



Area Agency on Aging

Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area Agency on Aging

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ADVISORY COUNCIL Meeting Minutes for March 14, 2018

Members Present

Lewis County: Cindy Mund, Lynn Ford, Elizabeth Hicker, Deb Mizner, Lanette Scapillato

Mason County: Ida Sevier, Deborah Reis, Beth Gizzi, Carroll Raether

Thurston County: Gwen Gadberry, Walter Sulskis, Howard Burton

Members Absent – Excused

Lewis County: None

Mason County: None

Thurston County: Dave Hughes, Mike Robbins

Members Absent – Unexcused

None

Staff Present

Valerie Lamb, Carrie Petit, Lisa Jolly, Alice Cunningham Kane, Joy McBride, Mikle Yow

Guests

Paul Tosch

Welcome & Introductions

Cindy Mund, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and introductions were made.

Approval of Minutes & Agenda

Gwen Gadberry moved to approve the March agenda with the addition of the following items;

- Council of Governments Meeting Report from Vice-Chair
- Senior Lobby Day Report

Carroll Raether seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Deborah Reis moved to approve the February minutes. Elizabeth Hicker seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Comments from Council Chair

Council Chair, Cindy Mund, proposed adding a standing agenda item in which members from the same county would meet as a group to get better acquainted and discuss local issues and activities that would then be reported back to the larger group at the end of the discussion. It was also suggested that as part of the discussion, the Council members would identify someone from each county to serve on the Ad Hoc Committee.

County Group Reports

Following the county group discussions, the following reports were made to the Council.

Lewis County- Lynn Ford reported that the group recommended adding three additional Committees to the Council: Public Relations, Legislative, and Education Committees. The Public Relations Committee would replace the Ad-Hoc Committee. The Legislative Committee would be to keep the Council informed on Legislative issues, attend Senior Lobby Day, and include the State Council on Aging representative. The Education Committee would help find speakers who could share topics related to issues of interest to the Council. The Lewis County group also suggested that a brochure be created for the Advisory Council to be able to share the purpose of the Council with individuals who may not be aware of what services the Area Agency on Aging offers. Lynn Ford was appointed as the Lewis County representative for the Ad-Hoc Committee and Elizabeth Hicker was appointed to the Recruitment Committee.

Thurston County- Walter Sulskis reported on the Thurston County group discussion. They had discussed potentially waiting to assign anyone to the specific Committees until all the Thurston County members were present to be able to provide feedback. Cindy Mund recommended that Dave Hughes be appointed as the Thurston County representative for the Ad-Hoc Committee since he was involved in the group previously. Howard Burton was appointed as the Thurston County representative for the Recruitment Committee.

Mason County- Ida Sevier reported on the Mason County group discussion. They discussed the issue of transportation in their County and recommended that transportation be a key area of focus in one of the Committees. The Mason County group encouraged putting some sort of advertisement out to local communities in local Senior Centers and libraries to not only try to recruit new Council members, but also to inform individuals of the services the Area Agency on Aging offers and the purpose of the Advisory Council. Carroll Raether was appointed as the Mason County representative for the Ad-Hoc Committee and Beth Gizzi was appointed to the Recruitment Committee.

Discussion ensued regarding the purpose of the Ad Hoc committee and Cindy Mund recommended tabling the Ad Hoc committee for now, and continuing discussion about the creation of a Public Relations committee.

State Council on Aging (SCoA)

Lynn Ford gave a report on the January SCoA meeting. She discussed the areas of focus and Legislative priorities during the 2018 Legislative Session Lynn also gave the Council a brief overview of the SCoA so new Council members would have a better understanding.

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

Vice-Chair, Ida Sevier, gave the Council a report on the February CoG meeting that she attended. She shared that the CoG members were very pleased to have someone there representing the Advisory Council and they are looking forward to hearing from her regularly about what is happening within the Council.

Senior Lobby Day Report

The Council members who attended the 2018 Senior Lobby Day shared their individual experiences and thoughts on the event. Although the snow prevented many of the expected members from attending, it was a very positive experience and highly educational for those who went. The Council members who were able to attend highly recommended that the other Council members participate in the future if they are able.

Interim Executive Director's Report

Interim Executive Director, Joy McBride, reported on the following topics:

Executive Director Position- The Council was reminded that the new Executive Director will be joining the agency on April 4th, which is also the date of the next Advisory Council meeting. Nicole Kiddoo is coming to LMTAAA from the Northern Arizona Area Agency on Aging.

Momentia Program- Joy asked the Council if they would like to hear a presentation about Senior Services for South Sound's Momentia Program at one of the upcoming meetings. The program's purpose is to provide opportunities for people with Dementia and their family members and caregivers to stay more socially involved in their communities. The Council agreed that it would be a beneficial presentation.

Legislative Update- Updates were given on the status of the top priorities that were addressed with the legislators at the Washington Association of Area Agencies on Aging (W4A) Lobby Day on January 31, 2018 and the Washington State Senior Citizen's Lobby Day on February 22, 2018. The Respite Provider Training and the Consumer Driven Employer bills were passed and are waiting to be signed by the Governor, and the Health Home reimbursement increase was included in the budget. With opposition from AARP, the Long Term Care Trust Act bill was not passed; however funding has been set aside for this to be studied in the coming year in hopes of bringing a bill with broader support to the next legislative session.

Tribal Meetings- The agency has begun attending Policy 7.01 meetings with the five local tribes in the area. A meeting with the Chehalis Confederated Tribe was held in

February, and a meeting with the Cowlitz Indian Tribe was held last week. A meeting with the Skokomish tribe is scheduled for April 2, 2018 and the two remaining tribes will be scheduled for meetings soon. These meetings are a great opportunity to discuss how the agency can best communicate with and coordinate services to Tribal members.

U.S. Department of Transportation- The agency was contacted by the United States Department of Transportation to schedule a forum on March 29 or March 30, 2018 in Olympia to meet with agencies and providers that receive Federal funds for transportation services. Discussion ensued on the current issues of transportation within each County and how the problems can be addressed with the Department. All three counties reported issues with current providers not being able to transport clients across county lines. A report will be given to the Council after the DoT meeting.

Aging Mastery Program Kits- The Council was offered Aging Mastery Program (AMP) Kits provided by the National Council on Aging. The kits are designed for individuals to complete the AMP program on their own and at their own pace and then complete a survey, either on paper or online, in order to provide feedback on the program's effectiveness. Members were encouraged to test the kit themselves, and to take kits to share with others in their county, particularly those who live in rural areas.

Non-Medicaid 2018 Contracts Overview

Joy gave the Council a brief explanation of how the money for each service comes to the agency from Federal and State governments then is distributed to the providers who are contracted. The Contracts Managers gave an overview of the 2018 Non-Medicaid contracts. A hand-out was given to the Council members that listed each contract, the providers of each service, the funding information for each contract and how many clients are being served in each service for all three counties.

Another overview will be given at a future meeting for the Medicaid funded contracts.

Adjournment

Before adjourning, Cindy Mund took the opportunity to thank Interim Director Joy McBride for her service as Interim Director. The meeting was adjourned at 11:58am.



Submitted by: Mickle Yow, Administrative Secretary