



# Lewis - Mason - Thurston Area Agency on Aging

2404 Heritage Ct. SW  
Olympia, WA 98502

Area Agency on Aging

Phone: (360) 664-2168 • Fax: (360) 664-0791 • [www.LMTAAA.org](http://www.LMTAAA.org)

**Advisory Council**  
**Wednesday, January 4, 2023**  
**9:30 – 12:00 p.m.**  
**Via ZOOM**

## Minutes

### **Members Present**

**Lewis County:** *Tim Wood, Carolyn (Carol) Brock; Liz Hicker, Heidi Buswell*

**Mason County:** *Glenn Harper, Tamra Ingwaldson*

**Thurston County:** *Eileen McKenzieSullivan; Cat McGaffigan; Ellen Wendt; Michele Horaney; Angela Hock*

### **Members Absent**

Lewis County:

Mason County:

Thurston County: Anna Schlecht

### **Staff Present**

Nicole Kiddoo, Executive Director; Kristine Kane, Case Management Director; Jessica Hodges, Executive Assistant, Dan Speigle, CFO, Donna Feddern, Community Supports Director; Tobias Santos, Executive Assistant

**Guests:** *None*

### **Welcome & Introductions**

Eileen called the meeting to order at 9:32 AM, followed by introductions.

### **Approval of Minutes and Agenda**

Motion to accept the Draft Agenda December 2022 Meeting Minutes with the date change of December 14<sup>th</sup> was made by Glenn Harper and seconded by Tim Wood. A vote was taken and carried unanimously.

**Comments from Council Chair** – Save the date – W4A Advocacy training session January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Link will be sent as it is received.

### **Guest Speaker** – Dan Speigle, Area Plan Budget

The LMTAAA Area Plan Budget runs on a 4-year cycle. LMTAA Contracts budgetary items with DSHS. Revenues presented are tied to the Area Plan, which is tied to Older American's Act. Typically, LMTAAA spends the money, we bill the money respectively, we

get the money back, and that structure works well for us. Reference was made to the Medicaid line item as we experienced a significant increase from 2022 to 2023. Questions regarding fiscal cliffs, farmers market program funding sources, COVID funding cliffs were discussed. Expenditures presented with emphasis on the rise of salaries and benefits, with supplies and rentals and leasehold improvements decreasing. Questions regarding "other" line item and the future of the funds if they are not spent were discussed.

Motion to accept budget as presented made by Glenn Harper and seconded by Angela Hock. A vote was taken and carried unanimously.

***Guest Speaker Kristine Kane, Case Management Director***

LMTAAA Launched Health Homes project under Case Management. Health Homes was derived from the Affordable Care act in 2013. In WA state it is comanaged and monitored by DSHS and Health Care with the lead being Olympic Area Agency on Aging (O3A), and LMTAAA is Core Care Organization carrying out the program services. We contracted with O3A in the fall of 2022 and hired on a supervisor who had extensive Health Homes experience. Our first Care Coordinator began on December 1<sup>st</sup> and has been working to get clients enrolled into the program. The program helps clients establish person-centered health goals, works to reduce gaps in services and ensure smooth transitions, whether the transition is from home to needing a more supportive environment, or Increasing confidence and skills in folks for self-management of their condition. Health Homes works to provide additional and intensive support with targeted care for those in the community. The goal is to reduce visits to hospitals and ER's. Because there is a large demand for these services, Health Care Authority determines who meets a certain criterion to access these services. Questions regarding eligibility expansion, WRAP and individual local efforts to support the program were discussed.

***Community Updates & Announcements – Glenn Harper and Eileen McKenzie Sullivan***

Glenn reported Friday fun night, on the 13<sup>th</sup> at Mason County Senior Center.

Eileen reported the Ugly Sweater Bingo held in December was a sellout with over 200 people in Thurston County.

Keep looking forward to the Lewis County Gala and Auction in March. Lewis County is looking at housing for seniors, with open sessions for those interested.

***COG Report – Glenn Harper***

Vice-Chair Glenn Harper shared the most recent COG meeting agenda for reference with Advisory Council on the happenings of a COG meeting. Glenn emphasized COG discussions on staffing and approving position reclassifications and policy approval. Many of the things covered in COG are reported to the Advisory Council by way of Executive Director, Nicole Kiddoo.

***State Council on Aging (SCoA) – Michele Horaney***

Did not meet in December – will meet in January.

***Socialization & Engagement Committee – Glenn Harper / Angela Hock***

No meeting in December as we are regrouping the direction the committee will head. With Donna as the lead, the committee is looking to do volunteer work on the phone reassurance program. Grandpads are still out in circulation and work well for connecting with other Grandpad users. Conclusion of the Committee is that our time is best spent steering community members toward programs rather than physical devices.

***Advocacy & Legislative Committee – Michele Horaney***

The Advocacy and Legislative Committee is charged with keeping up with what is happening with legislature and connecting with W4A, and their lobbyists as well as taking advantage of Nicole Kiddoo's knowledge and connections. There may be an ask at certain points during the upcoming legislative session to send short emails in support of bills that will assist the work by all AAA's. A suggestion was made to get cell phone numbers of Advisory Council members to send time sensitive Legislative items to as tracking email threads can be difficult.

***Housing Committee – Anna Schlecht***

Glenn Harper reported on behalf of Anna Schlecht for the Housing Committee. The Housing committee has meetings scheduled in 3 counties for those concerned with housing. In October, the Informal Senior Housing Alliance, with government officials in Thurston County, elected to meet every other month. Thurston County will be 1/20/23, Mason County 2/17/23 and Lewis County 3/17/23. This rotation will foster work to identify community partners, identify and join senior networks, gather information on population projections and data to promote senior housing through testimony with public comment opportunities and local media opportunities. A desire to obtain the meeting list from Anna was expressed.

***Executive Director's Report – Nicole Kiddoo***

Nicole Kiddoo presented the Advisory Council roles and responsibilities as referenced in the orientation PowerPoint with emphasis on Roberts Rules of Order, Committees, development and administration of the Area Plan, selection of AAA Executive Director, and coordinating with private and public agencies. Questions regarding outreach, and Area Plan public input meetings were discussed with a request for input meeting schedule.

***Adjournment***

Glenn Harper motioned to adjourn the meeting; Tim Wood seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously at 11:39 a.m.

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*Submitted by: Jessica Hodges, Executive Assistant*