



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Area Agency on Aging - Access Committee

Monday, November 2, 2015

2:30 PM

AAA/ADRC
2865 N. Sherman Ave., Rm. 109
Madison, WI 53704

AAA/ADRC-Room 109

A. Call To Order

Chair HOCHKAMMER called the meeting to order at 2:32 pm.

Staff and guests present: Cheryl Batterman, Ethel Dunn, Howard Thomas, and Angela Velasquez

Present 7 - ELAINE DESMIDT, JON HOCHKAMMER, MYRA JOSEPHSON, PAUL KUSUDA,
GERRY DERR, CHRIS JOHNSON, and ALYSSA BORDELEAU

Absent 1 - RITA CAIRNS

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2015](#) MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 5, 2015
[MIN-402](#)

Attachments: [2015 1005 AAA Access Committee Mtg](#)

JOSEPHSON moved, DESMIDT seconded, to approve the minutes. The minutes were approved by the following vote:

Ayes: 7 - DESMIDT, HOCHKAMMER, JOSEPHSON, KUSUDA, DERR, JOHNSON and BORDELEAU

Absent: 1 - CAIRNS

C. Action Items

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE VICE CHAIR

Josephson volunteered to fill the vacant Committee Vice Chair position.

DERR moved, KUSUDA seconded, to approve JOSEPHSON as Committee Vice Chair. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 6 - DESMIDT, HOCHKAMMER, KUSUDA, DERR, JOHNSON and BORDELEAU

Absent: 1 - CAIRNS

Abstain: 1 - JOSEPHSON

D. Presentations

GRANDPARENTS & OTHER RELATIVES AS PARENTS CAREGIVER PROGRAM

Ethel Dunn, Project Coordinator, presented an overview of the Grandparents and Other Relatives as Parents Caregiver Program she launched in conjunction with AAA eight years ago. Two-hour training-and-support sessions are held the second Saturday of each month at the Rainbow Project, 831 East Washington Avenue in Madison for a core group of approximately 20 caregivers. Free child care is provided. Nearly 200 newsletters are distributed monthly.

Dunn stated that a high percentage of the children whose caregivers are being served by the program have special needs of varying degrees. Many of the caregivers involved with the program through the years have adopted the children, obtained guardianship, and/or gained shared custody.

Dunn explained the core group's makeup is primarily Caucasian. Efforts to expand training and support efforts in African American and Hispanic communities have been hampered by funding constraints, difficulty recruiting volunteers, and language barriers.

Kusuda suggested that efforts might be made to establish support group sites in places more convenient or comfortable for African American, Hispanic, and Hmong clients. Batterman stated the North/Eastside Senior Coalition (NESCO), through its cultural diversity program, offers Latino Grandparents Raising their Grandchildren sessions once a month. Batterman said increasing efforts in the African American and Hmong communities is a high priority.

Dunn stated that establishing satellite sites would be ideal and plans to contact a list of community leaders provided by Committee members to solicit input, assistance, and funding to reach underserved populations.

E. Reports to Committee

1. 2015 COMMITTEE WORK PLAN REPORT: QTR3

[2015
RPT-557](#)

2015 ACCESS COMM WORK PLAN QTR 3

Attachments: [2015 Access Comm Work Plan QTR 3](#)

The majority of the Quarter 3 goals have been completed. Batterman said two educational programs for Senior Focal Points – Emergency Preparedness for Consumers training and a Grand Parents and Other Relatives as Parents informational presentation – have been scheduled for Case Management Training sessions in 2016. A six-week Powerful Tools for Caregivers program was conducted in the spring; the fall session was canceled due to a low number of registrants. Data are unavailable to determine whether the goal to provide 32,000 specialized transportation authorizations for seniors in 2015 was reached.

2. 2016 AAA BUDGET

Batterman reported the Dane County Health & Human Needs Committee recently passed three amendments to the 2016 County budget seeking additional AAA funding. The amendments, which call for a \$55,000 increase for Case Management, a \$38,773 increase for Nutrition Site Management, and a \$22,014 increase for Caregiver Support, were co-sponsored by Supervisors Bill Clausius, Patrick Downing, and Dorothy Krause, AAA Board members. The amendments are scheduled to be introduced before the Personnel & Finance Committee this evening to be considered for passage to the full Dane County Board.

AAA Legislative/Advocacy Committee members Esther Olson and Tom Frazier will produce an Elderly Advocacy Network Action Alert urging Senior Focal Point Directors, Case Managers, and other aging network advocates to contact Personnel & Finance members to stress the importance of the additional funding.

3. CHAIR & STAFF REPORTS

In addition to working on the 2016 AAA Area Plan, Purchase of Services contracts, and the 2016 AAA budget, Batterman has been involved in planning and facilitating two major events. The Connecting Aging Veterans to their Benefits Resource Fair, held on 14 October at the Alliant Energy Center, drew 29 vendors and approximately 220 people. Batterman was pleased with the first-time event and hopes to make it a yearly event. The second Domestic Violence Later in Life conference is scheduled for 13 November at Alliant Energy Center.

Hochkammer said he recently learned of the Tiny Tiger Intergenerational Center in Marshfield. The facility is licensed to provide daycare for 80 children and 24 frail, elderly, and disabled adults. Also housed in the facility will be the Marshfield Human Services Academy Charter School, with the goal of educating high school students about human development across the life span and careers in human services. Hochkammer will seek more information about the facility and report to the Committee.

Hochkammer plans to tour the Centralia Center for senior citizens in Wisconsin Rapids and report back to the Committee. The Center occupies the site of a former retail store and houses a senior center and other services geared toward seniors.

Batterman noted that religious holidays in 2016 will necessitate moving Committee meetings from the first Monday of the month on multiple occasions.

Batterman shared that Eric Grosso, Economist/Demographer with the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, will present at the February meeting.

Velasquez reported the three Elder Benefits Specialists remain extremely busy, with evictions and other fair housing issues occupying the largest percentage of their time. There is one person on the normal-priority waiting list. Batterman said Dane County is fortunate to have Case Managers and volunteers who can help consumers with Medicare Part D enrollments. In other counties, that task falls on Elder Benefit Specialists.

Velasquez reported DeForest Area Community & Senior Center's senior dining program will launch a restaurant site on 11 November at the DeForest Family Restaurant. The restaurant option, funded by a portion of a recently-awarded \$20,000 innovation grant, will operate every Wednesday from 9 am to 1 pm. County Executive Joe Parisi will be on hand at noon on 11 November to celebrate the launch.

Velasquez reported a new meal site will open on 24 November at Meadowood Shopping Center in an underserved area on Madison's Southwest Side. The site, located between the Meadowood Neighborhood Center and the Meadowridge Public Library, will serve lunch on Tuesdays and Thursdays and is being funded in part by a recently-awarded \$10,000 replication grant. Transportation is available.

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

NEXT MEETING: MONDAY, 30 NOVEMBER 2015, 2:30 PM AT AAA/ADRC

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

NONE.

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

NONE.

I. Adjournment

**DESMIDT moved, JOHNSON seconded, to adjourn. This meeting adjourned at
3:29 pm.**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Howard Thomas, Clerk Typist.