



LEWIS-MASON-THURSTON  
AREA AGENCY ON AGING

**Advisory Council Minutes**

Meeting Date: March 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 type="checkbox"/> Heidi Buswell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Williams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Eileen McKenzie Sullivan
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tim Wood	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/> Anna Schlecht
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nikki Storms	<input type="checkbox"/> Vacant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sandi Lewis
<input type="checkbox"/> Willie Marryman	<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; Jemma Williamson, Deputy Executive Director; Chrissy Franklin, Office Manager; Sarah Link, Executive Assistant; Lisa Bachmann, Government Affairs Program Liaison.

**Guests' Attendance:** Kitty Lundeen-Ness, Bob, Maree Lerchen, Debbie Stone, Frank Ordway, Zach Havekost

**Minutes prepared by:** Lisa Bachmann

Meeting Minutes		
<b>Welcome &amp; Introductions:</b> Glenn Harper, Chair		
Glenn Harper convened the meeting, and introductions were made by all in attendance.		
<b>Approval of draft agenda and previous month draft minutes</b>		
Approval of the March 4 draft agenda and February 4 draft minutes was not included on the agenda and will be brought for approval at the April meeting.	<b>Motion</b>	
	<b>Approved</b>	
	<b>Second</b>	
	<b>Follow-up</b>	
<b>Topic: Timberland Library System Resources - Zach Havekost, Public Service Specialist</b>		
Zach Havekost shared information about the Timberland Library System with a focus on free services that are available. He explained that all that is needed to receive a library card is a photo ID with a current address. Once you have your library card you can	<b>Motion</b>	
	<b>Approved</b>	
	<b>Second</b>	
	<b>Follow-up</b>	

<p>request special key cards to access some libraries during expanded hours. This card also allows you to obtain library cards from some libraries outside of the Timberland System, which increases the resources you can access. Some of the resources that are available are: eBooks, which allow you to select a larger font size; movies to stream; free printing and copying (up to \$20 per month); free faxing &amp; free Wi-Fi. There are meeting rooms that can be rented at no cost. There are backpacks you can check out that include items for activities such as birding, start gazing, &amp; fishing, as well as science kits for learning activities and devices to help those with low-vision. The library also provides access to free online resources like newspapers, ancestry.com, LinkedIn Learning, Mango languages, consumer reports and much more. There are free events which are both educational and fun. At the Olympia and Lacey libraries, there are Teen Tech Tutors who are available to help with technology. The website has live chat and email for assistance.</p>		
<p><b>Community Announcements &amp; Updates</b></p>		
<p><b>Lewis County:</b> There were no announcements</p> <p><b>Mason County:</b> The Shelton Senior Center hosts Friday Fun Nights, the second Friday of each month, from 6:00-9:00. This is a fundraiser with pizza, karaoke, dancing and an open bar. Hope Plaza is a resource offered through Faith Lutheran Church in Shelton that provides assistance for immigrants, including a large food bank.</p> <p><b>Thurston County:</b> Senior Services for South Sound is currently conducting a survey for their senior center services and activities for their long range plan.</p> <p>South Sound Behavioral Hospital in Lacey is hosting an event Friday March 6, from 3:00-7:00 about the Monarch Program for seniors. It was suggested this could be an idea for an upcoming meeting.</p> <p>South Sound Legal Services will be receiving cuts for some of their services.</p> <p>The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Death Care and Life's Transition Expo is March 15, from 2:00-5:00, at Funeral Alternatives of Washington in Tumwater. LMTAAA will have an information table there.</p> <p>There will be an Elderhood Roundtable At the Lacey Library on March 24 at 1:00. Valerie Aubertin will be talking about Dementia Friends Communities this month.</p> <p>Mr. Dougs, a restaurant in Yelm, will be having a pancake fundraiser this Saturday from 7:00-11:00 with proceeds going to the Yelm Senior Center.</p>	<p><b>Motion</b></p>	<p>NA</p>
	<p><b>Approved</b></p>	
	<p><b>Second</b></p>	
	<p><b>Follow-up</b></p>	<p>NA</p>
<p><b>Topic: Housing Committee - Donna Feddern, Chief of Programs &amp; Services</b></p>		
<p>Donna Feddern gave a brief review of the desire to have housing forums in each county, starting with Lewis, to learn what the housing needs are for each county and how these needs can be met. Lisa is helping to coordinate scheduling this, and we hope to</p>	<p><b>Motion</b></p>	
	<p><b>Approved</b></p>	
	<p><b>Second</b></p>	
	<p><b>Follow-up</b></p>	

have a date for this spring. Donna has a list of people to invite who care about housing needs and helping seniors.		
<b>Topic: Socialization - Glenn Harper, Chair</b>		
Glenn share info about Twosdays at Tumwater Falls. These are the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 2:00.	Motion	
	Approved	
	Second	
	Follow-up	
<b>Topic: Area Plan; Kyle Sanchez, Planning Director</b>		
Kyle Sanchez thanked the Planning Committee for their help with the flyers that have been created to advertise the forums and share the link for the Area Plan Survey. The flyers were shared with the group. He also shared a portion of the Area Plan Power Point that was included in the meeting last month and gave a brief overview for anyone new. Kyle reviewed the Area Plan Survey questions, including the recommended changes from the Advisory Council Members. It was suggested to make sure the survey is able to be viewed clearly on a cell phone. Lisa Bacmann shared the forum locations and asked that the members watch for an email asking for their participation.	Motion	
	Approved	
	Second	
	Follow-up	
<b>Topic: Planning Committee</b>		
Covered in the Area Plan report.	Motion	
	Approved	
	Second	
	Follow-up	
<b>Topic: SCoA – Nikki Storms</b>		
Nikki Storms explained that this was her first State Council on Aging (SCoA) meeting. She shared that while the revenue forecast is a little better than expected, the are still details to be figured out. There will be some cuts to staff at Social Security. They are looking at utilizing AI, but this could be challenging for callers, especially seniors who are not tech savvy. Volunteer lawyers from Opt-Inspire spoke. They can help educate those who are not tech savvy. The Federal Trade Commission Scam Site is also helpful.	Motion	
	Approved	
	Second	
	Follow-up	
<b>Topic: Legislative &amp; Advocacy Report – Nicole Kiddoo, Executive Director</b>		
Nicole Kiddoo shared that the state budgets dropped last weekend and the Washington Association of the Area Agencies on Aging (W4A) is wading through the info to see how Area Agencies on Aging came out. She thanked the Advisory Council members for their assistance advocating, letting them know it made a difference. There are potential cuts to Case Management. The cut in the House budget is \$2.5 million, with the cut in the Senate budget at \$2 million. Nicole shared that W4A has been very proactive in their planning, which will help if there is a cut. If there are not any cuts on the federal side then we should be ok. Our other services remain at stable funding.	Motion	
	Approved	
	Second	
	Follow-up	

<p>Lisa Bachmann shared that she will be joining Nicole and Sarah Link for the National Association on Area Agencies on Aging (USAging) Policy Briefing March 16 &amp; 17 in Washington DC. They will be learning about the 2026 USAging Policy Priorities as well as meeting with our Federal Senators and Representatives. Nicole explained what the Older American Act (OAA) as well as information about Title 19 Services. She reminded the group that we also provide services for those 18+ with disabilities, which is something people forget. Lisa added information on a sign-on letter generated by W4A regarding potential elimination of benefits for physical, speech, and occupational therapies for adults on Apple Health. Nicole signed on behalf of the agency and Glenn Harper signed on behalf of the Advisory Council.</p>		
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**Announcements**

Valerie Aubertin shared about some information on the role of the agency’s Aging and Disability Resource Connection ( ADRC) team. She explained they take incoming calls, guiding the conversation to find out what kind of help is needed and if they maybe qualify for services. The team also does outreach activities. There was additional discussion about the challenges of assisting community members when there are less funds or services available in the area.

<b>Motion</b>	
<b>Approved</b>	
<b>Second</b>	
<b>Follow-up</b>	

**Topic: Adjournment**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 12:02 pm.

<b>Motion</b>	Tim
<b>Approved</b>	Unanimous
<b>Second</b>	Nikki
<b>Follow-up</b>	