

Advisory Council Meeting Minutes November 20, 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: Shelley Baxter, Marianne Burkholder, Kevin Callahan, Sue Cameron, Gavin Carmichael, Greg Flakus, Mary Repar, Apryl Schneider

Excused: N/A

Absent: Joe Bosch, Kathy Briggs, Diane Craft

Staff present: Mike Reardon, Christina Marneris, Patti Atkins, Maggie Ridenour

Guests: Susan Petries

November 20, 2024, Meeting Agenda: **Greg Flakus** moved to approve the agenda. **Apryl Schneider** seconded. Motion passed.

September 18, 2024, Meeting Minutes: **Greg Flakus** moved to approve the minutes. **Sue Cameron** seconded. Motion passed.

Announcements/Community Outlook:

- Shelley Baxter (Klickitat):
 - Discussed some personal experiences she has had recently. Her personal experiences have highlighted many of the issues older adults in rural areas face.
- Marianne Burkholder (Wahkiakum):
 - Marianne reported that the Wahkiakum County Sheriff's Office has a "Shop with a Cop" program for youth.
 - For more information: <https://www.co.wahkiakum.wa.us/581/Shop-with-a-COP>
- Kevin Callahan (Clark):
 - Reported that he had recently watched a new documentary called Priced Out about the residents of manufactured home parks and the issues they are facing. He highly recommends watching the movie.
 - <https://www.cascadepbs.org/investigations/2024/11/priced-out-fear-and-resistance-wa-mobile-home-parks>
- Sue Cameron (Clark): Nothing to report.
- Gavin Carmichael (Klickitat): Nothing to report.
- Greg Flakus (Clark):
 - Shared ideas for resource tables based on a recent trip where he went to a street fair and visited a booth that had resources for elder abuse, a community resource guide and information about phone scams.
 - Discussed his experience with the Clark County Sheriff's Office "Santa's Posse"
 - For more information: <https://www.santasposse.org/>

- Mary Repar (Skamania):
 - Shared that, like Shelley, she has seen some of the same concerns surrounding older adults' issues in rural areas.
 - A large concern is the shortage of caregiver availability in the rural areas.
 - Cost of care in the assisted living facility is also a concern for those on fixed incomes.
 - Mary shared that in Skamania County there is a local resource guide available.
- Apryl Schneider (Clark): Nothing to report.

Reports:

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

- **DSHS Budget Deficits:**
 - \$10B - \$12B over the next 4 years (\$75.5B annual state budget).
 - This means state agencies need \$10B - \$12B to maintain current programs and services.
 - Lower than projected revenue growth combined with rising caseloads across multiple state departments' programs and services.
 - State freeze on all new General Fund – State (GF-S) contracts not already approved.
 - Impact to AAADSW
 - All contracts with GF-S funding are valid through 6/30/2025.
 - Leadership Response
 - Held three employee information sessions, posted FAQ document on our intranet, reassurance without promises.
 - Contingency planning
 - Commitment to ongoing information sharing and availability
 - Advocate at state level
 - When advocating at the state level we will share both data as well as the narrative about the impact of the reduction of funding to the people we serve.
 - Also included in the advocacy would be information as to what would be needed just to keep pace with the senior population that keeps growing to preserve what we have.
- **Election Results:**
 - Initiative 2124 (WA Cares) was voted down
 - Business as usual for now
 - Future role – local resource for education, navigation, authorization, and monitoring
 - Watching and following closely the new federal administration's priorities
- **W4A:**
 - 2025 Legislative Priorities
 - Senior Nutrition
 - Keeping GF-S *only* funding whole
- **Other:**
 - Washington State Department of Commerce Housing/Homeless five-year plan did not include seniors/older adults.
 - State of Washington Homeless Housing Strategic Plan 2024 – 2029:
 - <https://deptofcommerce.app.box.com/s/tl07c32p6j2w33ojxp3l9pn6s6fo58dg>

Executive Committee:

- Executive Committee met on 11/5/24 and drafted the agenda for the meeting today.

Membership/Planning and Allocations:

- Didn't meet in October or November.

Advocacy and Outreach:

- Did not meet in October or November.

State Council on Aging (SCOA):

- W4a Statewide Advisory Council Meeting: No information shared.

Presentations:

- Update on Manufactured Homes Advocacy:
 - Update on Vista Del Rio Manufactured Home Park situation: they were not able to secure funds to purchase the park but are still looking at options.
 - Discussion around the 10/8/24 Association of Manufactured Homeowners meeting with Legislative District 17 and 18 candidates.
 - About 75 – 80 manufactured home residents attended the meeting.
 - Topics of discussion were:
 - Lack of communication between landowners when large corporations take over the parks and the residents of the parks.
 - Rapid rent increases
 - Miscellaneous fines and charges by park management
 - Lack of infrastructure maintenance for public areas of the parks such as roads, water, sewer, etc.
 - Interference with the sale of units

General Topics Discussed:

- Slate of Nominations
 - Chairperson - Gavin Carmichael
 - Vice-Chairperson – Kathy Briggs
 - Secretary – Marianne Burkholder
 - All nominations accepted as presented.
 - All votes passed unanimously.

Membership Vote:

- No new membership votes this meeting.
- Vacancies on the Advisory Council:
 - Clark County – 1 position
 - Cowlitz County – 2 positions
 - Klickitat County – 1 position
 - Skamania County – 2 positions
 - Wahkiakum County – 1 position

Public Comment:

- The question was asked if there is a vulnerable senior registry of sorts for those who may need extra assistance in cases of large disasters like fire, etc.

- AAADSW maintains a database of the clients we serve who are vulnerable as well as the criteria for what it means to be considered vulnerable.
 - The primary message/education for them is "What is needed to safely shelter in place?"
- Clark County has CRESA (<https://www.cresa911.org/>) for emergency services and individuals can create a profile and share what their needs/concerns are.
 - Check with your local emergency medical services organization to ask if areas outside of Clark County have something similar.
- It was shared that Clark County residents can register with the Clark PUD if they have a person who is dependent on oxygen at home so if there is a power outage their residence can be a top priority.
- Clark County: <https://www.smart911.com/>

Meeting adjourned at **1:13PM.**

Signature  Date 18 Dec 24