



**LEWIS-MASON-THURSTON
AREA AGENCY ON AGING**

Advisory Council Minutes

Meeting Date: February 4, 2026

In Person and via Zoom

AC Members Attendance:

Lewis	Mason	Thurston
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debbie Aust	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Glenn Harper	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Cathleen (Cat) McGaffigan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Heidi Buswell	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eileen McKenzieSullivan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim Wood	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Anna Schlecht
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nikki Storms	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sandi Lewis
<input type="checkbox"/> Willie Merryman	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jeanie James
<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant

Staff Attendance: Nicole Kiddoo, Executive Director; Donna Feddern, Chief of Programs & Services; Valerie Aubertin, Community Supports Director; Carrie Petit, Chief of Contracts & Planning; Kyle Sanchez, Planning Director; Lisa Bachmann, Government Affairs Program Liaison; Sarah Link, Executive Assistant; Chrissy Franklin, Office Manager.

Guest Attendance: Darlene Atkins, Liz Hicker

Minutes prepared by: Lisa Bachmann

Meeting Minutes		
Introductions: Glenn Harper, Chair		
Introductions were made by all		
Approval of draft agenda and previous month draft minutes		
A motion was made to approve the draft February 4, 2026, agenda and draft December 15, 2025, meeting minutes. The minutes were approved with a correction to the spelling of Mon Ami in the Socialization and Engagement Committee report.	Motion	Glenn
	Approved	X
	Second	Cat
Goals - Glenn Harper, Chair		
Glenn Harper shared what the goals for the Advisory Council will be for 2026: 1. A full roster 2. More involvement in Committees 3. Area Plan support 4. Utilization of libraries for outreach 5. Bylaw Review	Motion	

Committee Appointment Discussion for 2026 - Glenn Harper, Chair

Glenn Harper provided a short description on each Advisory Council Committee. He noted who is currently listed as the members for each committee and asked if anyone would like to join a committee or be removed from one. Nikki Storms volunteered to be the new SCoA Representative; Tim Wood and Glenn Harper were added to the Housing Committee; Eileen McKenzieSullivan to the Socialization and Engagement Committee; and Glenn Harper to the Planning Committee.

Recap of Advocacy Days – Lisa Bachmann, Government Affairs Program Liaison

Lisa Bachmann thanked the members who were available to participate in the meetings with the legislators during the Washington Area Agencies on Aging (W4A) Advocacy Days. She gave a brief summary of the Health Homes program for the two new members to the Council. She also shared that the legislators were all very engaged in the meetings and offered words of support for the program. Some of the members who attended the meetings shared positive feedback about their experiences. Nicole Kiddoo and Carrie Petit, participated in the meetings as well and thanked the Advisory Council members for their support and praised them for how they presented the information in the meetings.

Executive Director Report – Nicole Kiddoo, Executive Director

Nicole Kiddoo shared that the Area Agency on Aging (LMTAAA) turns 50 years old this year. Some of the staff are looking into how we will celebrate. The anniversary date is June 4, but the event would be either in the summer or fall. Nicole added that we may create a 50-year logo. She would like to incorporate what would be meaningful for the community from the Advisory Council members. She asked the group if they had ideas for what we could do to memorialize this. We would want to thank and acknowledge our community partners. One suggested was to add a 50-year anniversary seal to our marketing. Another idea was to design a flyer listing our resources and include programs like kinship care, that are less known.

Area Plan – Kyle Sanchez, Planning Director

Kyle Sanchez shared a Power Point with the group. He explained that the agency is tasked with this as part of receiving OAA funding. He explained that usually Area Plans are for four years, but because the cycle reset with the new Older Americans Act (OAA) Regulations, we are going through the process one year earlier. He shared where members can locate the current plan to read. The key issues have changed with the expansion so now there are four categories. He explained the role of the Advisory Council members, including information from Chapter 4 of the Area Agency on Aging Policy and Procedures Manual. This includes assisting with the survey, forums, and review. He explained each task on the timeline. There are seven base questions that the state has identified. These cannot be changed, but we are allowed to include additional questions. Nicole Kiddoo shared the importance of the members

<p>attending the forums as well as inviting others to attend as well. The goal of the forums is to expose unmet needs. All Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Area Plans will be rolled together for one plan that goes to the federal government.</p>		
<p>Community Updates</p>		
<p>Lewis: Tim Wood shared Night of Magic is on February 21 at the Loft. The event starts at 5:00. There is a new magician, dinner and open bar. Heidi Buswell explained that SHIBA is now fully established and will be recruiting for new volunteers. She has been able to help refer some people to LMTAAA.</p> <p>Thurston: Glenn Harper is now facilitating five Death Cafés each month. There will be a Death Care and Life Transitions Expo on March 15th from 2:00-5:00 at Funeral Alternatives of Washington, in Tumwater. The Elderhood Roundtable is held monthly on the 4th Tuesday from 1:00-3:00 at the Lacey Library.</p> <p>Mason: Glenn Harper shared that on February 13, at the Shelton Senior Center there will be a free Aging Well event from 3:00-5:00. Some organizations attending are: Healthy Mason Matters, Veteran’s Village, and LMTAAA. The event will be followed by Friday Fun Night.</p>		
<p>Housing Committee – Anna Schlecht</p>		
<p>Anna Schlecht gave an update on the work the committee is doing. They will be meeting with Mindy Brooks and Meja Handlen to develop the forum. Topics they plan to cover are who needs housing, where, roadblocks, and strategies. She shared the challenge of many living in the eastern part of the county, which is about 90 minutes from most of the resources along the 1-5 corridor. They hope to get newspapers involved promoting the event.</p>		
<p>SCoA – Eileen McKenzieSullivan</p>		
<p>Eileen McKenzieSullivan shared that during the meeting, there was a lot of analyzing on how the advocacy meetings went. There was a speaker from Age and Dementia Friendly Communities. They broke into groups and talked about topics such as how to make housing better for those with dementia, etc. Valerie Aubertin added that LMTAAA is now the regional organizer. Eileen explained that the SCoA is mandated and they hear reports during the meetings from AARP, Bea Rector, W4A, and more.</p>		
<p>Socialization & Engagement Committee – Donna Feddern, Chief of Programs and Services</p>		
<p>Donna Feddern shared that she reached out to Theresa Ziniewicz from Senior Services for South Sound (SSSS). They are calling the Mon Ami program the Well-Check program. There are currently only 5-6 people in the program because some dropped off due to different living situations and no longer need it. The fire department knows about the program and will refer people who seem to be isolated.</p>		
<p>Updates:</p>		

Nicole Kiddoo shared that at the January 28 Council of Governments meeting, the commissioners voted on their positions for 2026. Commissioner Trask will remain in her position as Chair. Commissioner Grant is now the Vice-Chair.	Motion	
	Approved	
	Second	
	Follow-up	
Adjournment:		
The meeting was adjourned at 11:52 pm	Motion	
	Approved	
	Second	
	Follow-up	