

Meeting: Senior Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting – via ZOOM  
Date: September 12, 2022

## **PARTICIPANTS**

- Constance Wilkerson – SDS Program Director
- Jeremy Wolf –APD Deputy District Manager
- John Curtis – SAC Member
- John Irwin – SAC Member
- Leah Swanson – SAC Member
- Liz James – SAC Chair
- Natalie Mettler – SAC Member
- Noriko Toyokawa – SAC Member
- Paul Golding – SAC Member

## **GUESTS**

- Jennine Greenwell – Older Adult Behavioral Health Specialist, Jackson County
- Teleska Kasper – SDS Staff

## **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 12:30 pm.

## **GENERAL MEETING BUSINESS**

**Introductions of guests and public comments** – SAC members and guests were introduced.

**Additions to agenda** – none.

**Review and approval of August 1, 2022 Minutes** – Natalie M. motioned to approve the August 1st, 2022 minutes as written. Noriko T. seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

**Announcements** – None.

**Director's report** – Constance W. reported.

- Many of the state contracts have been received since last month's SAC meeting.
- Connie will attend the annual O4AD Director's meeting next week in Salishan. Sandy Markwood (USAgings) and Louise Ryan (Administration for Community Living, ACL) will be in attendance. The LGBTQ+ Survey Implementation Activities will be discussed as well as the Service Equity Plan. Connie shared that she expects updates from Oregon Wellness Network for our health promotions programs and updates from ODHS on the OPIM and FCAP programs.

- Connie shared that she will be attending the USAging Leadership Institute for a week in mid-October.
- Katie M. will attend the tribal gathering held at Seven Feathers the last week in September.
- The 1115 waiver will not be launching as expected on October 1, 2022. The hope is to launch OPIM once CMS makes a decision regarding estate recovery.
- SDS completed the sole source requirement for 5 contracts and were able to award money to Community Volunteer Network for their “Age Wise Age Well” and Call-A-Ride Transportation programs, Rebuilding Together Rogue Valley for home modifications and risk assessments and to Oregon Law Center and Center for Non Profit Legal Services for legal services.
- Next month, SAC will begin to discuss how to designate the Jewel Brooks trust fund money for the following year.
- Connie mentioned she would like to invite the Oregon Spinal Cord Injury Connection to give a presentation at an upcoming SAC meeting.

### **Aging and People with Disabilities District Manager Report – Jeremy W.**

- Update on the APD Director Recruitment: They recently held a town hall with the 2 finalists; Nakeshia Knight Coyle and Cheryl Miller.
- During the Rum Creek fire, the APD Safety Manager in coordination with Emergency Resources office of Resilience and Emergency Management reached out to Jeremy who in turn reached out to the local APD managers. They contacted individuals in the impacted areas that receive APD Long Term Care Services. Jeremy shared that they prioritized clients by evacuation levels and identified clients that may need assistance when evacuating. They also watch for hazardous air quality and are ready to assist with any needs clients may have.
- The Federal Public Health Emergency continues. No date yet when that will end. The state is planning for when it does end as there will be a need for significant communications and changes to rules and policies that have been in place for a while now.
- Hiring is still challenging. They have several positions open. Managers are planning to attend events to gain public awareness for employment opportunities.
- Connie shared that she was thankful for OREM. (Office of Resilience and Emergency Management) Connie stated that the OREM team worked through some great solutions with them for a few clients on the Disaster Registry. Connie also shared that LeAnne tabled 2 events recently for fire survivors.

### **Focus on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) – “What is Allyship?” And “What is Allyship and Why is Allyship Important?” videos were played.**

**Featured Community Based Organization: Ashland Fire & Rescue** – Sara Jones and Brian Hendrix shared about Fire Adapted Ashland and SmokeWise Ashland. Sara and Brian put links in the chat for the websites they refer to. <https://fireadaptedashland.org>

Sara Jones, Community Engagement Coordinator, Ashland OR : Resources and Materials:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/171EXtm1DV9amuyDtwR0XHMTtjZIVXs3?usp=sharing>

Sara Jones, Community Engagement Coordinator, Ashland Forest Resiliency – [sara.jones@ashland.or.us](mailto:sara.jones@ashland.or.us)

or by phone, (541) 552-2218

Access the suite of resources for smoke adaptation here: [www.smokewiseashland.org](http://www.smokewiseashland.org)

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Liz J. pointed out the changes on the SAC Agenda showing the sub-committees' regular meeting dates/times of the month and the corresponding Zoom links in order for anyone to attend the meetings. She gave brief descriptions of what each sub-committee works and focuses on with the help of Natalie M.

**Executive** – Liz J. reported.

- They discussed the upcoming schedule and adding committee information to the agenda.

**Council Development** – See **Communications and Outreach Committee report**

**Communications & Outreach Committee** – Natalie M. reported.

- Regrouping continuing work on refining procedures and materials for publicity of the SAC and the work it does to try to recruit new members. It's a mix of generic materials that can be adapted for various publications as well as more personalized outreach efforts. We desire to have diverse representation. Continually try to improve the materials. Living documents.
- Kristi shared the quarterly Food & Friends report:
  - 1) The F&F summer fundraising campaign went out in Mid-August and donations have been coming in.
  - 2) Food & Friends partnered with Trio to provide shelf stable meal boxes to some home delivered meal recipients primarily in rural areas through September and October.
  - 3) Food & Friends has started serving congregate lunches at the Central Point Senior Center as of August. RVCOG purchased the Senior Center and they had already moved their meal operations there earlier this year. They intend to host more activities there in partnership with the City of Central Point.
  - 4) Natalie invited SAC members to join the C&O committee. Natalie also asked if SAC members could have a current SAC Member list with contact information.

**Joint Advocacy** – John C. reported.

- There were a number of members of the SAC and DSAC that had face to face meetings with local and state offices.
- They have been very focused on Hearing Loop technology. Jackson Care Connect has organized a steering committee that will educate providers as a first step.
- The Mental Health Access Improvement Act could be included in a Senate finance workgroup that report on workforce enhancement. The group will continue focus and work in order to get this Act passed.
- The Disabled Equity and Employment Coalition has been formed to promote Legislation that would allow people employed with disabilities including those 64+ to retain Medicaid Long Term Services & Support and OHP regardless of income and resources.

- A communication was received from a Legislative Coordinator in the Oregon Department of Health and Human Services Aging and People with Disabilities (APD) regarding their legislative proposals for the 2023 legislative session.
- Liz shared 2 bills APD is currently working on. She mentioned that the information on these bills are on the Joint Advocacy Committee meeting notes.

**Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC) –** Jeremy shared from the meeting minutes.

- One DSAC Member stated that they are part of the ODOT ADA Committee. One of the topics they are looking at is ADA picnic tables to be added to rest stops.
- The US Secretary of Transportation announced the Airline Passengers with Disabilities Bill of Rights which came out in July 2022. They discussed enlarging bathrooms in planes around wheelchairs and need to be able to fit inside planes.
- The DSAC committees are now listed on Oregon.Gov at <https://www.oregon.gov/dhs/SENIORS-DISABILITIES/ADVISORY/Pages/DSAC.aspx>

**Home & Community Based Care –** John C. not here to report at this time.

- No committee meetings at this time.

**Support Services – Nutrition and ADRC Advisory –** No report.

**PRESENTATION:**

**ADRC and Options Counseling Overview:** Teleska Kasper

**ADJOURN –** Liz J. adjourned the meeting at 2:32 pm.