



Washington State Council on Aging

Meeting Title: 2023 June Washington State Council on Aging Meeting

Date: 6/27/2023

Location: Zoom Meeting

	Members Present	Appointment			Appointment
✓	Jean Kindem	At-Large East	✓	Art Swannack	Association of Counties
✓	Gavin Carmichael	AAAD Southwest WA Advisory Council	✓	Susan Conniry	O3A Advisory Council
✓	Rep. Kelly Chambers (Dianna Hawkins, Leg. Aide)	WA House of Representatives	✓	Dennis Wheeler	Snohomish County AAA
	Sharon Hamilton	At-Large West	✓	Susan Kerr	Kitsap AAA Advisory Council
✓	Georgiann Dustin	NWRC Advisory Council		Arlen Washines (Melissa Howtopat)	Yakama Golden Eagle Advisory Council
✓	Deb Murphy	Central AAA		Guests Present	
✓	Michele Horaney	Lewis Mason Thurston AAA Advisory Council	✓	Cathy Knight	W4A
	Vacant	At-Large West	✓	Melanie McGuire	ALTSA
	Vacant	ADS King County Advisory Council	✓	Cameron Akita	ALTSA
✓	Bob Scarfo	Aging & Long-Term Care Eastern Washington Advisory Council	✓	Susan Engels	ALTSA
	Sen. Karen Keiser	WA State Senate	✓	Jacqueine Cobbs	ALTSA
✓	Michele Blythe	Association of Cities	✓	Ron Vivion	Snohomish County, public guest
✓	Kathy Medford	Southeast WA Aging and Long-Term Care	✓	Anyah Arboine	ALTSA
	Vacant	WA House of Representatives			
	Bruce Dougherty	Pierce County Aging & Disability Resources Advisory Board			
✓	Karen Kiessling	At-Large East			



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Topic	Key Points and/or Decisions Made
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcome • Review/approve agenda • Review/approve minutes • Review action items • Member Organization Updates • Report of Federal Activities 	<p>Chairperson Kathy Medford called the meeting to order at 10:15am.</p> <p>Council reviewed and approved June’s meeting agenda, and May’s meeting minutes.</p> <p><i>Member Organization Updates</i></p> <p>Karen Kiessling shared that Whitman County is offering a “Matter of Balance” class for the first time at the senior center. This is an evidence-based class to teach about falls prevention.</p> <p>Ron Vivion discussed his role in the Dementia Action Collaborative as well as the Dementia Friends program, encouraging those interested to contact Emily Meeks (emilymeeks@uw.edu), program manager and DAC member.</p> <p>Bob Scarfo noted his involvement in the development of a memory garden in Spokane. Bob is working with Debbie Dodds to develop this project, which he hopes will be a template for other communities.</p> <p>Gavin Carmichael shared that state funding for an assisted living facility project near the Gorge fell through and the project is looking for new means to acquire funding.</p> <p>Susan Conniry discussed how Olympic Area Agency on Aging’s (O3A) advisory council has worked to facilitate better conversation with members of the LGBTQ+ community. Susan also noted that O3A’s case management ratio is at 74:1, better than currently required.</p> <p>Representative Chambers discussed her past work in the home care industry as well as recent legislation, HB 1568 concerning the credentialing of home care aides. This bill aimed to draw more health care professionals back into the industry who may have had their licensure previously lapse.</p>
<p>ALTSA Update</p>	<p>Jacqueline Cobbs, Deputy Director of Home and Community Services (HCS) Jacqueline discussed the implementation work going on at HCS since the legislative session ended.</p>



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	<p>Regarding HB 1694, addressing workforce shortages, HCS has laid out a charter for feasibility study and pilot design report. This will help identify acuity levels for clients, document best practices from other states, identify related statutes, federal waivers, and costs associated with the program.</p> <p>Rep. Chambers asked about whether changes to the homecare aide licensure/credentialing had been updated to the DSHS webpage. Jacqueline noted that this link could be shared once available and updated.</p> <p>Jacqueline explained how more work will be going into addressing the expanded definition of family members, which currently makes it difficult for in-laws to provide care to loved ones.</p> <p>AL TSA has met with Harborview Medical Center to discuss difficult to discharge hospital patients. This focuses on individuals with complex medical issues needing assistance transitioning back to the community.</p> <p>There is a planned approval for the 1115 waiver.</p> <p>Regarding SB 5440, individuals not fit to stand trial, AL TSA is looking to create resources and transition individuals. Work will need to bolster these wraparound service for specialized dementia programs.</p>
State Plan on Aging Updates	<p>Susan Engels, Office Chief of the State Unit on Aging, and Cameron Akita, SUA Program Manager reviewed the draft State Plan on Aging for 2023-2027. After the 30-day public comment period, the SUA is bringing the plan to SCOA for final input and approval.</p> <p>Kathy Medford expressed the importance of the work the SCOA Social Isolation Committee contributed to address this key issue in collaboration with HCS. Kathy recommended this work could be noted within the goals of the plan.</p> <p>Georgiann Dustin made a motion to accept the State Plan on Aging with the changes noted by Kathy Medford. This motion was seconded and approved by the Council.</p>



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	<p>Susan Engels shared additional updates from the State Unit on Aging, including DSHS receiving additional ARPA funds with state matching dollars which would be amended into contracts.</p> <p>Contracts are going out to AAAs including the largest, which includes case management, core services, Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP), and other services. Caregiver training contracts are also going out to AAAs.</p> <p>Regarding the dementia pilot, W4A recommended O3A be the third pilot site in the state.</p> <p>SFMNP programs have issued 79% of benefits to seniors throughout the state. Susan introduced Anyah Arboine, Administrative Intern with the SUA who will be helping the SFMNP over the summer.</p> <p>The Kinship Navigator Pilot is in the federal clearinghouse for review and anticipated approval. The Kinship Caregiver Program supports kinship families, oftentimes grandparents caring for grandchildren.</p> <p>The Dementia Action Collaborative (DAC) State Plan is about to be released for public comment in July.</p>
Partner Updates	<p>Cathy Knight, W4A State Director</p> <p>Cathy discussed the work going into addressing the workforce challenges around case management. W4A is working with ALTSA on the issue of moving clients from ALTSA to AAAs, often when there are not enough caregivers to assist clients.</p> <p>HB 1694, W4A is part of a workgroup looking at a pilot for family caregivers. A lot of work is going to into workforce shortages. Currently, the work is looking at how a pilot may work, as Jacqueline had mentioned. A proposal needs to be developed by the end of the year to bring to the legislature. Susan Engels added that this proposal is due by November, which will then go to the legislature in late fall to consider funding needs. Cathy noted that SCOA may want to look at reports from this workgroup as it will impact an important strategy for the state.</p> <p>Washington is developing strategies around the Master Plan on Aging. Susan Engels shared that Washington was accepted into a cohort of state that will develop this Multi-Sector Plan on Aging. Cathy</p>



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	<p>described the important work that the Governor's Aging Summit (2013) provided, and this plan could follow a similar framework.</p> <p>Cathy shared an update on behalf of Cathy MacCaul, AARP, regarding resources around WA Cares. From W4A's perspective, AAAs are experts in this field. W4A will be working with WA Cares to develop outreach.</p> <p>The Fall Advocacy Conference is set for two days in October – Wednesday the 18th, and Senior Lobby Day on the 19th. Work is going into developing the agenda now. This will be in-person at a venue to be named later, in Tacoma.</p>
Break	
Committee Meetings	<p>Public Outreach and Education Committee Michele Horaney, Chair of the Public Outreach and Education Committee requested Bea speak at the September meeting to discuss SCOA's mission, roles, and advocacy. Art Swannack noted much of this is also found in RCW codifying SCOA.</p> <p>Kathy Medford asked if any members of the council were interested in being a designated federal reporter on issues affecting older adults.</p> <p>Council discussed this designation and the overall advisory role of the council.</p> <p>Legislative Committee Art Swannack, Co-Chair of the Legislative Committee noted legislative topics had previously been discussed.</p>
Nominating Committee Report	<p>Nominating Committee Members of this committee included Art Swannack, Georgiann Dustin, and Deb Murphy. Art reported the current nominations as follows: Chairperson – Karen Kiessling and Michele Blythe; Vice-Chairperson – Dennis Wheeler; Secretary – Bruce Dougherty. There is still time ahead of September's meeting to nominate other Council Members.</p>



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<p>Excellence In Action</p>	<p>Kathy Medford explained that nominations for the Excellence in Action Awards (organization and individual awards) were needed by September. This would provide time to share with W4A and the Senior Lobby ahead of October’s Advocacy Conference.</p> <p>Kathy shared about the Dennis Mahar Individual Award. Dennis Mahar was a leader within the Lewis-Mason-Thurston AAA, and a passionate leader for senior services.</p> <p>The following Council Members volunteered to sit on the EIA Committee: Susan Kerr, Michele Blythe, Deb Murphy, and Jean Kindem.</p>
<p>Future Meetings/New Business/Public Comment</p>	<p>Council discussed future meetings starting at 10am versus 9am-noon, as well as continuing to meet in-person versus solely on Zoom. Melanie reminded the Council that with the current contract in place, there would be a in-person meeting option through the end of 2023. The council will revisit this topic in November for future discussion.</p> <p>Susan Kerr shared an update from Kitsap County, where there is currently work going into the next 3-year Area Plan. The AAA held a survey which resulted into 3 identified needs—healthcare, in home personal care, and food access/nutrition for older adults. For individuals with disabilities, the key needs were – transportation, in-home personal care, and housekeeping.</p> <p>A motion to adjourn the meeting passed and the council adjourned at 1:58pm.</p>

ACTION ITEMS	Assignee	Due Date
EIA outreach	Cameron Akita and Council Members	ASAP
Officer Nominations	Council Members	September