

**Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
August 21, 2024**

Location: Vancouver AAADSW Office – Columbia Conference Room and Zoom

*The meeting was called to order by Chair Gavin Carmichael at **12:00PM** .*

Roll Call: Joe Bosch, Marianne Burkholder, Kevin Callahan, Sue Cameron, Pat Cano, Gavin Carmichael, Greg Flakus, Jodi Oliver, Norma Pickett, Mary Repar

Excused: Kathy Briggs, Diane Craft

Absent: Shelley Baxter

Staff present: Mike Reardon, Christina Marnaris, Patti Atkins

Guests: Justin Ross (Clark County Commission on Aging), Apryl Schneider

August 21, 2024, Meeting Agenda: **Greg Flakus** moved to approve the agenda. **Joe Bosch** seconded. Motion passed.

June 26, 2024, Meeting Minutes: **Kevin Callahan** moved to approve the minutes. **Pat Cano** seconded. Motion passed.

Announcements/Community Outlook:

- Joe Bosch (Clark):
 - LaCenter Seniors will be meeting September (specific date to be determined)
 - The local library and community center have offered space for the meeting to be held.
 - About 75 people have responded showing interest in joining LaCenter Seniors.
- Marianne Burkholder (Wahkiakum):
 - Senior Prom is this coming Saturday, August 24, 2024.
 - Expecting about 60 people
 - A couple of sponsors were found.
 - A photographer will be in attendance.
 - The Cathlamet Woman’s Club will be volunteering.
- Kevin Callahan (Clark):
 - Recently read the book “When We Walk By: Forgotten Humanity, Broken Systems, and the Role We Can Each Play in Ending Homelessness in America” by Kevin F. Adler and Donald W. Burnes.
 - After reading the book Kevin looked up the Clark County homeless count and found that as of January 2024, we were up to about 5% with over 100 people being over the age of 62 (not all demographics were noted).

- Sue Cameron (Clark):
 - Shared a few personal stories about recent experiences she has had with some of her senior friends who have needed assistance. She expressed gratitude towards AAADSW staff for some of the assistance they were able to provide.
- Pat Cano (Clark):
 - Thanked the Advisory Council for the experiences and opportunities during the terms she has served on the Advisory Council.
- Gavin Carmichael (Klickitat): No new announcements to share.
- Greg Flakus (Clark):
 - FISH of Vancouver Food Pantry has almost completed their buildout which will allow for easier access and storage of more non-perishable foods.
 - October 6, 2024 there will be an open house for the public. More information to come on this event.
- Jodi Oliver (Clark): No new announcements to share.
- Norma Pickett (Skamania): No new announcements to share.
- Mary Repar (Skamania):
 - Mary expressed concern about the possibility of losing the cook at Skamania County Senior Services in part due to a funding cut that has been proposed for the upcoming budget season.

Reports:

Executive Director's Report: Mike thanked everyone for sharing what is going on in their local communities and sharing ideas with each other on possible solutions. He appreciates the advocacy and the commitment to seniors and the disabled in your communities.

- Direct Care Workforce Development:
 - National Learning Collaborative looking at recruitment and retention of DCWs.
 - LA, MI, NH, OR, UT, and WA
 - Washington is proposing a pilot ride share program for DCWs to get to/from their appointments at no cost to the DCW.
 - Clark County has been identified as the pilot site.
 - Pending funding (\$300K).
- High School Homecare Aide Program:
 - Mike reached out to Ric Palmer and is still waiting for a response.
 - Mike will still need to follow up with Cascadia Tech (Clark County) to see if they are able to work towards adding a program for High School Home Care Aide Program.
 - The goal is still to launch the first classes of this program in Spring 2025.
- Skamania County Senior Services (SCSS) Cook:
 - We've been working with Sophie, SCSS Manager, on a plan to help support a full-time cook and expand nutrition services to North Bonneville.
- W4A:
 - Working on 2025 Legislative Priorities
 - Funding for Senior Nutrition will be the main priority again this year.
 - The message is already out that it will be a tight state budget.

- WA CARES:
 - We are part of the Outreach and Education arm/initiative of WA CARES.
 - We can NOT talk about or influence how to vote on Initiative 2124.
 - Social Media:
 - Patti Atkins shared that she has been working on an outreach plan.
 - The state is directing some of the local TV ads.
 - Patti is working on the print outreach (newspapers and digital webpages for the newspapers) and social media.
 - Patti has been going out to outreach events.
- Agency Business:
 - Audits
 - SAO is conducting their annual audits (Accountability, Financial Statement, Federal Grant Compliance)
 - ALTSA's annual program audit of our Medicaid programs
 - Medicaid Case Management
 - 2 items to remediate
 - MAC/TSOA
 - No items to remediate – SECOND YEAR IN A ROW!!

Executive Committee:

- Executive Committee met on 8/6/24 and drafted the agenda for today.

Membership/Planning and Allocations:

- Did not meet in July or August.
- Will meet in September as the first meeting of the merged committees.

Advocacy and Outreach: Did not meet in July or August.

State Council on Aging (SCOA):

- There will be a virtual state-wide meeting on October 16, 2024. More information to follow.
- SCOA has been collecting data on senior centers. More to follow on this.

Presentations:

- Update on Mobile Home Park Initiative (Kevin Callahan and Christina Marners):
 - Kevin has been working with Clark County and the City of Vancouver to try and get them to incorporate provisions in their zoning regulations that would protect manufactured home parks from being converted to high density uses.

General Topics Discussed:

- Appointment of Nominating Committee
 - Looking for 3 volunteers
 - Greg, Kevin and Sue volunteered – Christina will follow up with them individually.
- Pat Cano's last Advisory Council meeting.
 - Pat shared that she would like to look at coming back to the Advisory Council when she is eligible to do so again.
 - Mike shared his thanks to Pat for her time on the Advisory Council and her dedication to the community.


Membership Vote:

- No new members to vote on at this meeting.

Public Comment:

- No additional public comments.

Meeting adjourned at 1:08pm.

Signature  Date 9/18/24