



Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services

Advocating for local, state, and national programs that promote quality of life for older adults and people with disabilities in partnership with Seattle Human Services and King County.

Advisory Council Meeting Minutes

April 12, 2024

Advisory Council Members

X	Alex O'Reilly	X	Dick Woo	X	Lorna Stone
	Barb Williams	X	Dolores Wiens	X	Marli Larimer
X	Cathy Moore	X	Joe Hailey	X	Patricia Schnepf
X	Cindy Snyder	X	Joel Domingo	X	Tom Minty
X	Diana Thompson	X	Kim-Khánh Văn	X	Zelda Foxall

Guests: Kiana Parker (Seattle Department of Transportation), Pamela Williams (MCAAE)

HSD Staff: Michael Adusah, Karen Winston, Dinah Stephens, Maria Langlais, Mary Mitchell, Irene Stewart

Presentation

- Public Transportation: Its Barriers and What We Can Do About It – Kiana Parker, Planner for the Seattle Department of Transportation

Please see [presentation](#) for more details.

Race and Social Justice Moment

- Moment 3,000-Year-Old Solutions to Modern Problems (Lyla June) – Michael Adusah

A video link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eH5zJxQETI4> was distributed prior to the meeting and a discussion was held during the meeting with major takeaways being:

- Powerful and fascinating!
- Opened eyes to things that Indigenous people did and do.

Advisory Council Business

- Acceptance of Prior Meeting Minutes** – Alex O'Reilly

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In partnership with:



MOTION: A vote was taken to approve minutes from the meeting held March 8, 2024. The minutes were accepted as written without added comment.

Move to Accept: Joel Domingo

Seconded: Joe Hailey

Outcome: March 8, 2024, approved minutes will be posted as written.

II. Reports from Committees and Councils

- Advocacy Committee - Diana Thompson
 - The Advocacy Committee is concerned about a fall ballot initiative threatening the financial stability of WA Cares. Two other ballot initiatives would overturn the state's Capital Gains Tax and Climate Commitment Act, both of which generate significant revenue for the state budget.
 - For more information, see the email that Michael shared with the council on April 10, which includes links to register individual or organizational opposition to the initiatives.
 - Alex presented a motion that the council go on record supporting a “no” vote on all three ballot initiatives: I-2117 Climate Commitment Act; I-2109 Capital Gains Tax; and I-2124 WA Cares Act.

MOTION: A vote was taken to sign off as “no” as a body on Initiative I-2117, I-2109 and I-2124 and be listed as an organization supporting the “no” vote.

Move to Accept: Alex O'Reilly

Seconded: Lorna Stone

Vote: Members voted in favor without opposition or abstention.

Outcome: Staff will inform the coalition that is organizing a campaign to oppose all three initiatives that the ADS Advisory Council would like to be included on the list of organizations supporting a “no vote”.

- Planning and Allocations Committee - Lorna Stone
 - No meeting was held this month.
- VSHSL Board Seniors Committee – Cindy Snyder
 - The next meeting is on Thursday, April 18.
- NW Universal Design Council - Tom Minty
 - Positive feedback from last month's presentation to South King Housing and Homeless Partners.
 - Looking forward to participating in the Seattle Design Festival in August.
 - Working with City of Redmond on planning 'Redmond 2050 from Suburb to City'.
 - Hosting a Happy Hour in June.
 - Will participate in the Tacoma Pierce County Association of Realtors Fair Housing 2024 Conference on Monday, April 15.
- Mayor's Council on African American Elders - Pamela Williams

- The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid presented information on healthcare coverage through Medicare and Medicaid and other health insurance at the March meeting.
- At the April meeting, the Fraud and Awareness Prevention Committee will present information on ‘scams for 2024’ and committees will report on Housing Advocacy, Fraud Awareness and Prevention, Social Isolation and Digital Access. All are welcome to join.
- Age-Friendly Seattle (AFS) – Dinah Stephens
 - Team recently in San Francisco for American Society on Aging Conference where we presented on Emergency Preparedness work and our Anti-Ageism Training.
 - Public version of the Anti-Ageism Training in production with launch-target of May 1, 2024.
 - Next Civic Coffee at Chinese Information Center will focus on Summer Entertainment Opportunities and will be translated into Mandarin and Cantonese.
 - Partnering with Office of Planning and Community Development in drafting the City of Seattle Comprehensive (20-Year Growth Management) Plan. On April 28, Pike Market Senior Center will host an even to solicit input from older adults. All are welcome to attend.

III. Reports from AAA Partners

- King County Department of Community and Human Services – Maria Langlais (for Traci Adair)
 - VSHSL procurements are racing out the door.
 - Strategy SE-1 Support for Senior Centers recently closed and is in review.
 - Upcoming (late spring or early summer): Support for People with Disabilities, Caregivers, and Senior Villages.
 - Health Promotion RFP should be released later this year.
- Public Health Seattle-King County (PHSKC)– Maria Langlais (for Mariel Torres Mehdipour)
 - In this morning’s advocacy committee meeting, members asked about the status of the public health budget.
 - Legislation to increase property tax limits did not make it through the recent session. King County doesn’t have other tools to generate revenue, and the anticipated shortfall may result in closures of community health clinics. PHSKC is waiting for direction from the Executive on the 2025 budget.
- Sound Cities Association (SCA)
 - No updates were provided this month.

IV. Advisory Council in the Community

- Lorna Stone
 - Met with social worker at Southeast Seattle Senior Center to learn more about issues impacting local elders.

- Among the concerns, people are not accessing services that they're eligible for (long-term care case management) because of the fear of the estate recovery. The state unit on aging is working on ways to address barriers to services, particularly those that disproportionately impact communities of color and exacerbate wealth disparities.
- Cindy Snyder
 - There's concern at senior centers over the number of meals they've been able to provide on-site. Funding has been cut across the board, and the program can only serve 30 meals a day, down from 40-50 meals.
 - Staff shared that the recently passed state budget includes \$12M in one-time funding, which will provide short-term relief. ADS should know by late May how much funding will be allocated to King County. W4A is preparing an ask for the 2025 legislative session to secure ongoing funding.
- Alex O'Reilly
 - Working to increase/promote collaboration with other Seattle boards and commissions. Met last week with the Indigenous Advisory Council (9-members) and shared documents relating to the Area Plan. Will be discussing future interactions, including a joint meeting, potentially in July.
 - The King County Disability Consortium is tentatively scheduled to present at the June 14 Advisory Council meeting.

V. ADS Directors Report – Mary Mitchell

- Went to Washington D.C. for the USAging Policy Briefing, which focused on reauthorization of Older American's Act.
- Related policy priorities included: increase OAA allocations; preserve and expand pandemic-related flexibilities for Senior Nutrition; ensure AAAs retain autonomy to administer funds and programs in ways that best meet their community needs.
- USAging is concerned about that some members of Congress are considering adding a separate title for senior centers to the OAA. Concern about additional and unnecessary layer of bureaucracy and potential for unfunded mandates.

ACTION: Michael Adusah will send member links to conference materials.

- The Governors Summit on Aging and Longevity takes place in Tacoma on May 22, 2024. The event is invitation only – all AAA directors will attend. Participants will begin to explore strategic actions to prepare for multi-sector planning in 2025.
- W4A is hosting (in-person) the Staff Development Conference (*Connect, Engage and Thrive*) on June 12-13, 2024 in Leavenworth. Panels will include OOA regulation changes; multisector plan on aging, and age and Dementia friendly initiative; fiscal monitoring, contracting, and risk assessment; and tribal relations.

- ADS completed fiscal monitoring by the state (ALTSA Audit concluded) and are waiting for related report and exit interview.
- Planning has released RFPs: Older Adults, Transportation Services, Kinship Care Support, Respite Services, and Community Living Connections is scheduled for released Monday.
- Length of hiring freeze can't be determined until city revenue projections come out.

Other Announcements

- Lorna Stone
 - The online form for the tax exemption is difficult and Alex O'Reilly gave feedback to make it simpler for people to sign-up.
- Michael Adusah
 - Reminder that between now and the fall is a good time to connect with your state legislators. They have more time when not in-session for meetings with constituents. Great time to build relationships and get your voice heard.
 - Hannah Kimball, from Bellevue Network on Aging is interested in joining the council.
- Maria Langlais
 - Advisory Council members are invited to join the City Council meeting on April 23 to receive the Older American's Act proclamation. Alex, Joe, and Joel are interested in joining.
- Diana Thompson
 - Looking for state-wide statistics on harm to seniors but finding it difficult to obtain. Would like to have a presentation on elder abuse from King County – had one a few years ago.
- Mary Mitchell
 - The RISE program is focused on elder abuse and we're doing a pilot with a family whose case was referred to the prosecutor's office.

Meeting Adjourned