



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Area Agency on Aging Board

Consider:

Who benefits? Who is burdened?

Who does not have a voice at the table?

How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

Monday, December 6, 2021

3:45 PM

via Zoom

The Monday December 6, 2021 AAA Board meeting is being held virtually. The public can access the meeting with the Zoom application or by telephone.

To join the meeting in Zoom, click the following link (after you fill out the form, the meeting link and access information will be emailed to you):

https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DFiwE4Uhr-2K72TfTHR4iA

This link will be active until the end of the meeting.

To join the meeting by phone, dial-in using one of the following three phone numbers:

1-833-548-0276

1-833-548-0282

1-888-788-0099

When prompted, enter the following Webinar ID: 858 0817 0705

If you want to submit a written comment for this meeting, or send handouts for committee members, please send them to MATULLE.CINDY@COUNTYOFDANE.COM. In the subject line please state: Written Comment for this meeting or Handouts for this meeting. Please include the name of the meeting and date.

PROCESS TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT: ANY MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO REGISTER TO SPEAK ON/SUPPORT/OPOSE AN AGENDA ITEM MUST REGISTER USING THE LINK ABOVE (even if you plan to attend using your phone).

Registrations to provide public comment will be accepted until 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the meeting.

Staff & Guests Present: Cheryl Batterman, Laura Langer, Cindy Matulle, Carrie Springer, and Angela Velasquez

A. Call To Order

Chair RATCLIFF called the meeting to order at 3:45 pm.

- Present** 10 - DONALD ASHBAUGH, BILL CLAUSIUS, TED BUNCK, Supervisor MELISSA RATCLIFF, Supervisor RICHELLE ANDRAE, Supervisor KATE MCGINNITY, Supervisor LARRY PALM, DIANE FARSETTA, THOM RUX, and GAIL RUTKOWSKI
- Absent** 1 - SRIDEVI MOHAN

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2021](#)
[MIN-481](#) Minutes from November 1, 2021

Attachments: [2021_1101_AAA Board Minutes](#)

RATCLIFF noted Board member Gail Rutkowski was not listed in the attendance but was later listed in voting for Action Items.

A motion was made by MCGINNITY, seconded by CLAUSIUS, that the Minutes be approved as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

- Ayes:** 9 - CLAUSIUS, BUNCK, RATCLIFF, ANDRAE, MCGINNITY, PALM, Farsetta, RUX and RUTKOWSKI
- Absent:** 1 - MOHAN
- Abstain:** 1 - ASHBAUGH

C. Action Items

2021 Leck Grant

AAA Manager Cheryl Batterman reported NewBridge is not able to use the 2021 Leck Grant funding to support their El Amor Support Group and Self-Advocacy Training Project due to staff changes. After clarifying with the DCDHS accounting staff, she recommends to carry-over the \$14,894 to next year.

A motion was made by ASHBAUGH, seconded by Farsetta, to recommend for approval to carry-over the 2021 Leck Grant amount award to NewBridge and combine it with the 2022 grant funding disbursed by the Madison Community Foundation. The motion carried by the following vote:

- Ayes:** 10 - ASHBAUGH, CLAUSIUS, BUNCK, RATCLIFF, ANDRAE, MCGINNITY, PALM, Farsetta, RUX and RUTKOWSKI
- Absent:** 1 - MOHAN

D. Presentations

None.

E. Reports to Board

1. State and Federal Report

Laura Langer of the WI Bureau of Aging reported hiring for the new Budget & Policy Coordinator for ARPA funding is almost complete. Congregate meals across the state are at 50% of being open. Older Americans Act programs are slowly opening back up for Health Promotions and Caregiver Programs.

Langer asked if Dane County was experiencing a problem recruiting volunteers. Statewide there is a shortage and agencies are having a hard time recruiting volunteers to run programs. Might be program driven of what people could volunteer for. Currently Focal Points in Dane County are short delivery drivers for meals. Healthy Aging Program might be the only program that could have issues. Since volunteers teach the classes and have to be certified many of the instructors have expired certifications. Due to COVID, classes were stopped for a period of time and there is a lot of cost associated with the training and certification to start over. RSVP doesn't see a shortage except school districts not wanting people in classrooms so trying to do as much as possible virtually.

2. Legislative Update

Dane County Lobbyist Carrie Springer reported a couple of new bills were signed into law that affect older adults. Elder Abuse Task Force implemented new higher penalties for those who abuse older adults. Restraining orders can now be issued against someone who abuses older adults. The process can be done via phone or teleconference so there wouldn't be a need to attend court in person. Financial crimes against older adults would allow freezing assets to make sure no other funds are taken. Elder abuse claims will be handled like child abuse cases are which will make the abuse a felony. All of the penalties have higher charges for committing the acts. A sexual assault for an older adult (60+ years old) will make it an automatic 1st Degree Sexual Assault charge.

Another bill that was signed was for Guardianship Training. Anyone who wishes to be a guardian for a family member or friend are required to attend Guardianship training before the courts will order guardianship for anyone. This should help with understanding what the role of a guardian is but also help with misuse of services.

3. Board Member Reports

RATCLIFF summarized the minutes from the Committee meetings.

<https://dane.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>

[2021](#) Public Hearing Agenda for December 14, 2021
[RPT-691](#)

Attachments: [2021_1214 AAA Agenda Aging Plan Public Hearing Agenda](#)

a. AAA Access Committee

Met December 6, 2021. Minutes are not ready.

Next Meeting: January 3, 2022 at 2pm via Zoom

No additional update was provided.

b. AAA Legislative/Advocacy Committee

[2021](#) Minutes from October 27, 2021
[RPT-692](#)

Attachments: [2021 1027 AAA Legislative-Advocacy Committee Minutes](#)

Next Meeting: December 8, 2021 at 9am via Zoom

Discussion of members about what could be done to reduce long waiting lists for counseling services of older adults with mental health issues. BATTERMAN stated this was a national concern as well because Medicare will only pay for counseling done by licensed psychologists and psychiatrists. Rural areas of each state historically experience a shortage of these mental health professionals, which result in many older adults not being treated.

c. AAA Nutrition/Wellness Committee

[2021](#) Minutes from November 3, 2021
[RPT-693](#)

Attachments: [2021 1103 AAA Nutrition-Wellness Committee Minutes](#)

Next Meeting: February 2, 2022 at 11:30am via Zoom

During the pandemic, congregate meal sites were closed and drive-through meals were recorded as home-delivered meals, which created an all-time high number of home-delivered meals.

d. Dane County Health & Human Needs Committee

[2021](#) Minutes from November 11, 2021
[RPT-694](#)

Attachments: [2021 1111 HHN Committee Minutes](#)

Next Meeting: December 9, 2021 at 5:30pm via Zoom

No additional update was provided.

e. Dane County Specialized Transportation Commission

[2021](#)
[RPT-695](#)

Minutes from November 18, 2021

Attachments: [2021 1118 STC Minutes](#)

Next Meeting: January 20, 2022 at 5:15 pm via Zoom

VELASQUEZ stated she was meeting with new Transportation Coordinator Nathanael Brown, Jennifer Fischer, and Todd Campbell to discuss transportation concerns for older adults.

- Present** 9 - DONALD ASHBAUGH, TED BUNCK, Supervisor MELISSA RATCLIFF, Supervisor RICHELLE ANDRAE, Supervisor KATE MCGINNITY, Supervisor LARRY PALM, DIANE FARSETTA, THOM RUX, and GAIL RUTKOWSKI
- Absent** 2 - BILL CLAUSIUS, and SRIDEVI MOHAN

4. Diversity Work Group

Dane County Office of Equity and Inclusion Director Wesley Sparkman will be presenting at the AAA Legislative/Advocacy meeting on Wednesday, 12/8/21.

5. Age Discrimination Discussion

RATCLIFF showed a short video on age discrimination (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e4N50b76cZc&ab_channel=WTCSytem).

6. Chair & Staff Reports

BATTERMAN summarized a recent Zoom meeting with BADR Director Carrie Molke, Office on Aging Director Cindy Ofstead, Wisconsin AAA Directors, and AAA Board Chair Ratcliff. This meeting was in response to the AAA Board letter (dated 10/5/21) sent to the State concerning the carry-over of Older Americans Act Title IIIC funds. The State responded in a letter (dated 11/2/21) but two items were still unresolved: acknowledging the miscommunication was caused by the Office on Aging staff and if Office on Aging staff will advocate to secure additional funding to replace lapsed meal funding absorbed by Dane County AAA in 2021. Molke and Ofstead verified the money is no longer available as it was returned to the State's General Fund. Molke and Ofstead stated many counties within the GWAAR service area do not use all of the funding they are allotted each year; GWAAR historically reallocates unspent funding to other counties within its service area. Molke and Ofstead reported the unspent 2021 GWAAR funding will also be reallocated to Dane and Milwaukee Counties. They also acknowledged the Office on Aging's miscommunication and pledged to have more open meetings to prevent a funding lapse to occur again.

AAA Aging Specialist Angela Velasquez provided a short update on proposed OAA federal funding and the receipt of the American Rescue Plan Act funding to be received over the next two years.

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Next meeting: Monday 3 January 2022 at 3:45 pm via Zoom

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

None.

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

None.

I. Adjournment

A motion was made by BUNCK, seconded by ASHBAUGH, that the meeting be adjourned at 5:00 pm. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - ASHBAUGH, BUNCK, RATCLIFF, ANDRAE, MCGINNITY, PALM, Farsetta, RUX and RUTKOWSKI

Absent: 2 - CLAUDIUS and MOHAN

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cindy Matulle, AAA Clerk III