

Southwest Washington Agency on Aging & Disabilities
Advisory Council (SWAADAC)
Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2010
201 NE 73rd Street, Suite 201
Vancouver, WA 98665

Call To Order:

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

Roll Call:

Members Present:

Clark County:	Roxanne Jones, Karin Woll, Ginny Wilberg, Elizabeth Brown, Mike Teefy, Shanti Potts
Cowlitz County:	Marc Bollinger
Klickitat County:	Lowell Smith
Wahkiakum County:	Nicki Thomas
Skamania County:	Patricia Culver, Sandra Bacus, Jim Jordan

Members Absent:

Cowlitz County Patty Kinswa-Gaiser (Excused)

Wahkiakum County: Anne Snyder (Excused)

- A quorum was present

Staff Present:

David Kelly, Executive Director
Klaus Micheel, Planner

Approval of Agenda:

The agenda for the May 19, 2010 meeting was approved with the added item Report from Geriatric Psychiatric Advocacy Task Force.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes of April 21, 2010 were approved as written.

Announcements/Community Outlook:

Lowell Smith reported that progress is being made regarding his current project connecting young people with seniors and the community. The program will give insight into the needs of seniors and their community while providing experience for young people in carpentry, painting, lawn/ garden work and other jobs as

required. The schools are working with Lowell and others in an attempt to provide students with school credits for the work they perform. Dr. Bob Scarfo, WSU Spokane, has planned a trip to Goldendale to assist in the development of this program.

Beth Brown told the council she was invited to attend the ROTC Awards Program at Battle Ground High School. Military Officers presented awards to students enrolled in the Junior ROTC Program. Beth was encouraged to see the student involvement and the continuation of the ROTC Program at Battle Ground.

Nicki Thomas plans on contacting Cowlitz County Mental Health and suggest they call Dr. Bob Scarfo to inquire if he might be available to assist with their plans in developing a service center to serve the homeless and mentally ill. Cowlitz County is also interested in developing a bakery business which would employ the mentally ill and/or homeless. Its new Mayor volunteered to visit another co-op bakery which started with few funds and appears to be doing quite well. The Mayor will be looking for suggestions on starting a new business.

Karin Woll mentioned she also plans on calling Dr. Scarfo to discuss some plans she has in mind regarding the promotion of elder-friendly communities.

Staff Reports:

David thanked everyone for being at the meeting and for the excellent service council members provide to their communities.

Older Americans Month - May is Older Americans Month. David advised the council that green ribbons had been distributed for people to wear as a way to show support for seniors. Last year ribbons and a proclamation by the Governor were sent to each of the five counties the agency serves. David asked the council to think of suggestions for Older Americans Act Month in 2011. He wondered if an annual contest might be a good idea. The following are suggestions council members provided:

- Develop an electronic mailing program and send flyer/notice to government agencies, nursing homes, assisted living facilities; anyone touched by senior lives.
- Develop a poster featuring Betty White appearing on Saturday Night Live.
- Write a recipe for “Living Successfully” or “Age Strong – Live Long”

- Notify children through their schools that May is the month to honor seniors in their lives.
- Develop programs that bring seniors and children together.
- Bring an old person to work and/or school.

First Quarter 2010 Service Data – Klaus provided each council member a copy of this report. He reported that the agency is on track for services provided and showing an improvement from 2009. A vast improvement was shown from 2008 to 2009.

Transportation Services Procurement – Pat Culver explained the exhaustive work which goes into procuring senior transportation services. Pat took part in reviewing each proposal presented. She complimented Mike Reardon, community services program coordinator, and staff for their excellent work.

In-Home Services Procurement – Nine home care agencies currently contract with SWAAD to provide in-home personal care. A procurement process has recently been completed. The review of proposals is very labor intensive. Klaus, Pat and staff did a lot of work in reviewing the five proposals, three of which were denied. SWAAD will renew current contracts and award two new contracts for in-home personal care beginning July 1, 2010.

Enhance Fitness Implementation – There was a tremendous response to this new program in Battle Ground, 30 people were expected and 75 showed up. The class had to be split. SWAAD is looking to train more instructors and offer the class in other communities as funding permits.

Skamania County Senior Services – David received an invitation from the Skamania County Commissioners to attend a workshop and discuss Medicaid (Title XIX) paid services (case management services and in-home personal care) provided by Skamania County Senior Services (SCSS). David and Samantha Waldbauer, case management services manager, explained the services and answered questions. The Commissioners appreciated the input. Changes in service provision are not expected at this point in time.

2010 OAA Budget – The 2010 has been completed. There has been less carry-over than 2009 because more service dollars have been expended

Resource Development –Public funding (OAA funding) has been flat. More and more seniors (Baby Boomers) become eligible for services. SWAAD has begun looking for other non-public funding sources. Staff time has been freed up to make this a priority.

Agency Priorities/Strategic Planning –SWAAD is reviewing its current set of priorities, such as services for informal caregivers and transportation services with regards to the new Area Plan to be developed in 2011.

Geriatric Psychiatric Advocacy Task Force–The GPA Task Force grew from frustration with a local problem that Shanti Potts and Don Unruh had brought to SWAAD’s attention: Vancouver does not have a geriatric psychiatric care facility to serve patients with serious psychological problems associated with dementia and/or other conditions (patients being taken to a facility that does not provide geriatric psychiatric care usually end up being overmedicated or ”snowed”). When these services are needed, they are usually needed urgently. Vancouver families are forced to seek care for their loved ones either in distant Auburn, Washington or in nearby Forest Grove, Oregon, where Tuality Hospital is located. Auburn is too far for families to visit their loved ones and insurance companies refuse to pay for a facility that is so distant. In Forest Grove, Tuality has not consistently accepted Vancouver patients. Working with elder law attorney from Oregon and Washington the Task Force is trying to overcome legal and other barriers that seem to prevent Tuality from accepting patients from Clark County.

Clark County Aging Readiness Task Force - Clark County had more applications for this Task Force than for any other committee. The Task Force is a result of SWAAD’s first Aging Readiness Forum in 2009. SWAAD will provide technical assistance under the direction of Clark County.

Clark County Community Development Block Grant –The Clark County Community Action Advisory Board (CAAB) had informed SWAAD it might consider using some Community Development Block Grant dollars to fund services for senior beginning in 2012. David and Mike Reardon presented CAAB with four programs for consideration: Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP), Senior Transportation, Enhance Senior Health (education and fitness) and Gatekeeper program.

Eldercare Alliance – SWAAD started this group of service providers to seniors (and other populations) to explore ways to exchange information, collaborate,

provide services more efficiently, and advocate together where appropriate. The development of a mental health mobile care unit that will visit seniors in their homes is one project currently under consideration. The council will be kept abreast of developments in this area.

Aging Readiness forum September 16, 2010 – A draft agenda was distributed to council members for this upcoming meeting. Forum participants will work on developing action plans for Transportation, Housing, Health & Long-Term Care.

W4A (Washington Association of Area Agencies on Aging) – David reported W4A directors are pleased ADSA (Aging and Disability Services Administration) has determined Title XIX (Medicaid) dollars can be carried forward and used for any area agency on aging expenditures in the following years. W4A also appreciates that N4A (National Association of Area Agencies on Aging) and ADSA are very interested in preparing for the effects of health care reform.

Advocacy Committee Report :

Karin Woll, committee chair, told the council that members are getting out in their communities and delivering information. An article was published in the Senior Messenger explaining SWAAD's role and the programs offered. The committee is always looking for new ways to get information to the public. Karen reminded council members to be aware of any grant information that might come their way. Mike Teefy said he is still exploring CATV as a means to provide information about SWAAD. Mike suggested sponsoring a candidate forum. The council has sponsored legislative forums in the past. This would serve as a focus on the candidate's message and bring that information to our communities. Council members felt this was an excellent idea.

Planning Committee Report:

Jim Jordan provided the report to the council on behalf of Ginny Wilberg. At the last meeting a discussion took place regarding the necessary lag time for capturing service data for the whole PSA (Planning and Service Area) and by county. The current service data report will eventually be accompanied by demographic and fiscal data. If members are interested in following progress on the Area Plan they can go on-line to Section E of the Area Plan.

In an attempt to reach out to LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender) seniors and provide information and assistance SWAAD I&A staff will be attending on May 22 the "Gay and Grey" forum in Portland.

Recruitment of New Members:

Roxanne Jones, committee chair, informed the council that Nicki Thomas had made some good contacts with the Disability Rights Council and Arc of Clark County. They are continuing to seek out good candidates; a special focus is being made in Klickitat County. ADSA's Policy & Procedure Manual for AAAs shows who should be represented on the council. After reviewing the current roster it was determined that most of the groups and stakeholders listed are represented.

State Council on Aging (SCOA):

Beth reported SCOA reviewed the legislative session and received an update on the state budget from the Governor's office. There are currently 1200 people on the waiting list to be moved from nursing homes back to their communities. ADSA hired 12 additional staff to help with this process.

Home Care Quality Authority (HCQA):

Beth reported HCQA had met for the last time. The IP (Individual Provider) Registry will be administered by ADSA; two HCQA staff members have moved to ADSA. HCQA had developed a DVD for clients on how to supervise IPs. Beth told the council she really enjoyed her experience as Chair of HCQA. David added that Dennis Mahar, director of the AAA in Olympia who attends SCOA meetings, had praised Beth for her work at HCQA. He said that Beth speaking to Senator Keiser on the importance of keeping the registry was a huge help in making certain the registry remained.

Meeting Wrap-up:

Klaus stated it had been the purpose of the meeting to update the council in detail on programs, projects, and developments.

Marc Bollinger said the state states it wants to be ahead of the curve when it comes to implementing health care reform, but no course of action has been established.

Ginny Wilberg remarked that she had served on the council for almost 6 years and she believes the council has vastly improved.

Adjourn:

Meeting adjourned at 1:25p.m.