hicker & Heidi Buswell

Mason County:

Thurston County:

Staff Present

Nicole Kiddoo, Executive Director; Jemma Williamson, Deputy Executive Director; Donna Feddern, Community Supports Director; Carrie Petit, Contracts Director; Tobias Santos, Executive Assistant; Lisa Bachmann, Administrative Coordinator

Guests: *None*

Welcome & Introductions

Eileen McKenzieSullivan, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:37 AM, followed by introductions.

Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Motion to accept the Draft Agenda for February 2023 and the Meeting Minutes from January 2023 was made by Tim Wood and seconded by Cat McGaffigan. A vote was taken and carried unanimously.

AAA Area Plan 2023-2027 – Jemma Williamson, Deputy Executive Director & Donna Feddern, Community Supports Director

Jemma Williamson with the assistance of Donna Feddern shared a PowerPoint that summarized many aspects of the AAA Area Plan for 2023-2027. The slides highlighted portions from sections C and D of the plan as well as the Appendices.

Jemma Williamson and Donna Feddern highlighted the Five Issue Area Themes that the agency will address in Section C of the plan. Jemma shared that the first part of this process will be to identify the goals and objectives for each of the areas that will target specific populations; address emerging trends; targeting those with greatest economic and social needs and engage with and collect data from the LGBTQ community.

1. Healthy Aging Programs
2. Expanding and strengthening services and supports that can help prevent or delay the need for Medicaid services.
3. Person-centered home and community-based services
4. 7.01 Plan, which is a collaboration of developing policies and plans between the Agency and local Native American tribes.
5. COVID 19 Response services and supports.

Jemma explained that Section D of the plan focuses on the Area Plan Budget, which includes items such as the Budget Summary, staffing costs and subcontractor costs. She also gave a brief description of the items in the appendices of the plan and then concluded by going through the approval process for the plan, including the timeline and details that specifically relate to the role the Advisory Council plays in the process.

Other Comments on the Area Plan:

Nicole Kiddoo, Executive Director, shared that there are some flexibilities from the COVID 19 Response, that may continue so that members of the community, who were assisted during the pandemic, may still be able to receive some ongoing benefits such as home delivered meals. She also shared that part of the plan process is to take the input from the community forums and learn what gaps there may be in our current services that we need to address.

There was additional discussion and input on potential locations for the forums and the importance of outreach to the LGBTQ community. Nicole Kiddoo requested assistance by Advisory Council members to assist with this outreach and attend meetings of the LGBTQ organizations in our communities.

At the request of the Advisory Council members, Jemma Williamson agreed to send the Area Plan slides to everyone.

Legislative Session: Debriefing – Nicole Kiddoo, Executive Director

Nicole Kiddoo shared that she plans to email information out to the committee members within the next few days with updates. Legislative visits have been going very well. Some of the Advisory Council members discussed which legislators were most engaged. There was also feedback that the one-page handout was perfectly concise and clear for what we are communicating and works as a great tool to share with others. Nicole reminded the council members of the meetings that afternoon with Representatives Couture, Wilcox and Wilson and meetings with other representatives that are coming up and shared that she appreciates the time they are investing in advocating for the agency.

Reports

Community Updates & Announcements – Glenn Harper and Eileen McKenzie Sullivan

Glenn Harper, Vice-Chair shared that the congregational meals are going to resume in Shelton at the Methodist church on February 22 (Note: this date has since been adjusted to mid-March due to unforeseen remodeling needs).

Other upcoming events are:

- Pizza & Beer Night with music is the second Friday of each month at the Shelton Senior Center, with free admission.
- Feb. 25: The Olympia Senior Center is hosting a Charlie Chaplin Bingo night for \$25 with a raffle.
- March 4: Lewis County Seniors is hosting a Night of Magic at The Loft in Chehalis – with raffle/auction/dinner, tickets \$60 including drink ticket; \$20 virtual.

Council of Governments (COG) Report – Glenn Harper, Vice-Chair

Glenn Harper, Vice-Chair reported that the COG will be meeting quarterly in 2023. He gave a brief synopsis of some of the topics from the meeting:

- Legislative priorities
- Area Plan Budget discussion
- Hospital Transition & Health Home Programs

Housing Committee & Charter – Anna Schlecht

Anna Schlecht shared that the first Mason County meeting will be held on Friday, February 17 to discuss how to support and promote senior housing in Mason County. They will start by gathering demographics to be used when they lobby to ensure seniors receive their fair share of support for housing.

State Council on Aging (SCoA) – Michele Horaney

Michele Horaney shared key points from the SCoA report she provided to all members.

- Patricia Hunter, State Long Term Care Ombudsman, discussed the federally mandated Washington State Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program. They work with older persons, their families and their caregivers to resolve issues including but not limited to eviction and improper discharge. She is working on recruiting new members.
- Britta Wilson, Training Coordinator, discussed information from AgePride Center, Goldsen Institute (UW). They provide inclusive services for older LGBTQ+ persons – who face social isolation, the effects of a lifetime of discrimination, and health disparities.
- Cheri Perazzoli, Hearing Loss Association of America, discussed the importance of hearing loss and its mitigation. Hearing devices can improve overall health and help seniors connect or reconnect with their social network.
- The Legislative & Public Education and Outreach Committee will meet in February to discuss the Promotion Plan to raise awareness and seek change on their policy topics.

Socialization & Engagement Committee – Glenn Harper, Vice-Chair / Angela Hock

GrandPads program: We are resolving an issue with our autopay to Consumer Cellular and are working to find a solution so this does not occur in the future.

Advocacy & Legislative Committee – Michele Horaney

Michele Horaney did not have any additional information to add to what had already been discussed today, except that she enjoys being a part of the committee.

Additional Comments – Glenn Harper, Vice-Chair

Glenn Harper, Vice-Chair, concluded the meeting by giving brief descriptions of two plans that encourage clients to take ownership of their own wellness and recovery: the WRAP Program (Wellness Recovery Action Plan) and PEARLS. (Programs to Encourage Active, Rewarding Lives). He suggested the members explore these programs.

Adjournment

Glenn Harper motioned to adjourn the meeting; Tim Wood seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously at 11:39 a.m.

Submitted by: Lisa Bachmann, Administrative Coordinator