



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Area Agency on Aging - Legislative / Advocacy Committee

Wednesday, August 31, 2016

9:00 AM

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

AAA/ADRC, 2865 N. Sherman Ave., Room 108

A. Call To Order

Chair Olson called the meeting to order at 9:04 am.

Staff & Guests present: Cheryl Batterman, Mickey Beil, Mary Elizabeth Brown, Jim Krueger, Steve Stocker, Howard Thomas, and Margie Zutter

Present 8 - THOMAS FRAZIER, ROB GUNDERMANN, MYRA JOSEPHSON, FAISAL KAUD, ESTHER OLSON, JILL MCHONE, KARI DAVIS, and JIM SCHMIDLKOFER

Absent 2 - MARY PIKE, and DIANE WALDER

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2016](#) MINUTES FROM JUNE 22, 2016
[MIN-216](#)

Attachments: [2016_0622_AAA Leg-Adv Committee Mtg](#)

Davis and McHone arrived after Consideration of Minutes.

KAUD moved, SCHMIDLKOFER seconded, that these minutes be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 6 - FRAZIER, GUNDERMANN, JOSEPHSON, KAUD, OLSON and SCHMIDLKOFER

Absent: 4 - PIKE, WALDER, MCHONE and DAVIS

C. Action Items

1. 2017-2019 DANE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

[2016](#) LEGISLATIVE AGENDAS BROCHURES/2016 RES-150
[ACT-259](#)

Attachments: [2016 RES-150](#)

[2016](#)
[ACT-280](#)

NEW PROPOSED ADDITIONS TO 2017 LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Attachments: [New Proposed Additions to 2017 Legislative Agenda](#)

[2016](#)
[ACT-281](#)

NEW ADDITIONS TO DANE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE AGENDA

Attachments: [New Additions to Dane County Legislative Agenda 2017-19](#)

Beil distributed two handouts -- New Additions to the Dane County Legislative Agenda 2017-2019 and New Proposed Additions to the 2017 Dane County Legislative Agenda - and provided an overview of the 2017 Dane County Legislative Agenda and the process used to update the document.

SCHMIDLKOFER moved, KAUD seconded, to recommend that the AAA Board propose an amendment that opposes legislation that cuts/restructures County Veterans Services Offices funding, reduces veteran services, or weakens offices through regionalization. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 8 - FRAZIER, GUNDERMANN, JOSEPHSON, KAUD, OLSON, MCHONE, DAVIS and SCHMIDLKOFER

Absent: 2 - PIKE and WALDER

SCHMIDLKOFER moved, KAUD seconded, to recommend that the AAA Board endorse the 2017-19 Dane County Legislative Agenda as amended by Committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 8 - FRAZIER, GUNDERMANN, JOSEPHSON, KAUD, OLSON, MCHONE, DAVIS and SCHMIDLKOFER

Absent: 2 - PIKE and WALDER

2. DANE COUNTY 2017 AAA BUDGET PRIORITIES

[2016](#)
[ACT-283](#)

DANE COUNTY 2017 AAA BUDGET PRIORITIES

Attachments: [2017 AAA Budget Priorities updated 082916](#)

Batterman provided an overview of the updated AAA priorities regarding the 2017 Dane County budget. Funding for Nutrition Site Management, the RSVP Driver Services Program, and the Caregivers Support Program has been secured since the original priorities list was created. Case Management Services, the Volunteer Guardianship/Rep Payee Program, the Cultural Diversity Program, and the Special Project Fund remain on the priorities list.

Frazier, McHone, and Schmidlkofer expressed concerns about the Committee's ability to make a persuasive argument to increase funding for the Special Project Fund.

FRAZIER moved, SCHMIDLKOFER seconded, to recommend the AAA Board remove the Special Project Fund as a budget advocacy priority. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 8 - FRAZIER, GUNDERMANN, JOSEPHSON, KAUD, OLSON, MCHONE, DAVIS and SCHMIDLKOFER

Absent: 2 - PIKE and WALDER

D. Presentations

None.

E. Reports to Committee

1. ADRC GOVERNING BOARD

The Board did not meet in August. The next meeting is 15 September 2016.

2. COUNTY/STATE/FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Beil reported Legislative Council Study Groups are working through the summer. The next legislative session will begin in January.

3. WISCONSIN AGING ADVOCACY NETWORK

Batterman reported final state issue briefs were presented during the August meeting on several topics: Adult Long-Term Care, Aging & Disability Resource Centers, Family Caregivers, Healthy Aging Grants, Homestead Tax Credits, Interagency Transportation Coordination, Voter Photo ID, and the Wisconsin Medicaid Program.

4. 2016 SENIOR ADVOCACY TRAINING

[2016](#)
[RPT-304](#)

2016 SENIOR ADVOCACY TRAINING EVALUATIONS REPORT

Attachments: [2016 SAT Evaluations Report](#)

Olson reported the three sessions conducted at AAA/ADRC were productive. Participants were asked to attend the Dane County Budget Hearing on 15 September 2016 to observe how the process works.

Batterman will ask Focal Point Directors to encourage board members to attend the training in 2017.

5. SECTION 42 HOUSING CHALLENGES

Batterman stated Focal Point Case Managers, AAA Elder Benefit Specialists, and Aging & Disability Resource Center Information and Assistance Specialists have reported a significant increase in number of senior adults living in Section 42 subsidized housing who have received lease non-renewal notices. As the apartment rental market has rebounded following the economic downturn, more management companies are opting out of agreements to provide Section 42 housing because higher rents can be demanded on the open market.

Olson introduced Mary Elizabeth Brown, Chair of the Wisconsin NAACP Housing Committee and a former Subsidized Housing Supervisor for the City of Madison. Brown explained Section 42, originally referred to as the Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Program, provides a dollar-for-dollar tax credit to property owners who earmark a percentage of their units to be maintained as affordable housing for seniors.

Brown stated lease non-renewal is reaching crisis stage because property owners are exercising Section 42 opt-out clauses effective after 15 or 20 years of program participation. Brown reported residents typically receive notices that rents will be raised to market level within three years and that yearly raises can be any amount, often with a large increase in the first of a three-year period.

Brown has been in contact with Sarah Benedict Anstaett, Caseworker in U.S. Senator Tammy Baldwin's Office, about the expanding senior housing crisis. Frazier recommended inviting Benedict Anstaett to a future Committee meeting to share what she has learned about the issue and what steps might be taken to help alleviate it. McHone suggested that AAA of Dane County, AAA of Milwaukee County, and the Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources (GWAAR) collect personal accounts of housing hardships seniors have encountered.

Batterman will invite Benedict Anstaett to the Committee meeting on 28 September 2016.

6. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Batterman introduced Steve Stocker, recently appointed member of the AAA Board, who has expressed interest to be appointed by the Board to the Legislative/Advocacy Committee. AAA By-laws require that a second AAA Board Member be appointed to the Committee.

7. CHAIR & STAFF REPORTS

Wisconsin Senior Corps Association President Margie Zutter distributed letters detailing the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services' decision to relinquish its grant agreement with the Corporation for National and Community Service (CNCS) to operate the Foster Grand Parents Program effective 31 December 2016.

Zutter reported that 325 state residents participate in the program, which has operated for 44 years. Participants, 55 and older with low incomes, receive tax-free stipends of \$2.65 per hour plus transportation reimbursement for providing supportive services to at-risk children. Zutter stated that many who serve as foster grandparents rely on stipends to pay living expenses.

The Offices of U.S. Senators Ron Johnson and Tammy Baldwin, U.S. Representative Mark Pocan, and Governor Scott Walker have been apprised of the relinquishment announcement, dated 28 July 2016.

Schmidtkofer suggested challenging the logic behind the relinquishment decision and arbitrary timing. Batterman will distribute an Elderly Advocacy Network action alert. Frazier suggested asking the AAA Board to consider the situation as an action item on its agenda for the meeting on 12 September 2016.

Zutter, Executive Director of RSVP of Dane County, thanked the Committee for the role it played in securing additional funding for RSVP's driver services in 2016 and proposed funding for 2017.

Batterman distributed a letter written by Frazier entitled "Political Platforms: What they say about Social Security and Medicare."

Batterman alerted Committee Members about the 14th Annual Dane County/State Triad Crime Prevention and Safety Conference on 7 October 2016 at American Family Insurance Training Center. The event, geared toward seniors and professionals in the Aging Network, features speakers, workshops, and resource tables to provide valuable information on topics related to crime prevention and safety.

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, 28 SEPTEMBER 2016, 9 AM @ AAA/ADRC

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

Gundermann will not attend the Committee's September meeting.

I. Adjournment

KAUD moved, FRAZIER seconded, to adjourn. This meeting adjourned at 11:23 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Howard Thomas, Clerk Typist.