

Meeting: Senior Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting – via ZOOM

Date: October 3, 2022

PARTICIPANTS

- Ana Gonzalez – APD (Adults and People with Disabilities) Staff
- Chelsey Kirby – SDS Staff
- Constance Wilkerson – SDS Program Director
- John Curtis – SAC Member
- John Irwin – SAC Member
- Leah Swanson – SAC Member
- LeAnne Turnbull – SDS Staff
- Liz James – SAC Chair
- Natalie Mettler – SAC Member
- Noriko Toyokawa – SAC Member
- Paul Golding – SAC Member

GUESTS

- Cassie Rose – CVN (Community Volunteer Network)
- Becky Foster – SHIBA (Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance) volunteer
- Brooke Kirkland – CVN
- Rai McKenzie

SAC MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

- Rick Dyer – Jackson County Commissioner
- Darin Fowler – Josephine County Commissioner

CALL TO ORDER – Liz J. called the meeting to order at 12:31 pm.

GENERAL MEETING BUSINESS

Introductions of guests and public comments – none.

Additions to agenda – John asked if the Jewell Brooks recommendations will be done during this meeting and if there will be a special meeting outside this meeting? Connie has the discussion on her agenda during her report and will have the SAC decide what direction it should go.

Review and approval of September 12, 2022 Minutes – Paul motioned to approve the September 12th, 2022 minutes as written. John I. seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Announcements – None.

Director's report – Constance W. reported.

- APD hired Nakeshia Knight Coyle as their new Director.

- It appears the emergency declaration will be ending in January 2023, yet there it has not been confirmed.
- At the September O4AD (Oregon Area Agencies on Aging and Disability) director's retreat, the importance of relaunching the in-person quarterly meetings was discussed. This will take place as of April 2023 in a hybrid format. Going forward the quarterly meetings will be in person and only held remotely during the winter months when travel is an issue.
- From October 17-21 Connie will be away as she was accepted to the US Aging Leadership Institute.
- Ellen Denninger and Connie have begun classes to obtain certification to teach guided auto biography. They had planned to use the class with individuals that have mild dementia. After finishing the course, they will determine the type of individuals that should attend the classes. (Whether with some cognitive decline or not or a mixture of both.) Class size is limited to 6-8 people.
- APD and AAA staff continue to work on the logistics for the 1115 waiver rollout, including OPIM and FCAP programs. The exact launch date is to be announced.
- Connie has submitted paperwork to receive the Service Equity bonus fund of \$195,913. 30% of that amount can be used on staffing and administration. She is awaiting further information on any other budget constraints.
- The Service Equity plan was received with no revisions necessary. Liz asked if other AAA's are able to view our plan as a template to be used. Connie stated that it has been shared out amongst other AAA's. We have already completed several action items.
- LeAnne and Connie are planning the SAC orientation. Everyone that joined last year and this year will be invited as well as all SAC members. A doodle poll will be sent out to confirm the date.
- The Year One Area Plan revisions were accepted. It will be cleaned up and submitted next week.
- Connie encouraged SAC members to sign up to receive the O4AD weekly legislative updates. They will begin sending emails out once the legislature starts.

Jewel Brooks Charitable Trust Disbursement

- Connie asked the group if they liked the idea of setting aside a portion of the disbursement, asking local CBOs (Community Based Organizations) to fill out an application for funds. We could create a very brief application with the allowable trust services outlined.
- Even with the \$500,000 competitive grant, in order to continue providing the 2 behavioral health programs in-house, utilizing the Jewel Brooks trust would be important.
- Connie also shared that she would like to set aside some dollars for the emergency assistance funds.
- John suggested utilizing some funds for OPI clients in regards to home modification/repair.
- Liz asked how much money they are to disburse. Connie stated that we never really know but gave a rough estimate of \$80,000.
- Connie shared why behavioral health funding is so important serving clients in rural areas.
- Connie shared her priority areas as emergency assistance, behavioral health and home modification/repair programs.

- Liz motioned allocation of the Jewel Brooks funds to the three priority areas: Behavioral Health, emergency assistance and home modification/repair programs. All approved.
- Priorities will be discussed at the next Executive meeting.

Aging and People with Disabilities District Manager Report – Ana G.

- Nakeshia Knight Coyle is officially the permanent director.
- Nicole Cowger, Manager at the Medford Senior Services office has resigned. Her position is currently posted.
- The 1115 waiver (OPIM and FCAP) programs are still on hold and not approved by CMS.
- APD is still experiencing staffing issues, although they are seeing a small amount of improvement.
- The Public Health Emergency is still rumored to end in January.
- Liz asked what helped in recruitment – APD had hiring bonuses, however those ended. APD utilized a couple of events to help recruit employees. They were tabling these events initially for outreach, but have utilized them for recruitment as well. Ana shared that recruitment has been difficult statewide.
- There have been a lot of conversations about pay. A lot of high wages are being offered, however the focus now is on educating the community on how competitive the APD benefits are.

Featured Community Based Organization: Josephine Co. Public Health Emergency Preparedness Coordinator – Leah Swanson shared slides on the programs and services they provide.

Focus on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) – “Implicit Bias: Concepts Unwrapped” video was played. Link to the Harvard Bias Test – <https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/>

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive – Liz J. reported.

- This committee consists of the chairs of the subcommittees/SAC.
- They focus on planning future SAC meetings.
- They discussed looking to automate the SAC application and feedback with regard to SAC guests and SAC applicants.

Council Development – See Communications and Outreach Committee report

Communications & Outreach Committee – Natalie M. reported.

- They continue work on refining publicity materials.
- They updated everyone in the meeting on the shared Google Docs including their target list and a common language document. They encourage members to use those as living documents and make changes as desired.
- They may schedule additional workgroup meetings to ensure everyone is comfortable with using shared documents and to further fine tune some language.

- Had a good discussion on how to expand and diversify recruitment for new members or to offer education for current SAC members. Some ideas include connecting with the OLLI, (Osher Lifelong Learning Institute) more presentations about age friendly initiatives, more interactions with the healthcare side, in person social events, connect with the Livable Ashland Alliance and engaging media, such as <https://ashland.news>.

Support Services – Nutrition and ADRC Advisory – Natalie M. reported.

- Natalie already shared the Food & Friends update at last month’s meeting.
- Teleska shared that ADRC staff has 7 answering phones Monday through Friday from 9am-4pm. They average 297 calls a month. They had 3 new hires by June, so morale and productivity is up.
- Teleska updated the committee on the status of the emergency funds including Jewel Brooks (for 60+ Jackson County residents), Richard Smith (for 60+ Josephine County residents) and Anna May funds (any age Jackson County residents)
- ADRC has several prepaid bus passes. There are no specific qualifications to receive them.
- Teleksa shared updates on local community resources; All CVN (Community Volunteer Network) programs are fully open and enrolling, WinterSpring has resumed their bereavement support groups, Team Senior is offering senior activities at Club 60 in Josephine County and Northridge Senior Living in Medford and Grants Pass are open for respite and adult day care programs.

Joint Advocacy – John C. reported.

- Connie’s began the meeting with an update from the O4AD Director’s retreat. There are 3 placeholder bills they are trying to hold for ODHS.
- They discussed the LGBTQ survey and work following that.
- Liz attended an Emergency Board Meeting – The Ways and Means committee spends money on an interim basis. (between legislative sessions) It’s how Oregon based funds and Federal funds get routed. They agree to fund a lot of important items at the meeting.
- AARP has an initiative called Home Alone Alliance. It is on the Public Policy Institute page on the AARP website.
- Angela Franklin shared a lot about her work at Options. She spoke about suicide prevention legislation. There was also conversation on issues of transitioning older adults from care settings into the ER and making sure they have their advance care planning documents. There is a team working on that.
- League of Women Voters Oregon published their supported ballot measures on their website.
- John reminded SAC to call their legislators to schedule face to face meetings with them and to develop a relationship with them for future purposes.
- Liz shared that AARP partnered with KOBI and they will broadcast a local debate between the Governor candidates on Thursday 10/6/2022 at 7pm.

Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC) – John C. reported.

- Robert Byczkowski (district manager for AAA Bend APD) attended the meeting in order to learn about the DSAC. He is currently attempting to restart the council up there. His office has been

designated as a pilot to test hearing systems to help people with hearing loss to better navigate and access services in their area. John said it was exciting to share that they have been promoting hearing loops as an alternative.

Home & Community Based Care – no report.

- No committee meetings at this time.

PRESENTATION:

SHIBA (Senior Health Insurance Benefits Assistance) and Community Volunteer Network: Cassie Rose, Brooke Kirkland and Becky Foster (SHIBA volunteer) gave a presentation sharing information on their organizations.

ADJOURN – Liz J. adjourned the meeting at 2:39 pm.