



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

Area Agency on Aging - Legislative / Advocacy Committee

Wednesday, April 26, 2017

9:00 AM

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

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A. Call To Order

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

Staff and guests present: Lori Andersen, Mickey Beil, Katie Brietzman, Lynn Forshaug, Paulette Glunn, Jim Krueger, Sonya Lindquist, Cindy Mosiman, Bob Powers, Gretchen Stutz, Howard Thomas, and Angela Velasquez

Present 5 - THOMAS FRAZIER, MYRA JOSEPHSON, ESTHER OLSON, KARI DAVIS, and TED BUNCK

Absent 4 - FAISAL KAUD, JILL MCHONE, JIM SCHMIDLKOFER, and STEVE STOCKER

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2017](#) MINUTES FROM MARCH 22, 2017
[MIN-015](#)

Attachments: [2017 0322 AAA Leg-Adv Committee Mtg Minutes](#)

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

Ayes: 5 - FRAZIER, JOSEPHSON, OLSON, DAVIS and BUNCK

Absent: 4 - KAUD, MCHONE, SCHMIDLKOFER and STOCKER

C. Action Items

1. ADVOCACY SUPPORTING FEDERAL & STATE PROGRAMS

No action taken.

2. 2018 AAA BUDGET PRIORITIES

[2017](#)
[ACT-065](#)

2018 AAA BUDGET PRIORITIES DRAFT #4 042617

Attachments: [2018 AAA Budget Priorities DRAFT #4 042617](#)

There was a consensus among Senior Focal Point personnel in attendance that despite a list of 22 agencies offering nearly 60 mental health programs in Dane County, access is poor and wait lists far too long. For that reason, mental health services remains the top priority among Focal Point Directors' 2018 AAA Budget priorities.

Consensus also existed with the request that the Committee advocate for return of the Mobile Outreach for Seniors Team (MOST) Program, eliminated in recent years because Journey Mental Health deemed services for people with the most intensive mental health needs had higher priority. Elimination of MOST created a gap for seniors who need initial interactions, assessments, and treatment plans. Frazier suggested discussions begin with Dane County Human Services Director Lynn Green and Contract Manager Mary Grabot about how MOST might be reinstituted. Bunck requested that Committee members be briefed about the MOST program at a future meeting. Frazier stated the most prudent approach in this budget cycle may be to advocate for funds to supplement areas that received additional funding last year and take a year to study how best to advocate for mental health services.

Brietzman, Director of South Madison Coalition of the Elderly's Volunteer Guardianship/Representative Payee Program, stated that 80-90 volunteers serve 90-100 highly vulnerable county seniors each year, and estimated the program saves the county \$35,000 to \$40,000 per month and more than \$456,000 annually if the County were to contract with financial services firms for this service. Velasquez stated a Request for Proposals for volunteer services had been issued and suggested SMCE may wish to apply on behalf of the Volunteer Guardianship/Representative Payee Program. Velasquez further stated that Older Americans Act Title III B funding can only be used to support those seniors residing in the community.

Velasquez stated that AAA's Nutrition/Wellness Committee is concerned that a significant increase in home-delivered meals will deplete funding by October and create a wait list for the service. She suggested that catered meals will be a funding issue and consideration for the 2018 budget because that Nutrition/Wellness Committee is not in favor of a wait list. Focal Point Director Krueger suggested an additional meeting of Focal Point Directors be scheduled to discuss suggestions for the Nutrition/Wellness Committee to be considered at its next meeting. Velasquez suggested that the group could meet with her to share any suggestions prior to the next Nutrition/Wellness Committee meeting in June so that they can work together, fully informed on potential solutions.

A motion was made by BUNCK, seconded by DAVIS, to request that Focal Point Directors work with the AAA Manager and staff to establish final priorities for the Committee's further consideration at the next meeting and update the information in the priorities to further justify and strengthen the proposals. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 - FRAZIER, JOSEPHSON, OLSON, DAVIS and BUNCK

Absent: 4 - KAUD, MCHONE, SCHMIDLKOFER and STOCKER

D. Presentations

None.

E. Reports to Committee

1. ADRC GOVERNING BOARD

Frazier reported the Aging & Disability Resource Center Board will conduct public hearing and information gathering sessions on May 15 regarding obstacles older adults and aging professionals may face in procuring long-term care during and after the transition to Family Care in Dane County. The sessions will be held from 10:30 am to 1 pm and 5 to 7:30 pm at the Alliant Energy Center. Testimony will be transcribed and included in a report to the state. Brochures advertising the hearing will be distributed this week.

Frazier reported ADRC staff are meeting with nursing home and assisted-living facilities staff to stress the importance of residents being placed on the Family Care wait list prior to its being frozen on 1 July 2017.

2. COUNTY/STATE/FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

[2017
RPT-059](#)

PARISI COLUMN ON DEMENTIA CARE SPECIALISTS

Attachments: [Parisi Column on Dementia Care Specialists](#)

[2017
RPT-060](#)

JFC CONTACT INFORMATION

Attachments: [JFC Contact Information](#)

[2017](#)
[RPT-061](#)

ANALYSIS OF 2018 FEDERAL DISCRETIONARY SPENDING
BUDGET

Attachments: [Analysis of 2018 Federal Discretionary Spending Budget](#)

Dane County Lobbyist Beil distributed County Executive Joe Parisi's Op-Ed column requesting that funding for Dementia Care Specialists be restored in the 2017-19 state budget, the Legislature's Joint Finance Committee contact information, and an analysis of the 2018 federal discretionary spending budget released 16 March 2017.

Beil highlighted areas of concern regarding seniors in the federal budget, including elimination of the Legal Services Corporation, a cut in funding for the Section 202 Supportive Housing for the Elderly program, and elimination of the Senior Community Service Employment program through elimination of the Corporation for National and Community Service. The latter would jeopardize the RSVP and Senior Corps programs.

3. WISCONSIN AGING ADVOCACY NETWORK

Olson stated the organization's efforts are ongoing to provide information about Medicare, Medicaid, and the Affordable Care Act in addition to the importance of restoring Dementia Care Specialist positions in the 2017-1019 state budget. Frazier reported that more than 100 people have registered for Senior Advocacy Day at the State Capitol on May 17 and encouraged professionals in programs for aging to spread the word. Participants must register and may find pertinent materials on GWAAR's website. Frazier stated restoration of state funding for Dementia Care Specialist positions is one of the top advocacy priorities for both WAAN and AARP.

4. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

Velasquez asked members to spread the word that two AAA Legislative/Advocacy Committee seats remain open.

5. CHAIR & STAFF REPORTS

Velasquez reported the Wisconsin Association of Benefit Specialists is concerned that elimination of the State Health Insurance Assistance Programs from the federal budget will be detrimental to Elder Benefit Specialists (EBS) programs and the Medigap Helpline. SHIP does not fund Dane County's three EBS positions but does pay for their access to GWAAR attorneys.

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, 24 MAY 2017, 9 AM @ AAA/ADRC

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 FRAZIER, seconded by JOSEPHSON, to adjourn. This meeting adjourned at 11:27 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Howard Thomas