



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Area Agency on Aging - Legislative / Advocacy Committee

Consider:

Who benefits? Who is burdened?

Who does not have a voice at the table?

How can policymakers mitigate unintended consequences?

Wednesday, May 22, 2019

9:00 AM

AAA/ADRC, 2865 N. Sherman Ave., Room 108
Madison WI 53704

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A. Call To Order

*Staff & Guests present: Cheryl Batterman, Todd Campbell, Marcia Hendrickson,
Bob Power, and Howard Thomas*

Chair Olson called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

Present 7 - FAISAL KAUD, ESTHER OLSON, JILL MCHONE, JIM SCHMIDLKOFER, TED
BUNCK, ANNA LEZOTTE, and THOMAS FRAZIER

Absent 2 - KARI DAVIS, and CAROLE L. KRETSCHMAN

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2019](#) MINTUES FROM APRIL 24, 2019
[MIN-035](#)

Attachments: [2019_0424_AAA Leg-Adv Committee Mtg](#)

**A motion was made by BUNCK, seconded by FRAZIER, that these minutes be
approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

Ayes: 7 - KAUD, OLSON, MCHONE, SCHMIDLKOFER, BUNCK, LEZOTTE and FRAZIER

Absent: 2 - DAVIS and KRETSCHMAN

C. Action Items

1. ADVOCACY SUPPORTING FEDERAL & STATE PROGRAMS

Schmidlkofer expressed disappointment with state lawmakers' lack of response to calls from citizens that Wisconsin accept federal funding for Medicaid Expansion, citing the continued detrimental impact not only on seniors, but those working adults (age 50+) who would benefit. Schmidlkofer stated the additional funding would decrease the amount of state funding dedicated to Medicaid and would greatly increase the number of people covered. Frazier stated expansion would allow for the current state funding dedicated to Medicaid to be spent on other health care priorities.

A motion was made by FRAZIER, seconded by SCHMIDLKOFER, to recommend that the AAA Board endorse a letter to the Dane County delegation in the State Legislature indicating strong support for Medicaid Expansion, with copies to Wisconsin State Assembly Speaker Robin Vos, Wisconsin Senate Majority Leader Scott Fitzgerald, and Governor Tony Evers. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 7 - KAUD, OLSON, MCHONE, SCHMIDLKOFER, BUNCK, LEZOTTE and FRAZIER

Absent: 2 - DAVIS and KRETSCHMAN

2. 2020 AAA BUDGET PRIORITIES

[2019](#)
[ACT-054](#)

2020 AAA BUDGET PRIORITIES DRAFT 052019

Attachments: [2020 AAA Budget Priorities DRAFT 052019](#)

Batterman distributed an updated draft of the 2020 AAA Budget Priorities and indicated the major addition is the Mental Health Services priority. McHone facilitated several meetings with stakeholders to craft a Mental Health Services priority to serve Medicaid-ineligible seniors with mental health needs – a population that is consuming an inordinate amount of case managers' time and isn't receiving the help it needs. McHone explained Focal Point Directors are aware of the DCDHS assessment of overall mental health services being conducted by Public Consulting Group, but felt it necessary to proceed with the Mental Health Services priority because of the urgent need to restore the type of services that were provided by the Mobile Outreach for Seniors Team (MOST) prior to its discontinuation.

Batterman stated the document will remain in draft form until final Older Americans Act funding levels for 2019 and the projected funding levels for 2020 are received from the State this summer.

A motion was made by KAUD, seconded by LEZOTTE, to recommend that the AAA Board approve the draft goals identified by POS Agencies and ACS staff. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 7 - KAUD, OLSON, MCHONE, SCHMIDLKOFER, BUNCK, LEZOTTE and FRAZIER

Absent: 2 - DAVIS and KRETSCHMAN

D. Presentations

1. COLONIAL CLUB'S 2019 ALLY OF THE YEAR AWARD

[2019](#) ALLY OF THE YEAR AWARD CERTIFICATE 2019
[PRES-011](#)

Attachments: [Ally of the Year Award 2019 Certificate](#)

[2019](#) ALLY OF THE YEAR AWARD 2019 PRESENTATION
[PRES-012](#)

Attachments: [Ally of the Year Award 2019](#)

Colonial Club Senior Activity Center Executive Director Bob Power presented the award, one of many the center bestows each year to community members and organizations that volunteer to improve the lives of seniors. The inscription reads: "This certificate is awarded to Dane County Area Agency on Aging Legislative/Advocacy Committee for the consistent manner in which you have pushed for increased funding for designated priority areas. These efforts are making a true impact on the lives of older adults in Dane County. While you are not Colonial Club volunteers in the traditional sense of the word, your dedicated volunteer work has benefitted the Colonial Club and the rest of the Dane County Focal Points. We are proud to partner with you on behalf of older adults."

Batterman will confer with ADRC Manager Jennifer Fischer to select an appropriate place to display the award and a photo of it being presented to the committee.

E. Reports to Committee

1. 2019 AGING ADVOCACY DAY

Batterman reported the event on 14 May 2019 was a major success. The 337 registered participants at the Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network-sponsored event represented a 56 percent increase over the 2018 event. Most legislators were available to meet with participants. A generous stipend from the Wisconsin State Bar Elder Law and Special Needs Section allowed for the printing of a booklet of WAAN's issue papers and other advocacy materials that helped participants provide a consistent message to lawmakers.

2. ADRC GOVERNING BOARD

Frazier reported the April meeting was cancelled. The Board will hold the final two of its three public listening sessions in May: 29th at Alliant Energy Center and 31st at DeForest Area Community and Senior Center. The purpose is to listen to county residents' experiences with the ADRC, Partnership, Family Care and IRIS, as well as to learn about unmet needs for older adults and people with disabilities. Batterman stated members of AAA's Access Committee plan to attend the meetings to hear about the unmet needs of Dane County seniors.

3. COUNTY/STATE/FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dane County Legislative Liaison Carrie Springer, who began her duties this month, was unable to attend the meeting. Batterman will inquire with Springer as to the progress of the committee's suggested updates to the Dane County Legislative Agenda.

4. WISCONSIN AGING ADVOCACY NETWORK

No additional report.

5. STATE'S AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL

Olson and Bunck were unable to attend the most recent quarterly meeting. Olson plans to provide meeting minutes to Batterman for dispersal to committee members.

6. CHAIR & STAFF REPORTS

Batterman reported Senior Nutrition Program dietician Mary Browning retired in March after serving Dane County seniors for 21 years. Alyce Reichenbacher was hired full time to fill two part-time openings: Registered Dietician and Healthy Aging Coordinator for evidence-based health promotion classes such as Healthy Living with Diabetes, Healthy Living with Chronic Pain, Living Well, and Powerful Tools for Caregivers. Reichenbacher, who is employed by NewBridge Madison and works in the AAA office on a contract basis, began her duties on 25 April 2019.

Batterman reported Laura Langer was recently hired as administrator of the Wisconsin Senior Employment (WISE) Program, an employment training program for low-income, unemployed individuals 55 years and older. Langer is the former Program Director for the City of Middleton. She replaces Monica Snittler, who retired.

Batterman reported Representative Gary Hebl, Assembly District 46, has offered to host an event at the State Capitol to educate lawmakers about the impact of the Elder Benefit Specialist Program and the need to increase funding. Dane County Elder Benefit Specialists Leilani Amundson and Tiffany Scully drafted the recently released Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network issue brief calling for state lawmakers to double funding for the EBS program to ensure continued access to legal advocacy services for Wisconsin's fastest-growing population. Scully, who chairs the Legislative Committee of the Wisconsin Association of Benefit Specialists, will lead the training session on a date to be determined.

Olson reported planning continues for 2019 Senior Advocacy Training. A change in format this year will provide a one-day, invitational-only session targeting Focal Point Directors and Focal Point Board Members with the goal that these stakeholders become more active in vital advocacy efforts. The date is 8 August 2019. Olson will work with Batterman to issue invitations.

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, 26 JUNE 2019, 9 AM @ AAA/ADRC

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

None.

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

Frazier announced that he plans to move out of state and will resign from the committee after the July meeting.

I. Adjournment

A motion was made by KAUD, seconded by BUNCK, to adjourn. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 7 - KAUD, OLSON, MCHONE, SCHMIDLKOFER, BUNCK, LEZOTTE and FRAZIER

Absent: 2 - DAVIS and KRETSCHMAN

This meeting adjourned at 10:59 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Howard Thomas, AAA Clerk III.