

Advisory Council Meeting Minutes November 19, 2025

Location: Vancouver AAADSW Office - Columbia Conference Room and Zoom

The meeting was called to order by Chair Apryl Schneider at 12:01PM.

Roll Call: Joe Bosch, Diane Craft, Greg Flakus, Susan Petrie, Mary Repar, Dave Rorden, Apryl Schneider, Rick Seekins

Excused: Kevin Callahan, Roberta Doster

Absent: N/A

<u>Staff present:</u> Mike Reardon, Christina Marneris, Patti Atkins, Maggie Ridenour, Grant Buse (AAADSW – Medicaid Case Manager)

Guest: Eileen Stearns-Raff, Sue Neal, Carole Lewis, Cass Freedland (Clark County Commission on Aging)

<u>November 19, 2025, Meeting Agenda</u>: <u>Susan Petrie</u> moved to approve the agenda. <u>Rick Seekins</u> seconded. Motion passed.

<u>September 17, 2025, Meeting Minutes</u>: <u>Rick Seekins</u> moved to approve the minutes. <u>Susan Petrie</u> seconded. Motion passed.

Announcements/Community Outlook:

- > Joe Bosch (Clark):
 - Reports that the changes by Meals on Wheels People to meal sites in LaCenter really affected people.
 - Meals on Wheels People stopped providing a staff person to come out to the meal site each week to prepare meals.
 - Lion's Club stepped up to help pick up meals from Meals on Wheels People and bring them to the meal site on Thursdays for lunch.
 - The meal site now has 17 people who have volunteered to help prepare meals for eating on site and to take home.
 - Ridgefield now has only 3 volunteers so the volunteers from LaCenter are reaching out to see how they can help.
- Diane Craft (Cowlitz):
 - Diane shared she attended the City of Longview Employee Benefits Fair and shared about AAADSW and the services we offer as a resource. She will be attending a Cowlitz PUD Employee Benefits Fair also.
 - o Cowlitz County has a new outreach person through Eden Home Health in the community.
- Greg Flakus (Clark):
 - Greg relayed the Clark County Food Bank "Walk and Knock" food drive event will not be door to door this year. The event is changing to have set drop off points for donations.

- o Local food banks need volunteers as they have been experiencing a higher utilization of services recently due to the government shutdown.
- Susan Petrie (Klickitat):
 - Susan shared that a local high school senior in her rural community (Trout Lake) has put in a food box for people to donate to. Local churches have been filling food donation boxes.
- > Mary Repar (Skamania):
 - o Participated in local Death and Dying seminars
 - o Expressed an interest in "Death Cafés" and asked if there is one available online for rural communities that don't have enough volunteers to run in person Death Cafés.
- ➤ Rick Seekins (Clark):
 - Rick participated in a group that met with Representative Marie Gluesenkamp Perez regarding housing for seniors. She is working on new legislation with the aim of securing more funding for housing for seniors.
 - o Clark County has extended their moratorium on manufactured home changes.
 - City of Vancouver has rezoned all manufactured home communities to better protect them as manufactured home communities.
 - o Between rent increase protection and zoning changes, Vancouver manufactured home communities have seen big help in protecting housing for seniors.

Executive Director's Report:

- New Longview AAADSW Office:
 - AAADSW's Longview office has relocated to 760 Ocean Beach Hwy, Suite G, and opened on October 21, 2025.
 - There is a Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting on Thursday, November 20, 2025, at 3:00pm.
 Mike extended an invitation to the Advisory Council members.
- Washington State's November 2025 Revenue Forecast
 - Forecast of funds subject to the budget outlook, increased by \$105M (.1%) for the current two-year budget compared to September's figures.
 - Forecast of funds subject to the budget outlook for 2027 2029 decreased by \$185M (.2%).
 - Mike will continue to track these forecasts (they come out about 4 times a year).
 - Governor builds his initial budget from the November forecast.

> Federal

- Government is funded through January 30, 2026.
- The bill fully funds the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) through September 30, 2026.
 - Impact of SNAP in Washington State (reviewed handout shared in meeting).
 - It impacts approximately 25,000 older adults and adults with disabilities in our service area
- o Older Americans Act (OAA) and other aging programs are funded until January 30, as is Medicare Improvements for Patients and Providers Act (MIPPA).
- Whether to end/extend/change ACA subsidies authorized during COVID-19 is the main issue.
- Met with Representative Marie Gluesenkamp Perez's staff on November 10th to share impacts of government shutdown on clients and agency and potential impacts of H.R.1.
 - Representative Marie Gluesenkamp Perez's staff reached out to AAADSW for the meeting to learn about the HR1 impacts.
 - Report for HCLA May 2025: 2,757 Medicaid LTSS clients state-wide across all settings will lose services due to immigration-related HR1 impacts, effective October 2026.
 - Approximately 220 clients in our service area.

- Other
 - Discussion around the AARP report on Caregiving in the US 2025 Washington State handout provided during the meeting.
- Advisory Council Appreciation
 - What you do matters!
 - Mike shared that he is very proud of the work the Advisory Council does in their communities for and on behalf of older adults, adults with disabilities and family caregivers. Mike shared that he appreciates the Advisory Council's care, concern and advocacy.
 - The work of the AAADSW Advisory Council particularly in preserving manufactured home parks as
 essential housing stock and engaging local jurisdictions continues to make a meaningful impact.
 - Two recent newspaper articles, one coving a productive meeting with Representative Marie Gluesenkamp Perez, underscores the significance of this effort and the value of keeping this issue at the forefront for key stakeholders.

Executive Committee:

The Executive Committee met on 11/03/2025 and drafted the agenda for today's meeting.

Legislative Visits in January 2026:

- Location:
 - o In person in Olympia
 - AAADSW will provide carpooling for member from both the Vancouver and Longview offices.
 - In the event of inclement weather, meetings will shift to a virtual format.
 - Virtual meetings will be scheduled for legislators who are not available on 1/22/26
- Dates:
 - o (Tentative In Person date) 1/22/26 for meetings (drive up/carpool to Olympia on 1/21/26).
 - Date subject to change as legislators don't have their schedules yet.
- > Advocacy Priorities:
 - Sustaining funding for Senior Nutrition
 - Sustaining funding for the Health Home Program
 - o If any other priorities come up for services/needs that are at risk of funding cuts those will be added as a priority also.

Membership Vote (by ballot):

By ballot vote, Eilleen Stearns-Raff was unanimously elected to fill the vacant position on the Advisory Council as a Wahkiakum County representative.

2026 Officer Nominee Slate Vote (verbal vote):

- > The full slate of nominations was accepted and voted on.
 - o Yays: 8 o Nays: 0
 - o Nominees

• Chair: Apryl Schneider

Vice – Chair: Rick Seekins

Secretary: Dave Rorden

o Absent: 2

SCOA Nomination Vote (verbal vote):

> The application for Rick Seekins from Clark County was accepted and voted on. <u>Susan Petrie</u> moved to approve the minutes. <u>Dave Rorden</u> seconded. Motion passed.

o Yays: 8

o Nays: 0

o Absent: 2

Public Comment:

- > Christina shared that we have the opportunity to submit a proposal for presentation at the national USAing conference.
 - AAADSW will submit a proposal highlighting the advocacy work that the agency, and specifically the Advisory Council, has been doing.
 - We will also include some of the work that we are doing programmatically.
- ➤ Rick shared that he is helping to coordinate sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, 11/25/25 in East Vancouver at Holy Redeemer Church. They need more people willing to donate blood. It is best to schedule an appointment for donation.

Meeting adjourned at 1:04PM.

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