



Area Agency on Aging

# Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area Agency on Aging

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## ADVISORY COUNCIL Meeting Minutes for January 2, 2019

### Members Present

Lewis County: Cindy Mund, Lynn Ford, Deb Mizner

Mason County: Ida Sevier, Carroll Raether

Thurston County: Howard Burton, Dave Hughes, Gwen Gadberry, Mike Robbins

### Members Absent – Excused

Lewis County: Elizabeth Hicker, Lanette Scapillato

Mason County: Glenn Harper, Beth Gizzi

Thurston County: Walter Sulskis

### Members Absent – Unexcused

None

### Staff Present

Valerie Aubertin-Lamb, Carrie Petit, Nicole Kiddoo, Mikle Yow

### Guests

Paul Tosch

### Welcome & Introductions

Cindy Mund, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30am.

### Comments from the Council Chair

At the start of the meeting there was not a quorum, however at 9:35 am three additional members arrived which made a quorum. Cindy Mund, Chair, expressed her excitement to the Council for their upcoming work together in the new year.

### Approval of Minutes & Agenda

Council Chair, Cindy Mund, suggested removing of the word “December” from the second paragraph on page 2 of the December draft minutes before approval. She also recommended removing the State Council on Aging (SCoA) report from the January meeting agenda as there was no meeting of the SCoA in December to discuss. The council agreed to these changes.

Lynn Ford moved to approve the December minutes with the recommended change.

Dave Hughes seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Mike Robbins moved to approve the January meeting agenda with the recommended change. Lynn Ford seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

### **Community Updates & Announcements**

Lynn Ford shared that she attended W.F. West High School's 'Seussical the Musical' play which was a great performance. She also attended a performance of 'Scrooge the Musical' at the Evergreen Playhouse which was also very enjoyable. Lynn reported that she had a wonderful time participating in the Chehalis Santa Parade and the Lighted Tractor Parade with the Master Gardeners and Master Recyclers in downtown Centralia. Council Chair, Cindy Mund, also attended the parade and agreed it was a huge success with 94 entrants and countless people watching from the streets.

Carroll Raether shared with the Council that Paul Taylor with Senior Services for South Sound attended the Shelton Parkinson's Support Group. He gave a very informative presentation about the STARS Adult Day Care program.

Howard Burton reported that the Thurston Thrives Network has created an organization called 'Silver Team' to focus on the issue of senior homelessness in Thurston County. This group will be taking a census called "Point in Time (PIT)" on Thursday, January 24, 2019 to better understand the demographics of the homeless population and why they are in Thurston County. Knowing this information will better guide the investment of federal, state and local funding for this issue. Howard encouraged the Council to volunteer at the census if possible. Discussion ensued on the challenges that seniors are facing with homelessness and not having access to affordable housing options.

### **Council of Governments (CoG) Meeting Report from Vice-Chair**

Ida Sevier, Vice-Chair, was in attendance at the December Council of Governments meeting. She reported that the majority of the meeting was focused on the LMTAAA Area Plan Budget and the Fiscal Director's financial report. Another major topic of discussion at the meeting was the LMTAAA Website Committee's presentation to the CoG. They received approval to hire a company to develop a new website. Executive Director, Nicole Kiddoo, expressed to the Council that she would appreciate their involvement and input in the website development as the project progresses. Lastly, Ida shared that Commissioner Drexler received recognition from the agency in appreciation of her leadership and dedication in her time serving on the CoG.

### **Executive Director's Report**

Executive Director, Nicole Kiddoo, shared that the agency's Directors will be starting their Strategic Planning sessions beginning Thursday, January 3, 2019. They will be focusing on achieving the agency's goals and the organizational structure of LMTAAA. Moving forward, the Council will be utilized for input in this process.

The Council was informed that the agency has hired an internal candidate for the new Fiscal Technician position starting on January 14, 2019. She is looking forward to this

change and shared that there will hopefully be more new positions in the near future.

Nicole informed the Council that currently, there is no final decision on a new Commissioner to serve on the Council of Governments for Mason County as 2018 was Commissioner Drexler's last year on the board. She will inform the Council as soon as possible when a new member is selected for the position.

The Council was reminded that in March, LMTAAA will be launching a Leadership Academy for staff that are interested in participating. Nicole gave an overview of the academy and asked if there were any Council members interested in participating in the review process of the staff interest letters and applications. Howard Burton, Dave Hughes, Lynn Ford and Cindy Mund volunteered to help. Nicole will be contacting them to schedule an available time by conference call or electronically for the review of the applications. The deadline for staff to submit their applications is January 4, 2019 and the participants in the academy will be announced on January 25, 2019.

### **2019 Council Goals**

Nicole recommended that the Council discuss creating a committee for advocacy and outreach as the Older Americans Act is due for re-authorization in 2020. This funding is foundational for the programs that LMTAAA offers. She shared that the National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (N4A) and the Washington Association of Area Agencies on Aging (W4A) are both willing to assist the council in advocating for funding.

Discussion ensued on the 2019 goals for the Council and some key areas of need for seniors. The council broke into groups by county to discuss the major areas of focus for the council in the coming year. There will be additional time set aside at the next meeting for the council to create goals based on the group discussion (notes below).

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:51am.



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**Submitted by: Mikle Yow, Administrative Secretary**

**Notes from the Group Discussions:**

## 2019 Needs

- Communication between communities
- Display for brochures/materials locally
- Transportation
- Adult Day Care
- Meals on Wheels & Senior Center Meals  
improving in nutrition/quality
- Senior Center Activities improving
- Housing Options & Homelessness
- Improve Outreach Strategies
- Diversity on Council & Outreach  
to diverse communities