



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, April 28, 2021

9:00 AM

via Zoom

The Wednesday April 28, 2021 AAA Legislative/Advocacy Committee 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://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_cwXG7vE4SMZJeG5ilzPsQ

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

To join the meeting by phone, dial-in using one of the following three phone numbers:

1-833-548-0276

1-833-548-0282

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When prompted, enter the following Webinar ID: 867 0087 8125

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 and Guests Present: Cheryl Batterman, Jim Krueger, Cindy Matulle, Carrie Springer and Angela Velasquez.

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

Present 5 - FAISAL KAUD, ANNA LEZOTTE, JILL MCHONE, ESTHER OLSON, and JIM SCHMIDLKOFER
Absent 4 - TED BUNCK, JODIE CASTANEDA, CAROLE L. KRETSCHMAN, and MAI ZONG VUE

B. Consideration of Minutes

KAUD made a request to move Diversity Work Group Report to Committee to the Presentation portion of the meeting.

Motion made by KAUD, seconded by SCHMIDLKOFER to move Diversity Work Group Report to a Presentation.

Ayes: 5 - KAUD, LEZOTTE, MCHONE, OLSON and SCHMIDLKOFER

Absent: 3 - BUNCK, CASTANEDA and VUE

[2021](#)
[MIN-012](#)

Minutes from March 24, 2021

Attachments: [2021 0324 AAA Legislative-Advocacy Comm Mtg Minutes](#)

A motion was made by KAUD, seconded by LEZOTTE, that the minutes be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 5 - KAUD, LEZOTTE, MCHONE, OLSON and SCHMIDLKOFER

Absent: 3 - BUNCK, CASTANEDA and VUE

C. Action Items

None.

1. Advocacy Supporting Federal & State Programs

Dane County Lobbyist Carrie Springer reported April 28, 2021 was the last day for public hearings for the State Budget Committee. Written communication will be accepted through Friday April 30, 2021. State Legislation wants more information of what the American Rescue Plan (APR) will be funding so decisions can be made of funding for other departments.

D. Presentations

1. 2020 AAA Annual Report

[2021](#)
[PRES-008](#)

2020 AAA Annual Report

Attachments: [2020 AAA Annual Report FINAL](#)

AAA Manager Cheryl Batterman presented the 2020 Annual report to the committee members and answered questions. Noted in the report was AAA awarded two National Awards for services provided to older adults.

AAA Aging Specialist Angela Velasquez reported on Nutrition portion of the report. Meals were up 37% (40,000+) without having congregate meals for nine months of the year. Home Delivered Meals, carry out meals will receive Federal funding from the American Recovery Plan Act but this won't be long term funding for meals

KAUD thanked the Elderly Benefit Staff (EBS) for helping older adults with prescription questions.

Discussion about information on the annual report in regard to Aging units having to really step up and fill the gap for older adults. Lack of community responses to how older adults were affected by COVID-19 put most of the workload on Aging units. SCHMIDLKOFER asked to not understate in the annual report or other reports of the work that was done by AAA and other Aging units. SCHMIDLKOFER noted at the beginning of COVID-19 all services for older adults flipped, in the course of 24 hours to meeting all needs at home verses in the community. With so many unknowns about how the virus is spread, making grocery shopping high risk. No other entity took responsibility for protecting older adults; the Aging Network was responsible for ensuring older adult safety and wellbeing.

Examples of the aging network services added during COVID-19:

- *Meals provided to homes multiple times per day*
- *Groceries delivered to homes*
- *Food Pantry delivery to homes*
- *Transportation of older adults to health facilities met via paid drivers*
- *Wellness checks made via phone several times per week*
- *All activities became virtual via computer or telephone conference calls*
- *Staff took on responsibilities of older adult volunteers in all aspects of aging services*
- *Established a secondary call center to get older adults to vaccinations*
- *Established partnership to get homebound vaccinated in their homes*

KAUD requested a motion to make this an official response/report to the AAA Board about the services that AAA picked up to ensure older adults were not left without services. Older adults were the most impacted by COVID-19.

SCHMIDLKOFER made a motion to give a summary report to the AAA Board in support of the AAA annual report and needs of older adults in Dane County, seconded by KAUD. Motion carried on following vote:

Ayes: 5 - KAUD, LEZOTTE, MCHONE, OLSON and SCHMIDLKOFER

Absent: 3 - BUNCK, CASTANEDA and VUE

2. Mental Health Resources for Older Adults Program Update

NewBridge Executive Director Jim Krueger presented on the status of their Mental Health Program. Referrals will start to be accepted on May 3, 2021 for case management clients. Mental health staff will evaluate to determine what services are needed. Two staff were hired to staff the Mental Health Program: Kathleen Pater, Mental Health Resources Program Licensed Social Worker and Mike Garrison, Mental Health Resources Program Registered Nurse.

Focal Points were involved with interviews and the hiring process of the Mental Health staff. An advisory was created and met several times to approve the criteria for the program. Goal is to serve 40 mental health high needs clients and 25 mental health general clients. Each Focal Point will be able to refer two clients and NewBridge will be able to refer four clients.

E. Reports to Committee

1. 2022 AAA Budget Priorities

Batterman will get the draft report out later this week.

2. 2021 Committee Work Plan: QTR1

[2021
PRES-009](#)

2021 Committee Work Plan: QTR1

Attachments: [2021 Leg-Adv Comm Work Plan QTR 1](#)

Batterman reported the State Aging Advocacy day is May 12, 2021 via Zoom. Batterman and Olson working on setting up online summer sessions for Senior Advocacy Training (SAT). Diversity Word Group created email and mailing list for invitations for volunteers to join the work group or apply to serve on AAA Board/Committees.

VELASQUEZ reported a transportation survey was sent out to over 800 older adults. UW Milwaukee is doing a statewide survey on transportation needs and will generate a report for us when the data is tabulated. Carryout meals survey was distributed and data should be coming back by mid-May. American Community Living (ACL) was picked for a nationwide funding survey. Any programs funded from the Older Americans Act will be looked at. Part of the ACL requirement is evaluating social loneliness scores. In the fall a Home-Delivered Meals survey will go out to older adults.

3. ADRC Governing Board

OLSON reported the next meeting is May 10, 2021. Will ask ADRC Manager Jennifer Fischer to add to the agenda of looking for more members for AAA Diversity Work Group.

4. County/State/Federal Legislative Update

OLSON reported the County Board passed a resolution creating a task force for broadband access.

5. Diversity Work Group

KAUD presented what steps the group has done for recruiting minority community members. Several emails, letters, and phone calls were made to POC and LGBTQIA+ organizations asking community members to serve on AAA Board and Committees. KAUD has spoken to Vicki Bankston who is interested in joining the Diversity Work Group. MCHONE has spoken to Karen Kane who is interested in serving on the AAA Access Committee. The work group will be meeting soon to determine the next steps.

6. State's Aging Advisory Council

OLSON reported the next meeting is mid-May and the agenda is not set yet.

7. Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network

BATTERMAN reported WAAN's State Advocacy Day is May 10 & 12 and encouraged committee members to attend.

8. Committee Membership

BATTERMAN reported the AAA Legislative/Advocacy Committee is still one member short.

9. Chair & Staff Reports

OLSON reported the Governor's Task Force on Broadband Access collected their data and are in the report writing stage.

BATTERMAN and VELASQUEZ are working on the 2022-2024 Dane County Aging Plan and using some questions from other agencies to come up with more questions about services. Looking at the Aging Plan in 5-10-20 year stages.

VELASQUEZ reported a letter was sent to Focal Points from the AAA Board letting directors know we are here and supporting them. The letter has been included in Focal Point newsletters.

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Next meeting: Wednesday 26 May 2021, 9 am via Zoom

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

None.

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

None.

I. Adjournment

Motion made by SCHMIDLKOFER, seconded by MCHONE, to adjourn the meeting.

Motion passed on following vote:

Ayes: 5 - KAUD, LEZOTTE, MCHONE, OLSON and SCHMIDLKOFER

Absent: 3 - BUNCK, CASTANEDA and VUE

Meeting adjourned at 10:51 am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Cindy Matulle, AAA Clerk III.