

Southwest Washington Agency on Aging & Disabilities
Advisory Council (SWAADAC)
Meeting Minutes of December 15th, 2010
201 NE 73rd Street, Suite 201
Vancouver, WA 98665

Call To Order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:05a.m by Chair, Pat Culver.

Introduction of Guests:

Pat Culver introduced and welcomed our guest Judy Veazie, Community Outreach Coordinator for the Cowlitz Indian Tribe.

Roll Call:

Members Present:

Clark County:	Roxanne Jones, Shanti Potts, Mike Teefy, Karin Woll
Cowlitz:	Patty Kinswa-Gaiser
Klickitat County:	Lowell Smith
Wahkiakum County:	Anne Snyder
Skamania County:	Patricia Culver, Sandra Bacus, Jim Jordan

Members Absent (all excused):

Clark County:	Ginny Wilberg
Cowlitz:	Marc Bollinger
Klickitat County:	Mary Ann Pauline and Martha Quigley
Wahkiakum County:	Susan Holmes and Nicki Thomas

- A quorum was present

Staff Present:

David Kelly, Executive Director
Klaus Micheel, Planner

Approval of Agenda:

The agenda for the December 15, 2010 meeting was approved.

Approval of Minutes:

The minutes for the November 17, 2010 meeting were approved.

Announcements/Community Outlook:

Jim Jordan informed the council that the Skamania County Aging Readiness Task Force is holding monthly meetings and is currently in the process of developing by-laws.

Shanti Potts described the first annual Clark County Vulnerable Adult Task Force Conference entitled “The Way Forward, Fighting Elder Abuse in our Community.” The program will be held February 16, 2011 at Southwest Washington Medical Center, in Vancouver, Washington. Several council members expressed an interest in attending the conference. It was decided that the Advisory Council would attend the conference instead of having the February meeting.

Lowell stated that Washington State was the only state in the country that does not receive funds from Indian Tribes. Patty Kinswa-Gaiser explained that Tribes are sovereign with independent governments and are not required to make payments to the US or state governments.

Klaus thanked the 2010 SWAADAC officers for their work.

Legislative Update:

David Kelly informed the council that SCSA (Senior Citizens Services Act) funding had not been on the agenda for the Special Legislative Session. He mentioned that a possible lawsuit over the 10% cut to personal care hours may hold up its implementation.

David then spoke of the meeting with legislators from the 18th and 19th LD in Kelso. He said he had lively discussion in particular about the home care option and how this option has been saving the state money since 1995. The legislators expressed an interest in continuing the discussion.

Karin Woll provided additional information regarding the Kelso meeting. She informed the council that Rep. Takko invited us to contact him by email concerning the budget and other critical issues at anytime; even when he is in session.

Review of 2010:

Pat Culver and Klaus Micheel spoke of the effective development of advocacy efforts with legislators in 2010.

David Kelly spoke of the collective work of the Advisory Council impacting the state budget by not cutting services for seniors as drastically as originally

proposed. He believed that the outcome was in part due to the council's advocacy efforts. David then complimented Beth Brown for her successful work with the Governor's office and legislators to secure funding for the Home Care Referral Registry. Lastly, David discussed the success in 2010 of developing new programs.

Shanti Pots discussed the continuing work of the Geriatric Psychiatric Committee.

Karin Woll thanked SWAAD staff for providing the Gatekeeper Program to the Advisory Council. This is an important program and we greatly benefitted from the additional information which was provided. Anne Snyder said she thoroughly enjoyed the Gatekeeper Program and found it very helpful.

Klaus spoke of the development of the Strategic Plan in 2010 which is a great tool to assist in improving staff and advisory council efforts. He stated the Area Plan was our highest priority in continuing our work. Lastly, Klaus spoke of the good work accomplished with the Cowlitz Indian Tribe. Patty Kinswa-Gaiser said that the tribe has a strong presence and all tribal members are being served.

Pat Culver asked about including the Yakama Nation in our work. Patty Kinswa-Gaiser explained that the Yakama Nation has its own AAA.

Karin Woll thanked Patty Kinswa-Gaiser for her presence on the Advisory Council. Patty is the first representative on our council from a Native American Tribe and her knowledge and experience has been an invaluable asset.

Preview of 2011:

Klaus's preview of 2011 included the development of the new Area Plan as part of the strategic plan: the council would be involved in focus groups, public forums, and public hearings. There is hope for additional federal (Older Americans Act) dollars. Klaus suggested the council should continue to work on orientation, training, and outreach and recruitment efforts in addition to its planning and advocacy work.

Mike Teefy's preview included the Advisory Council's trip to Olympia in February to participate in Senior Lobby Day. He encouraged council members to attend town hall meetings and become familiar with our legislators. Mike also plans to reconnect with CATV in an effort to provide more exposure for SWAAD programs and the Advisory Council's advocacy work.

Sandra Bacus wants to communicate our efforts to the entire community in an attempt to involve more seniors and disabled in our advocacy work. She hopes to utilize the press, Skamania County Senior Services (SCSS) and church organizations.

Pat Culver will be begin 2011 working to form committees, develop outreach methods for recruitment and establish standards for membership. Pat is considering adding more members to the Geriatric Psychiatric Committee.

Public Comment:

Our guest Judy Veazie informed the council that she enjoyed the meeting. Judy said she now has a better understanding of our work, and she looks forward to working with us in the future.

Meeting Wrap-Up:

Karin Woll announced the next Clark County Aging Readiness Task Force meeting would be held December 16, 2-4p.m. at the County Public Service Building.

Klaus mentioned that candlelight vigils were being planned by social service agencies and advocates.

Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned 12:05p.m.