



# 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?*

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Wednesday, August 28, 2024

9:00 AM

This is a Hybrid Meeting: Attend in person at 2865 N Sherman Ave, Conference Room 109; Attend virtually via Zoom.

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See below for additional instructions on how to attend the meeting and provide public testimony.

The Wednesday August 28, 2024 AAA Legislative/Advocacy Committee meeting will be a hybrid meeting. Members of the public can either attend in person or virtually via Zoom.

The public can attend in person at the ADRC building, 2865 N Sherman Ave Room 109, Madison.

The public can access the meeting virtually 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://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_CfbZD0HaTmqoXgDeELg5HA](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_CfbZD0HaTmqoXgDeELg5HA)

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 toll-free phone numbers:

1-833-548-0276

1-833-548-0282

1-888-788-0099

When prompted, enter the following Webinar ID: 957 6548 2002

**PROCESS TO PROVIDE PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**IN PERSON:** Any members of the public wishing to register to speak on/support/oppose an agenda item can register in person at the meeting using paper registration forms. **IT IS HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO REGISTER VIA THE ZOOM LINK ABOVE EVEN IF YOU PLAN ON ATTENDING IN PERSON.**

In person registrations to provide public comment will be accepted throughout the meeting.

**VIRTUAL:** 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).

Virtual registrations to provide public comment will be accepted until 30 minutes prior to the beginning of the meeting.

In order to testify (provide public comment) virtually, you must be in attendance at the meeting via Zoom or phone, you will then either be unmuted or promoted to a panelist and provided time to speak to the body.

If you want to submit a written comment for this meeting, or send handouts for board members, please send them to: [Matulle.Cindy@danecounty.gov](mailto:Matulle.Cindy@danecounty.gov)

*Staff and Guests Present: Cindy Matulle, Claire Purkis, and Carrie Springer.*

**A. Call To Order**

Vice-Chair LEZOTTE called the meeting to order at 9:06 am.

**Present** 4 - TED BUNCK, JODIE CASTANEDA, ANNA LEZOTTE, and JIM SCHMIDLKOFER

**Absent** 2 - JILL MCHONE, and NATALIE RAEMISCH

**B. Consideration of Minutes**

[2024](#) Minutes from May 1, 2024  
[MIN-097](#)

**Attachments:** [2024\\_0501\\_LegAdv Committee Minutes](#)

A motion was made by SCHMIDLKOFER, seconded by BUNCK, that the minutes be approved. The motion carried by a voice vote.

**C. Action Items**

1. Advocacy Supporting Federal & State Programs

**D. Discussion**

1. Revisiting Reports to Committee Items

*Discussion between members about what makes our committee more successful and what is our purpose? Need to be advocating more for older adult programs and funding. We are presented with information from a lot of places but what are the real needs of older adults? Tracking of issues, where do they stand? Paid employees should be aware of what is being done with older adult programming and sharing that information with this committee. Need more organized issues so things are not all over the place.*

**E. Reports to Committee**

1. Wisconsin Senior Advocates

*BUNCK can assist with summarizing what this advocacy group is doing.*

2. ADRC Governing Board

*Include minutes from ADRC meetings to see what Aging topics are being addressed.*

**No Aging Action items at last meeting. Shannon Gabriel, AAA Registered Dietician and Healthy Aging Coordinator, presented on the Nutrition Program.**

3. County/State/Federal Legislative Update

4. State's Aging Advisory Council

*BUNCK can assist with summarizing what this advocacy group is doing.*

5. Wisconsin Aging Advocacy Network

a. From USAging: Senate HELP Committee Advances OAA Reauthorization Bill

July 31st - The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions (HELP) Committee passed, in a vote of 20 to 1, S. 4776, the Older Americans Act (OAA) Reauthorization Act of 2024. The bill reflects seven months of advocacy by USAging, our members and others, as well as the active engagement of eight HELP Committee Senators and their staff members who served on a bipartisan OAA working group.

USAging priorities that in full or in part incorporated in the reauthorization bill, include:

- **AAA Independence:** Freedom from state approval around business or health care contracts if no OAA funding is used (limited disclosure only) and updated, clarifying language about when OAA funding is leveraged.
  - **Title III D Flexibility:** Funds can now be used for evidence-informed programs as well as evidence-based programs.
  - **Nutrition Flexibility:** Grab-and-go meals option is codified in the law, with up to 25 percent of C1 available if the state approves, and the ability to distribute these meals in any community setting.
  - **Social Isolation:** Prioritize national training and technical assistance to the Aging Network on social engagement programming and innovations, such as the work of USAging's engAGED resource center.
- Funding Recommendations: Increase authorization levels by nearly 20 percent over the five-year period.

Advocacy focus has shifted to the House.

*Long discussion by members about Nutrition Flexibility. Committee members would like to see a grab-and-go meal program in Dane County for those who cannot get access to current meal sites. AAA staff are working on plans to increase congregate meal participation to get that cost down more. Southside of Madison is really limited in where they can go to get lunch. Romnes is locked so clients have been encouraged to go to another location.*

b. National Plan on Aging – Public Input by 9/15/24 ACL release -  
[view.connect.hhs.gov/?](https://view.connect.hhs.gov/?qs=9caa8aff0c8b936d0655bd6b889fa45e1b4e535bcad2b873f8a738423e28f8e4b42d9ddd3c3f0b0db368360a8e711c257dcb69e735a7536d3079f211cefc5021feb3744be4986dac)

[qs=9caa8aff0c8b936d0655bd6b889fa45e1b4e535bcad2b873f8a738423e28f8e4b42d9ddd3c3f0b0db368360a8e711c257dcb69e735a7536d3079f211cefc5021feb3744be4986dac](https://view.connect.hhs.gov/?qs=9caa8aff0c8b936d0655bd6b889fa45e1b4e535bcad2b873f8a738423e28f8e4b42d9ddd3c3f0b0db368360a8e711c257dcb69e735a7536d3079f211cefc5021feb3744be4986dac)

Survey Links: National Plan on Aging Community Engagement Collaborative | West Health

## 6. Chair & Staff Reports

*An email was shared with the committee from the Homeless Services Consortium about the Beacon homeless shelter no longer serving breakfast as of September 2, 2024. "Hello All, beginning Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2024, The Beacon will no longer serve breakfast or offer coffee service to our guests. This decision has been made following careful consideration and discussion between the leaders of Catholic Charities, Dane County, and the City of Madison in response to growing concerns about overcrowding and the safety of all guests, staff and volunteers. With this change in our services, The Beacon will provide lunch only. We believe this change will help us better manage our resources, staff and volunteer time, and reduce overcrowding during two different mealtimes. We understand that this change may be challenging for our guests, and we are committed to supporting them through this transition."*

*Carly Sobyte <CSobyte@ccmadison.org>  
Director of Homeless Services  
Catholic Charities | 702 South High Point Road, Suite 201 | Madison, WI 53719  
P: (608) 826-8077 | F: (608) 826-8027  
ccmadison.org*

*This information upset the committee members that Dane County would be involved in stopping to provide meals for under served homeless people. SCHMIDLKOFER asked for a motion and follow up from AAA Staff about who at Dane County agreed to stop providing breakfast at the Beacon. BUNCK seconded the motion and rest of committee members also agreed. Since this was not listed as an advance notice Action Item it cannot be documented as such but it will be noted of what committee members want investigated and reported back on.*

### a. AAA Aging Plan

*AAA Aging Program Specialist Claire Purkis explained the work groups that the AAA interns and Claire have been working with on collecting information from older adults.*

### b. Budget Timeline:

**Department Budget Release August 30, 2024**

**Public Hearing September 11/12, 2024 at 6 pm**

*Members were encouraged to attend the public hearing. Instructions given of waiting for the Friday of September 6 and then look up agenda to sign up for which area they wished to speak up on or advocate for.*

## F. Report Out Items to AAA Board

*Nutrition Flexibility & Beacon no longer serving breakfast starting September 2, 2024.*

## G. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Next meeting: Wednesday September 25, 2024 at 9am via Hybrid

*Members would like to discuss at the September meeting: 1. See if Shannon is able to come and present on Nutrition for Dane County older adults. 2. Members want to make the committee more successful and have a purpose. 3. Want more topics recommended to the AAA Board along with more advocacy. 4. LTC-AAA case management is still doing work that cannot be billed as the MCO's are not providing the services that clients want.*

#### **H. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda**

*None.*

#### **I. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law**

*None.*

#### **J. Adjournment**

**A motion was made by BUNCK, seconded by SCHMIDLKOFER, that the meeting be adjourned at 10:18 am. The motion carried unanimously.**

*Minutes submitted respectfully by Cindy Matulle.*