

**Advisory Council Meeting Minutes  
January 15, 2025**

**Location:** Vancouver AAADSW Office – Columbia Conference Room and Zoom

*The meeting was called to order by Chair Gavin Carmichael at **12:03PM**.*

**Roll Call:** Joe Bosch, Kathy Briggs, Marianne Burkholder, Kevin Callahan, Sue Cameron, Mary Repar, Apryl Schneider

**Excused:** Shelley Baxter, Gavin Carmichael, Diane Craft, Greg Flakus

**Absent:** N/A

**Staff present:** Mike Reardon, Christina Marnaris, Patti Atkins, Maggie Ridenour

**Guest:** Susan Petrie, Justin Ross (Clark County Commission on Aging)

**January 15, 2025, Meeting Agenda:** Mary Repar moved to approve the agenda. Marianne Burkholder seconded. Motion passed.

**December 18, 2024, Meeting Minutes:** Mary Repar moved to approve the minutes. Marianne Burkholder seconded. Motion passed.

**Announcements/Community Outlook:**

- Joe Bosch (Clark): Nothing new to report.
- Kathy Briggs (Wahkiakum): Nothing new to report.
- Marianne Burkholder (Wahkiakum):
  - Marianne reported that she continues to recruit for the Wahkiakum County Advisory Council opening.
  - Marianne also reported that the Wednesday senior group in Wahkiakum is still going strong and meeting trying to keep people social.
- Kevin Callahan (Clark):
  - Received information regarding a high priority rental stabilization bill that is with the legislature.
    - The presentations had a time limit, but it is felt there was a good response from the committees that were talked to.
    - The bill was proposed last year to cap rent on all rental properties older than 10 years old at 7% per year.
    - Currently there is no cap for rent.
- Mary Repar (Skamania):
  - Mary voiced her concerns about the lack of medical transportation in Skamania County, especially on weekends.
- Apryl Schneider (Clark): Nothing new to report.

## Reports:

**Executive Director's Report:** Mike thanked everyone for sharing what is going on in their local communities. He expressed appreciation of members' advocacy and commitment for older adults and individuals with disabilities in their communities.

- High School Home Care Aide Program:
  - Mike reached out to Stephanie Leitz at Wahkiakum High School and is waiting for a reply as to what day they can have a meeting to discuss the program.
- Governor's LTC Budget and Advocacy:
  - Governor Inslee's budget:
    - Senior nutrition: \$27.9m in one-time state funding.
    - Does not show Medicaid match, so does not include Medicaid HDM rate adjustments, and is smaller than original DP ask (\$35.3m) but double the amount of funding last legislative session.
    - Advocacy will continue to try and increase the budget to the full \$35.3m original ask.
  - Governor Ferguson's budget:
    - 6% cut in spending by state agencies except WSP, Corrections, and Criminal Justice.
    - Consolidate management positions (10-25%). Reduce (10-25%) administrative, executive, and externally focused positions that are not essential to the delivery of government services.
  - WA Cares Operations: Includes full amount requested in DP that includes AAAs - \$145m
    - 3<sup>rd</sup> Option = allows direct employment by the beneficiary using a private payroll company – Mike, Christina and Patti will be joining WA Cares listening session today.
- Agency Business:
  - Two new COG Board Members:
    - Commissioner Brian Nichols, Skamania County
    - Commissioner Stephen Ferrell, Cowlitz County.
    - Mike will be meeting with both next week to give some background on who AAADSW is and what we do.
  - Highly productive meeting with Jennifer Griffith, One Community Health CEO.
    - One Community Health is a federally qualified health center located in the Gorge that serves Skamania and Klickitat counties.
      - One Community Health recently bought out Northshore Medical in Stevenson.
    - Continue exploring ways to partner to serve older adults.
    - Christina is working to set up follow-up meetings.
- Other:
  - Two AAADSW staff members (a case manager and a supervisor) helped a lady experiencing a mental health crisis outside of our office access a 3-night stay in a local hotel to get her stabilized until she could find a permanent living situation.
  - Mike encouraged Advisory Council members to "sign on" to our state and federal advocacy efforts by completing the template included in the email(s).
  - Mike encouraged Advisory Council members to support the Manufactured Home Resolution that he would like to take to the board next month.

### **Executive Committee:**

- Executive Committee met on 01/07/2025 and drafted the agenda for the meeting today.

### **Membership/Planning and Allocations:**

- Didn't meet in December or January.

### **Advocacy and Outreach:**

- Did not meet in December or January.

**State Council on Aging (SCOA):** Nothing to report.

### **Presentations:**

- Meeting Dates and Presentation – Christina Marnieris:
  - Survey Results for Advisory Council Meeting Day:
    - Majority vote was to continue the meetings on the Third Wednesday of the month.
  - 2025 Meetings – Potential Speakers Survey Results:
    - Meals on Wheels (Clark County Nutrition contractor)
    - CDM (Contractor in Clark County for Home Care, Adult Day Care and RUOK Program)
    - Skamania County Senior Services
      - We will look to schedule the Advisory Council meeting in Skamania County.
    - Klickitat County Senior Services
      - We will look to schedule the Advisory Council meeting in Klickitat County.
- 2025 Advisory Council Committees – Christina Marnieris:
  - Christina will contact each advisory council member to discuss the committees and inquire which committee members prefer to attend.
- Update on Manufactured Homes Advocacy & Vote on Resolution – Kevin Callahan:
  - The resolution is being proposed because we have a 5-county service area and housing issues may be different depending on the county.
  - It provides an umbrella statement indicating our concern in protecting the housing stock that is already available in our region that is affordable (including manufactured homes).
    - The resolution is not to give specific direction but is to indicate our acknowledgment and support for maintaining affordable housing.
    - Mary asked that at some point in the future the resolution be reviewed and updated to cover gaps like the RV Parks.
  - Mary Repar made the motion to accept the proposed resolution, and Joe Bosch seconded the motion.
    - Motion carried unanimously to present the resolution “as-is” to the COG for consideration.
- Prep for January Legislative Visits – Christina Marnieris and Patti Atkins:
  - Reviewed PowerPoint Presentation and talking points for Legislative Advocacy for Senior Nutrition Programs.
  - Suggested edits for the presentation:
    - Add narrative of the cost breakdown of a meal (including things like overhead in addition to the food).
      - Include not just the current cost but where the cost is heading due to inflation.
    - Try to make some sort of laminated handout with graphics instead of text to be able to provide legislators with the letter that has been developed.

- Data in the letter will be tailored to each individual district that the legislator is in so that they can see the need in their area.

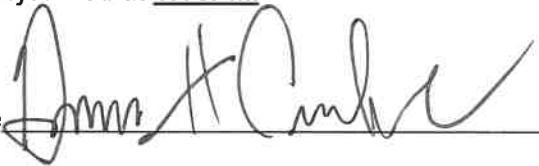
**Membership Vote:**

- The application for Susan Petrie from Klickitat County was accepted and voted upon.

**Public Comment:**

- No additional comments.

Meeting adjourned at **1:08PM.**

Signature  Date 19 Feb 2025