

**Advisory Council Meeting Minutes
April 16, 2025**

Location: Vancouver AAADSW Office – Columbia Conference Room and Zoom

*The meeting was called to order by Christina Marneris at **12:09 PM**.*

Roll Call: Kevin Callahan, Susan Petrie, Mary Repar, Apryl Schneider, Rick Seekins

Excused: Shelley Baxter, Joe Bosch, Kathy Briggs, Marianne Burkholder, Sue Cameron, Gavin Carmichael, Diane Craft, and Greg Flakus

Absent:

Staff present: Mike Reardon, Christina Marneris, Patti Atkins, Maggie Ridenour

Guests: Suzanne Washington (Meals on Wheels People), Dave Rorden

April 16, 2025, Meeting Agenda: Because there was not a quorum, the Advisory Council did not approve the April meeting agenda.

March 19, 2025, Meeting Minutes: Because there was not a quorum, the Advisory Council did not approve the March meeting minutes.

Announcements/Community Outlook:

- Kevin Callahan (Clark):
 - Discussed continued work with Rick Seekins on housing legislation, specifically manufactured home parks, in Clark County.
- Susan Petrie (Klickitat):
 - Susan discussed advocating for no property tax changes for senior citizens or people on Medicaid in her county as people on a fixed income don't really have the ability to absorb large changes.
- Mary Repar (Skamania):
 - Reports county is starting to feel the effects of recent changes to Medicaid.
- Apryl Schneider (Clark):
 - Apryl shared she was recently appointed to the AARP Congressional District Liaison Volunteer group and will be partnered with Representative Gluesenkamp Perez.
 - Apryl will be attending Representative Gluesenkamp Perez's town hall and will be presenting comments from AARP.
 - AARP is currently monitoring changes with Medicaid and heavily advocating for the "Credit for Caring Act".

- Rick Seekins (Clark): Nothing 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 (HSHCA):**
 - Mike had a meeting on 3/26/25.
 - Successful handoff to Wahkiakum High School (Stephanie and Kyle), ALTSA, and ESD 112 (SW WA Rural Co-op)
- **Legislative Advocacy:**
 - State:
 - Nutrition funding
 - Health Home/Care Coordination program – Not funded in the House budget
 - Agencies from across the state continue advocating
 - AAADSW sending letters today to the 12 key budget writers
 - Members on the AAADSW board have reached out to Mike to find out how they can help support sustaining this program.
 - Federal:
 - N4A advocacy days in Washington, DC – 3/31 and 4/1.
 - Mike and Christina attended
 - Met with Senators' Murray and Cantwell staff, Representative Marie Gluesenkamp Perez's (3rd CD) and Representative Newhouse's (4th CD) staff. Advocacy priorities included
 - No cuts to Medicaid, Medicare or Social Security
 - Re-authorization of the Older Americans Act
 - Express concern over the dismantlement of the Administration for Community Living, which administers the Older Americans Act funding and programs
 - Medicaid – still unclear what Medicaid will look like (block grant, capitated rates, Match requirements)
 - We continue to watch/read/advocate
 - **Other:**
 - Mike attended the 3/22/25 Senator Cleveland and Senator Cortes's town hall.
 - Mike spoke very highly of the Hope Dementia Fund Raiser that he attended on 3/22/25 and encouraged Advisory Council members to attend next year if possible.

Executive Committee:

- The Executive Committee met on 04/07/2025 and drafted the agenda for the meeting today.

Advocacy and Outreach Committee:

- Christina has meetings scheduled in Skamania and Wahkiakum counties.

- Christina is working on getting meetings scheduled in Klickitat and Cowlitz counties also.
- The goals for the meetings are:
 - Strength partnerships with our community partners and contract partners.
 - Recruitment to fill the open Advisory Council positions in our smaller counties.
 - Gain a better understanding of what opportunities there may be to network with community partners to further reduce the gap in care.
 - Build capacity for meaningful county input for the next Area Plan.

Presentations:

- Housing Update – Kevin Callahan and Christina Marneris:
 - Rick and Kevin will be reaching out to Clark County and smaller cities in Clark County to see where things stand with zoning for manufactured homes.
 - The resolution from the AAADSW COG and Advisory Council will be used in discussions.
 - The discussions will be modeled after the ones with the City of Vancouver.
 - Two bills adopted by the House and the Senate regarding rent stabilization
 - One bill caps the percentage that rent can be increased in a year.
 - One bill allows owners of manufactured homes in resident owned manufactured home parks the ability to have property tax benefits and financing for your home at a much better rate.
 - Sunrise Village – new affordable housing units located in Longview has opened up pre-applications
- Meals on Wheels People (MoWP) Presentation (Clark County) – Suzanne Washington:
 - <https://www.mowp.org/>
 - Currently doesn't have a wait list for meals.
 - Suzanne shared information about The Diner Vancouver
 - <https://thediner.org/>
 - Location: 5303 East Mill Plain Boulevard, Vancouver, WA 98661
 - The Diner is open on the weekends.
 - In addition to the congregate meal sites, MoWP provides medically tailored home delivered meals.
 - Meals can be tailored to meet the needs of those with diabetes, heart disease and renal disease.
 - Supplemental foods such as extra proteins, fruits and vegetables are also available.
 - The Luepke and Washougal meal sites are partnering with Clark County Food Bank so that extra food is available to be sent home with those who are coming to the site for meals.
 - Mobile veterinary care is available in Clark County.
 - Partnership with Serenity Veterinary Care
 - MoWP started a "friendly chats" program.
 - Volunteers call participants weekly
 - Can be the same volunteer calling if the participant would like or a different one each week.
 - MoWP has recently started a technology-based friendly visiting program also.
 - MoWP has the license to offer the AARP Senior Planet services.
 - Curriculum developed specifically for older people to learn technology and to keep up with technology.
 - Program started with in-person classes.
 - Pilot program started where specially trained staff go into a senior's home and help with devices like computers, tablets and cell phones.
 - The goal is to help seniors be less isolated.
 - Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program

- Voucher program
 - April – October
 - Registration is April to June
 - Vouchers can be used at local Farmers Markets (list of participating markets provided with voucher/card) for fresh produce and honey.
 - Individuals must be over 60 years of age and below 185% of the poverty level to qualify for the vouchers.
- MoWP has partnered with local libraries to have volunteers take books to/from homebound seniors.

Public Comment: no comments were offered.

*Meeting adjourned at **1:10 PM.***

Signature Marcia Burkholder Date May 21, 2025