



Area Agency on Aging

# Lewis-Mason-Thurston Area Agency on Aging

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## ADVISORY COUNCIL Meeting Minutes for August 14, 2019

### ***Members Present***

Lewis County: Cindy Mund, Lynn Ford, and Elizabeth Hicker

Mason County: Ida Sevier, Carroll Raether, and William Bezanson

Thurston County: Howard Burton, Gwen Gadberry and Michele Horaney

### ***Members Absent***

Lewis County: Deb Mizner & Charlene Woodring

Mason County: Beth Gizzi, Glenn Harper, and Debra Jamerson

Thurston County: R. Dave Hughes, and Walter Sulskis

### ***Staff Present***

Nicole Kiddoo, Joy McBride, Valerie Aubertin-Lamb, Carrie Petit, Juno Whittaker, Lisa Bachmann, and Charyl Warriner

### ***Guests***

Paul Tosch, Regional Long Term Care Ombudsman and Jon Rudicil, Director, Washington Association of Area Agencies on Aging

### ***Welcome & Introductions***

Cindy Mund, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:32 a.m. and noted that there was not a quorum. She continued to welcome all to the meeting and introductions were made.

### ***General Discussion (due to lack of quorum; this item was taken out of order)***

Cindy Mund, Chair, discussed the PowerPoint Presentation handout and the proposed outreach message that the Advisory Council has decided to use for community engagement. This presentation was provided to the members, and request for input to be sent to the Chair, Cindy Mund, before the September Advisory Council meeting. It was recommended that once the Council approved the messaging within the PowerPoint, that copies be provided to each member, as well as saving the presentation on a thumb drive for each member.

Group congratulations were extended to Howard Burton on his recent retirement from Panorama. Howard will be taking some time off to travel with family.

***Approval of Minutes & Agenda (Note: after general discussion, additional members arrived, thus meeting the requirements for a quorum).***

Ida Sevier made a recommendation to add the Pledge of Allegiance to the opening of the Advisory Council's meetings starting in September. After much discussion, Cindy Mund, Chair, entertained a motion to start each meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance, to approve the June 5, 2019 minutes as presented, and to approve the draft agenda for the August 14, 2019 meeting. Bill Bezanson so moved; Ida Sevier seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

***Community Updates & Announcements***

Liz Hicker reported that both the Toledo and Winlock centers are doing well. Winlock has been faced with challenges in bringing in money for the association, and the seniors are working diligently to assist in this effort. The recommendation was made to engage more volunteers to help offset some of the additional burden on staff, while asking the Executive Board for their input on how they can assist with finding a positive solution.

Lynn Ford shared that this has been a busy time for Lewis County, as the Southwest Washington Fair is in full swing. She was pleased to announce her success in providing the libraries in Centralia and Chehalis with several copies of our new 2019-2020 LMTAAA Resource Directory. Lynn reported that in preparation to attend the Fair this coming Saturday, that she will be bringing additional Resource Directories to distribute. A general note was shared that LMTAAA Information and Assistance staff host a table the Fair on Senior Day.

Howard Burton extended his thanks and appreciation to fellow Council member, Walter Sulskis for his outreach efforts at the Olympia Farmer's Market on two separate occasions. Walter handed out LMTAAA's 2019-2020 Resource Directories, answered questions, and spoke about the great things the Agency is doing for the aging community. In addition, Howard shared the on-going discussions during monthly Silver Team meetings at the Olympia Senior Center and the efforts toward assisting with senior housing concerns. The Silver Team continues searching for additional partners within the community that would like to help in solving homelessness within the aging population.

Paul Tosch was excited to share that he has (potentially) five new volunteers coming on the latter part of September 2019 to help with the Long Term Care Ombudsman Program.

***State Council on Aging (SCoA) Meeting Report***

As the SCoA did not meet in July or August, Lynn Ford did not have a report to share. The next scheduled SCoA meeting will be in September.

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

Ida Sevier, Vice-Chair, reported that when the Commissioners met in July, they signed vouchers and reviewed reports. The largest discussion was centered on annual

budgets, and how services that were budgeted for are being impacted with an influx of new people from outside of those specific counties. The question arose as to how we determine needs for service. General discussion continued among the group.

### ***Reappointments/New Appointments***

Cindy Mund, Chair, announced the reappointment of Lynn Ford, Elizabeth Hicker and herself, as endorsed by the Board of County Commissioners of Lewis County, Resolution No. 19-202. In addition, Cindy was pleased to announce the appointment to one of our vacant Thurston County Advisory Council seats to Michele Horaney, effective July 9, 2019.

It was noted that there are still a few vacancies on the Advisory Council in both Lewis and Thurston Counties. We have been receiving more interest from individuals to be part of LMTAAA's outreach and advocacy plan by joining the Council and applications are continually reviewed.

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

Executive Director, Nicole Kiddoo, shared her enthusiasm with Howard on his recent retirement and the potential of working with him more in future endeavors.

Nicole spoke briefly about the upcoming Washington State Senior Citizen's Fall Conference on October 24<sup>th</sup>, followed by the Senior Lobby Conference on October 25<sup>th</sup>. The conference will be held at Hotel Murano in Tacoma, and registration is open. The agency would love to see a commitment by our Council members on attending. If you are interested, please contact the office, and we will complete registration on your behalf. If you plan to attend **both events**, LMTAAA will cover your lodging for the evening of the 24<sup>th</sup> at Hotel Murano. This conference will provide an opportunity to work with peers across the state, while networking with others who help support our mission.

The Washington Association of Area Agencies on Aging (w4a) is looking to receive nominations for the *2019 Dennis Mahar Excellence in Action Individual Award*. It was discussed that if the Council wishes to make a recommendation, that they collaborate on who might be a good choice within our community. The deadline for receiving nominations is August 23<sup>rd</sup>, and should be sent via email to [bigger@dshs.wa.gov](mailto:bigger@dshs.wa.gov). A committee will be reviewing nominations and will submit qualified applicants to the SCoA for consideration.

Nicole provided an update on the development of the agency's new website. At this current stage, we have a test site, and will be scheduling a soft launch in the near future. The website committee will launch internally first, with draft content, and then share with the Advisory Council, and others for input. Glenn Harper has been incredibly helpful in collaborating with the website committee to discuss needs for the agency.

Nicole shared that the Agency has decided to relocate our Mason County office to a more centralized location. We are still in negotiation with our proposed landlord, to ensure that prior to occupancy, a few compliance items are completed. Once relocated,

we plan to have an Open House. The target date for occupancy of the new Shelton location is mid-September.

Nicole shifted the conversation toward our 2020-2023 Area Plan and our recent Community Forum participation. She was pleased to have such great discussions with many attendees in all three counties and looks forward to completing the 2020-2023 Plan, which is due October 4, 2019. Updates will continue to come to the Advisory Council on our progress.

***Grass Roots Advocacy – Jon Rudicil, Director, Washington Association of Area Agencies on Aging***

Jon provided handouts to the Council and highlighted the Older American Act (OAA) and the Long-Term Care Trust Act. Recommendations and best practices were shared with Council members on how to reach out to community members, stakeholders and Legislators speaking on services and support needed for the aging population. Jon reiterated the importance of using relatable stories, with personal touches. Much of our outreach is done via email, and using personal stories in the beginning and ending of your email, will allow you to break through barriers that would normally place your email into an area that will not get a personal response.

There was much discussion on Area Agencies on Aging working on a more local level, with hopes of impacting on a greater statewide level. Encouragement was given to build smaller coalitions and split the workload. Our varied expertise will allow us to leverage the power of many stakeholders. The Agency will benefit from consistent, strong messages to local, state and federal elected officials, as we speak to the needs of programs and support for the elderly.

***Advisory Council Meeting***

The next scheduled meeting will be on September 4, 2019

***Adjournment***

The meeting was adjourned at 11:49 a.m.

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**Submitted by: Charyl Warriner, Executive Assistant**