

**Advisory Council Meeting Minutes  
February 18, 2026**

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

*The meeting was called to order by Chair Apryl Schneider at **12:00PM.***

**Roll Call:** Joe Bosch, Kevin Callahan, Roberta Doster, Sue Neal, Susan Petrie, Mary Repar, David Rorden, Apryl Schneider, Rick Seekins, Eileen Stearns-Raff

**Excused:** Diane Craft

**Absent:**

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

**Guests:** Cass Freedland (Commission on Aging), Arnie Dyer, Ginger Barnwell (CDM Home Care Manager), Andy Tawker

**February 18, 2026, Meeting Agenda:** Mary Repar moved to approve the agenda. David Rorden seconded. Motion passed.

**January 21, 2026, Meeting Minutes:** Mary Repar moved to approve the amended minutes. Roberta Doster seconded. Motion passed.

**Announcements/Community Outlook:**

- Joe Bosch (Clark) reported that the La Center meal site was at risk of losing its congregate lunch program; however, support from the Lions Club and the City of La Center will allow the program to continue operating. He also noted that the site includes a food pantry, which serves many community members who rely on it for food assistance.
- Kevin Callahan (Clark) reported that a hearing was held before the Clark County Council on February 17, 2026, resulting in the extension of the moratorium on the closure of manufactured home parks for an additional year while further study is conducted. He noted that he has submitted a request to the City of Vancouver to determine its position on the issue and that there appears to be strong support from both the city and the county.
- Diane Craft (Cowlitz) continues to research transportation options. She is also planning a spring event in partnership with Medix, the Fire Department, and the manager of PeaceHealth St. Johns Emergency Department. The event will focus on “How and What to Expect When I Call 911,” and handouts will be provided to help community members expedite the process when contacting first responders.
- Sue Neal (Clark) reported attending the open house for the Felida Park Senior Housing project and expressed that she was very impressed. She is interested in learning more about the PACE program. She also expressed appreciation for the opportunity to participate in Legislative Day in January.

- Mary Repar (Skamania) raised concerns regarding a new propose ruling from the V.A. in the Federal Register related to disability rating procedures. Mike requested that Mary forward the information to him, as he may be able to advocate during his legislative advocacy trip to Washington, D.C., in March. Mary also noted concerns about Mid-Columbia Housing Authority not receiving funding for its home-buying program that assists with down payments.
- David Rorden (Cowlitz) shared that he was pleased with his participation in the Legislative Visits in January 2026. He reported that discussions regarding Health Homes were well received by legislators and that the legislative “asks” did not require significant persuasion, as legislators appeared open and supportive. Many legislators shared personal stories related to aging, demonstrating their understanding of the need for continued funding.
- Rick Seekins (Clark) provided additional context regarding the February 17, 2026, Clark County Council hearing. After hearing public testimony, the Council voted to pass a resolution extending the moratorium on modifications or changes to manufactured home communities for one year to allow time for further study. Rick noted that, for the first time, it was publicly stated that the county and city are working collaboratively to develop rules and regulations for manufactured home communities.

**Public Comment:** No public comment.

**Executive Director’s Report:**

- State Legislative Session
  - Advocacy day, January 22<sup>nd</sup>
    - David Rorden, Sue Neal, Christina Marnieris, Patti Atkins and Mike Reardon attended.
    - Met with 14 of 18 elected officials. Garnered support for Health Homes funding from every legislator. Meetings were highly collaborative and personal.
  - Revenue Forecast
    - Projected collections for the current biennium are up \$438M from the numbers lawmakers used to craft the state budget last spring. This puts total revenue expectations at \$75.3 billion. Two-year budget = \$77.8B.
    - Up \$1.028B for the 2027-29 biennium.
  - Democratic lawmakers in House and Senate are expected to release their budget proposals on Feb. 22<sup>nd</sup>. We are keeping our eye out for Health Homes funding.
- Federal Budget
  - Slight increase to OAA Title IIIB (\$4M) and Title III E (\$2M)
  - Stable funding for Congregate and HDM programs
- Other:
  - Rural Health Transformation Grant (Christina provided information)
    - AAADSW is continuing meeting with the state and things are looking promising.
    - The Rural Health Transformation Grant will continue to fund 3 existing programs with other AAAs. AAADSW is one of 2 new AAAs who will receive funding in 2026.
      - The funding is a 5-year grant program. The grant will allow AAADSW to expand this work out into our rural communities.
    - In 2027 AAADSW will resume conversations with the state about our capacity to work with our partners to move forward a 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the grant around mobile access vans.
  - USAging Briefing: The Economic Value of the Aging Network (handout provided during meeting)
    - Pg. 1 – importance of OAA funding in terms of Return on Investment (ROI) and leveraging local and state funding.
    - Pg. 2 – importance of a local, trusted partner.
    - Pg. 3 - importance of non-clinical interventions.
  - Washington, DC legislative advocacy, March 16 – 17 (Mike attending)
    - Executive Director Search update: Recruiting has started.

**Executive Committee:**

- The Executive Committee met on 02/02/2026 and developed the agenda for today's meeting.

**SCOA Report:**

- Rick Seekins reported the SCOA meeting was held on January 27, 2026
  - The meeting focused on the status of aging-related programs in the proposed state budget and recent advocacy efforts.
  - Bea Rector, Assistant Secretary of the Home and Community Living Administration (HCLA), reported that HCLA programs remain largely intact in the proposed budget, with only minor organizational changes.
  - Advocacy efforts during the recent legislative outreach were described as successful. Legislators and staff were generally supportive, with particular emphasis on securing continued funding for the Health Home Program through the biennium.
  - Strong collaboration was noted among SCOA, the Area Agencies on Aging, AARP, and W4A.
  - An update on Age and Dementia Friendly initiatives highlighted effective partnerships among several AAAs, the University of Washington, and the State. AAADSW's program was cited as a successful model, and continued expansion is expected.
  - Breakout sessions covered a wide range of aging and disability topics, demonstrating strong cooperation among participating agencies.
  - Appreciation was expressed for the opportunity to represent AAADSW.

**CDM Presentation (Ginger Barnwell)**

- Ginger shared a presentation about CDM's In-Home Care and ADC services.

**Planning, Allocations & Membership Reports (Christina Marnieris):**

- Christina shared some of the reports that will be provided regularly to the Advisory Council.
  - Planning and Allocation document
    - Will be provided once a quarter.
    - Will be sent with the agenda for the Advisory Council meeting so that members can review the documents early and come to the meeting with any questions they may have.
- We are actively recruiting for the open positions on the Advisory Council and Christina will send Advisory Council members recruitment information they can share with individuals that may be interested in joining the Advisory Council.

**Membership Vote:**

- By ballot vote, Arnie Dyer was unanimously elected to fill a vacant position on the Advisory Council as a Clark County representative.

Meeting adjourned at **1:15PM.**

Signature David H. Rouden Date 3/18/26

