

**Joint
Senior Services Advisory Council (SSAC)
and
Disability Services Advisory Council (DSAC)
Meeting
MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, April 1, 2025**

SSAC Members Present: Mitzi Naucler, Chair; Kay McDonald, Care Planning Committee Chair; Bill Turner; Mimi Chen; Holly Bollman; and Lee Strandberg.

DSAC Members Present: Jan Molnar-Fitzgerald, Chair; Allison Hobgood, Vice Chair; Michelle Giammona, Membership and Nominating Committee (MNC) Chair; Suzanne Lazaro, Issues and Advocacy Chair; Gena Sellers; and Richard Montgomery.

Aging and Disability Resource Connection (ADRC) Members Present: Sandy Potter; and Dawn Rustrum.

Guests: Robynn Pease.

Members Absent: Terri Fackrell, SSAC Vice Chair and Jasper Smith, ADRC.

Staff: Randi Moore, Senior and Disability Services (SDS) and Community Services Programs (CSP) Director; Alicia Lucke, CSP Program Manager; Rachael Sine, SDS Program Manager; Heidi Durrett, Meals on Wheels (MOW) Administrative Supervisor; and Terri Sharpe, SDS Administrative Assistant.

1. Welcome, Introductions, and Additions to the Agenda: *(SSAC Chair Mitzi Naucler)*

SSAC Chair Mitzi Naucler called the meeting to order at 10:03 am. Introductions were made, including guests.

2. Approval of Minutes:

ACTION: Motion to approve February 4, 2025 Joint SSAC/DSAC meeting minutes made by Suzanne Lazaro, seconded by Richard Montgomery. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Nominations and Membership Renewals for SSAC-DSAC: *(SSAC-DSAC Membership and Nominating Committee (MNC) Chair Michelle Giammona)*

- **Membership Renewal** - Membership is for a two-year term. Members that are up for renewal are:
 - SSAC:
 - Mitzi Naucler
 - Bill Turner
 - Holly Bollman
 - DSAC:
 - Jan Molnar-Fitzgerald
 - Allison Hobgood – DSAC Vice Chair Hobgood submitted her resignation effective at the end of her term, June 30, 2025 due to the growth and increased workload with the Corvallis Drop-in Daycare Center (CDDC). Thanks, and well wishes were given.

- **Chairs and Vice Chairs Nominations** – The 2023 amended bylaws state that an individual may serve in the Chair /Vice Chair position for up to two consecutive two-year terms.
 - SSAC:
 - Chair – Chair Mitzi Naucler would like to serve her second two-year term from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027.
 - Vice Chair - Vice Chair Terri Fackrell would like to serve her second two-year term from July 1, 2025 through June 30, 2027.
 - The MNC nominated Mitzi Naucler as SSAC Chair and Terri Fackrell as SSAC Vice Chair for their second two-year term from July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027.
 - DSAC:
 - Chair – DSAC Chair Jan Molnar-Fitzgerald has served as DSAC Chair for over three years and will step down filling the role of immediate past Chair on the Joint Executive Committee.
 - The MNC nominated Michelle Giammona as the DSAC Chair for the July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027 term.
 - Vice Chair – With the resignation of Vice Chair Hobgood, the MNC has nominated Gena Sellers as DSAC Vice Chair for the July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027 term.

The floor was opened for other nominations with the option of emailing Program Director Randi Moore or SDS Administrative Assistant Terri Sharpe with one's nomination.

4. **Monitor and Review Committee (MRC) Report:** *(SSAC/MRC Chair Mitzi Naucler)*

On March 26, 2025, Program Director Randi Moore and MRC members Mitzi Naucler and Lee Strandberg conducted two Older Americans Act (OAA) contract review visits with:

- Lebanon Senior Center:
 - OAA funding awarded: \$ 10,000.
 - Programs funded: Tai Chi, Bingocize, WWE, and GeriFit.
 - Review:
 - All classes are free.
 - 12-24 people participating per class.
 - Receiving referrals from medical providers.
 - The social aspect of the class is strongly emphasized.
 - Leaders are enthusiastic.
- Mid-Willamette Family YMCA:
 - OAA funding awarded: \$7,000.
 - Program funded: Better Bones and Balance.
 - Review:
 - All classes are free.
 - YMCA membership is not necessary to take the class.
 - The OAA contract covers 31 weeks of scheduled classes with 11 classes per week.
 - Classes are limited to 28 people per class, and they are always full.
 - Equipment has been overused and in need of replacement.
 - YMCA will do as many classes as OCWCOG will subsidize.
- Overview:
 - Both organizations are doing a great job.
 - The OAA funds are well spent, and the MRC would like to give them additional funding.
 - The MRC would like to continue to support both organizations.

5. Care Planning Committee (CPC) Report: *(CPC Chair Kay McDonald)*

The CPC met on March 4, 2025, where they heard from:

- CSP Manager Alicia Lucke on the AmeriCorps Programs and 2024 data.
 - All programs are community volunteer based.
 - Most programs are not Medicaid funded but some do have a Medicaid match.
 - The AmeriCorps Programs include:
 - The Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) which is made up of folks who are 55 and over who do not receive a stipend. They provide:
 - Senior Health Insurance Health Benefits Assistance (SHIBA).
 - Tax Aid Volunteer Program.
 - The Senior Companion Program is made up of 19 volunteers who are at 200% of the federal poverty level and paid a small stipend of \$4.00 per hour.
 - Foster Grandparent Program is made up of 26 low-income senior volunteers who provided over 16,000 hours to children who are not meeting grade-level academic standards.
 - AmeriCorps VISTA Programs, which includes the Veteran's Service Office.
 - Piloting the Behavioral Activation Program, a new evidence-based program, with Older Adults Behavioral Health Specialist Chris Eilers which has been very successful.
 - Stand by Me Program is made up of volunteers who coach folks 18 years or older on budgeting, savings, credit, and debt.
- Program Director Moore provided agency updates and a review of the 2025-29 Area Plan.
 - OCWCOG has started their 2025-26 Budget Planning.
 - SDS's funding from the State of Oregon is looking good, which includes Medicaid funding.
 - There is concern about the OAA funding that support the Meals on Wheels program, but OCWCOG will move forward with cautious planning and a backup plan.
 - OCWCOG has received notification from the State Employees International Union (SEIU) on their intent to bargain this year.
 - Highlights of the draft 2025-29 Area Plan's goals and objectives were given.
 - The CPC approved the draft 2025-29 Area Plan be forward to the Joint SSAC-DSAC meeting for the full Council's approval.

ACTION: Motion to approve the draft 2025-29 Area Plan and send to the State made by Suzanne Lazaro seconded by Allison Hobgood. Motion passed unanimously.

Please see the [March Care Planning Committee meeting minutes](#) for further details.

The next CPC meeting is scheduled for May 6, 2025, beginning at 11:00 am and all are welcome.

6. Meals on Wheels (MOW) Report: *(MOW Administrative Supervisor Heidi Durrett)*

- Equipment Upgrade Grant - MOW is currently finishing up with \$25,000 upgrades at each meal site.
- Sustainability Grant – MOW is looking into ways they can reduce the single use serving products they use.
- Volunteer thank you events are being held up and down the coast.
- Paws and Claws Program:
 - MOW is expanding and rolling out a local ambassador for each community.
 - They are looking for in-kind donations for cat litter.

- Outreach is being conducted to Veterinarians for discounted prices.
- Waldport meal site is partnering with Wafa Bank on fraud consumer awareness.

7. Issues and Advocacy Committee (IAC) Report: *(IAC Chair Suzanne Lazaro)*

- Day at the Capitol will coincide with the Oregon Association of Area Agencies on Aging and Disabilities (O4AD) Spring Quarterly Meeting:
- IAC Chair Suzanne Lazaro called for the need for advocates from all three counties to speak with legislators.
- O4AD will provide a talking sheet and Program Director Moore will provide OCWCOG's Annual Report.
- Budget forecast is still unknown.
- Advocacy breakout sessions will be held in the afternoon.
- The top issues for advocating and discussion are:
 - Caseloads and workload models and how they get their numbers.
 - The rollout of Oregon Project Independence-Medicaid (OPIM) and how it is going.
 - Older Americans Act (OAA) programs and its reauthorization.
- IAC Chair Lazaro commented that their advocacy would be more powerful if some of our consumers were present.

8. Program Updates: *(Program Director Randi Moore)*

- O4AD will be holding a drop-in celebration of life throughout the day on March 10th, for State Advocate Ruth Mc Ewen who passed away.
- Program Director Moore is in Washington DC where she met with Representatives Bynum, Salinas, and Hoyle and in the afternoon she will be meeting with Senators Wyden and Merkley to:
 - Advocate for OAA and its reauthorization.
 - Shared positive aspects of Medicaid and Oregon Project Independence (OPI).
 - Sat in on policy briefings. The Administration on Community Living has been disbanded with their programs being housed in other Health and Human Service Departments. There is concern that aging programs will get lost in the weeds, so advocacy is being done around this.
- Thanks were given to Allison Hobgood for all the work she has done with the Councils.
- One of the goals of the Area Plan is to have a representative around housing on the Advisory Council and if anyone knows of anyone who would be a good fit they should reach out to Program Director Moore.
- The agency's new Agency Director, Paul Egbert, has started and will be invited to come meet the Councils at a meeting in the very near future.
- Older American's Month is in May and Program Director Moore reached out to Case Managers on how they thought it should be celebrated this year. This year's theme is "Flipping the Switch on Aging". Council members were asked to join staff when out in the community to help celebrate.

ACTION: Program Director Randi Moore will notify the Council members where and when the different Older Americans Month events are taking place in order for them to join the staff at the events.

9. Other Business and Announcements:

Mimi Chen shared that she is taking a Dancing with Parkinson Disease training in Portland and will be offering the class at her dance studio.

10. Adjournment:

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 am.

The next meeting will be on Tuesday, June 3, 2025.

Meeting Minutes was recorded by Terri Sharpe.