



Dane County

Minutes - Draft

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 7, 2020

3:45 PM

Virtual Zoom Meeting: See top of agenda for instructions on how to join the webinar or call in by phone.

The December 7, 2020 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://us02webzoom.us/webinar/register/WN_DFiwE4UhR-2K72TfTHR4iA

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

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1-833-548-0276

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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/OPPOSE 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.

A. Call To Order

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

Chair KRETSCHMAN called the meeting to order at 3:48 pm.

- Present** 8 - DONALD ASHBAUGH, BILL CLAUSIUS, TED BUNCK, PAMELA FLAD, CAROLE L. KRETSCHMAN, Supervisor MELISSA RATCLIFF, Supervisor RICHELLE ANDRAE, and Supervisor KATE MCGINNITY
- Absent** 2 - FRAN BARMAN-PAULSON, and SRIDEVI MOHAN

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2020](#)
[MIN-312](#) Minutes from November 2, 2020

Attachments: [2020_1102 AAA Board Mtg Minutes](#)

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

- Ayes:** 8 - ASHBAUGH, CLAUSIUS, BUNCK, FLAD, KRETSCHMAN, RATCLIFF, ANDRAE and MCGINNITY
- Absent:** 2 - BARMAN-PAULSON and MOHAN

C. Action Items

- Present** 9 - DONALD ASHBAUGH, FRAN BARMAN-PAULSON, BILL CLAUSIUS, TED BUNCK, PAMELA FLAD, CAROLE L. KRETSCHMAN, Supervisor MELISSA RATCLIFF, Supervisor RICHELLE ANDRAE, and Supervisor KATE MCGINNITY
- Absent** 1 - SRIDEVI MOHAN

1. Appointment of Committee Members

AAA Manager Batterman discussed looking for a County Supervisor serving on the Health & Human Needs Committee to replace former Supervisor Richard Kilmer on the AAA Board. Reached out to HHN Chair Elizabeth Doyle to see if any members would be interested in serving on the AAA Board.

No action taken.

(BARMAN-PAULSON joined the meeting at 3:56 pm)

D. Presentations

[2020](#)
[PRES-099](#) The Challenges of COVID-19 on Dane County Older Adults (Batterman)

Attachments: [Challenges of COVID-19 on Dane County Older Adults](#)

Batterman shared the attached PowerPoint she presented to the Wisconsin Retirement Association. AAA Aging Program Specialist Velasquez added fundraising for many Focal Points are way down this year. AAA Dietitian Alyce Miller has been doing presentations on Nutrition Counseling. From March 18, 2020-October 30, 2020 there have been 2,400 home delivered meals.

E. Reports to Board

1. State and Federal Report

Laura Langer of the Wisconsin Office on Aging reported planning for the next Aging Plan has started. State-wide aging issues include:

- *There are some areas of the state that have suspended meal delivery*
- *Some aging units are facing significant staff shortages due to illness or the contact with people that have COVID and then staff need to isolate themselves*
- *Staff are expressing lots of anxiety for a variety of reasons. A lack of contact with clients and/or participants, fear community members and themselves becoming infected, and supporting socially isolated older adults are just a few of the emotional burdens.*
- *Some of Aging Units staffs have lost family members to COVID and in one case both their mother and father.*

She ended by stating the State DHS staff are not expected to be back in their offices until April 2021 and that may be pushed further out due depending on vaccination availability (more than 25% of the state workforce is 55 and older).

2. Board Member Reports

a. AAA Access Committee

MCGINNITY reported the previous Committee meeting included an annual update from RSVP and what activities/services they have been offering during COVID-19. Over the past year, they had 400 older adult volunteers in 48 agencies working with people. More recently, RSVP has been assisting with meal delivery and has 10 volunteer drivers willing to resume driving older adults to medical appointments. Their volunteers are keeping engaged with phone calls, email, and Zoom meetings.

Activity boxes for older adults will be delivered by Focal Point staff in January 2021. There are three activities included in the box to help with social isolation. A flyer will also be included from RSVP for any volunteers who would be interested in sewing or other crafts that could help keep older adults busy. Dane County is using data obtained from Kinship Care through the Caregiver Program to look at using finds to target grandparents of color who are raising their grandchildren.

AAA expanded on Executive Director Joe Parisi's "Cards for Health Care Heroes Campaign." 1,850 blank note cards were ordered and are being distributed with a flyer explaining the program to older adults who receive meals (home-delivered and curbside) in hopes they will participate and send a handwritten card of thanks.

b. AAA Legislative/Advocacy Committee

BUNCK expressed concerns of funding shortages going forward and a high need to stay in contact with elected officials about funding needs. Broadband internet access is also a challenge for accessibility for older adults—especially during the pandemic. Batterman noted Committee Member Faisal Kaud is recommending the creation of an Ad Hoc Committee to address diversity on the AAA Board and Committees.

c. AAA Nutrition/Wellness Committee

AAA Registered Dietitian & Healthy Aging Coordinator Alyce Miller updated the committee on the Dietitian program, Healthy Aging program, and Social Isolation Resource Guide.

d. Dane County Specialized Transportation Commission

No report.

3. Chair & Staff Reports

Batterman reported the Focal Point Directors are concerned about the increase in older adults reaching their limits of social isolation. Have been four suicides in Dane County by older adults since March 2020.

Batterman recognized her staff for their continued efforts to provide a high level of service during COVID-19. She is holding weekly virtual staff meetings as a check in for everyone.

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Next Meeting: Monday, 4 January 2021, 3:45 pm via Zoom

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

I. Adjournment

A motion was made by ASHBAUGH, seconded by RATCLIFF, that the meeting be adjourned. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 9 - ASHBAUGH, BARMAN-PAULSON, CLAUSIUS, BUNCK, FLAD, KRETSCHMAN, RATCLIFF, ANDRAE and MCGINNITY

Absent: 1 - MOHAN

Meeting adjourned at 4:41 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Cindy Matulle, AAA Clerk III