

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MINUTES

AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF WESTERN MICHIGAN

April 24, 2023

Prince Conference Center-President's Dining Room
1800 E. Beltline Avenue SE, Grand Rapids, MI 49546

UNIT OF GOVERNMENT	MEMBERS PRESENT	MEMBERS ABSENT
ALLEGAN COUNTY		Mark DeYoung
	Stuart Peet	
GRAND RAPIDS, CITY		Lisa Knight
	Jane DeVries	
IONIA COUNTY	Larry Tiejema Edna Albert	
KENT COUNTY	Carol Hennessy Nancy Nielsen	
LAKE COUNTY	Marilyn Burns Kristine Raymond	
MASON COUNTY	Ron Bacon Kim Halladay	
MECOSTA COUNTY	Sharon Bongard Bill Routley	
MONTCALM COUNTY	Ron Baker Chuck Hazekamp	
NEWAYGO COUNTY		Kenneth DeLaat
	Richard Fitzpatrick	
OSCEOLA COUNTY	Tim Michell Dawn Montague	

Staff Present: Kendrick Heinlein, Vince Lambert, Suzanne Filby-Clark, Holly Williams, Cassie Caple, Jessica Torpey

Guests Present: Ashley Ellsworth – Health & Aging Services Agency; Barb Hazlett – AAAWM Advisory Council Chairperson

I. Roll Call and Agenda Approval

Chair Bill Routley called the meeting to order at 1:17 pm.

Kendrick Heinlein made an amendment to the agenda-the next, scheduled meeting will be held on June 26th, 2023 not June 24th, 2023.

Ron Bacon moved and Dawn Montague seconded the approval of the Agenda. Motion carried.

II. Minutes of the February and March, 2023 Meetings

Ron Bacon moved and Kris Raymond seconded the motion to approve the February and March, 2023 Minutes. Motion carried.

III. Reports

A. Advisory Council Report

Barb Hazlett, Advisory Council Chair, gave report from the April 3rd Advisory Committee Meeting: Kendrick Heinlein presented the Strategic Plan which was well received by the Advocates. Jo VerBeek from Allegan County joined the meeting for the first time. Barb Hazlett had the chance to talk with Dana Nessel, Michigan Attorney General, who offered to attend an Advocacy meeting to speak if they desired. Barb Hazlett sent Dana Nessel's office options of dates they could select a meeting from that works within her schedule. Mary Lou's report on statewide advocacy was emailed out to the group. GVSU is working on a Healthy Aging Center focusing on Unmasking Agism. The Advocates will be joining Regions 4 and 14 to help get their programs up and running.

B. Financial Reports

Vince Lambert, Finance Director, reviewed the following reports:

Report 1- Balance Sheet – No major changes from last month. The agency is 50% of the way through the FY. When looking at the cash position of the agency, most of the funds have been shifted over to PNC as planned, anything left in Mercantile is to cover outstanding checks. Agency investments are now consolidated at Legacy Trust. Legacy will be attending the July Board Meeting to present AAAWM's portfolio and answer questions.

Report 5 – Summary Expense Report – the Operating Expenses budget is the portion approved by the BOD each year. The total service expense is just under 43% for the FY, which is slightly underspending-right where Vince Lambert would prefer to see it. AAAWM is working with partners to adjust funding as we're halfway through the FY. Ideally you want to break even in this line. Vince Lambert fielded a question from the BOD regarding Volunteer Services and if these were in-kind services. He confirmed they were.

C. FY23 OAA Funding Changes

Cassie Caple presented the following mid-year partner reallocations:

Caregiver Supplemental Support Group is requesting \$3,000 to increase programming due to these meetings being very well attended.

Grandparent Support is requesting \$12,500 to continue their program from last year: providing gift cards for grandparents to purchase back-to-school supplies for grandchildren they are taking care of. The program was very successful!

The Alzheimer Association is requesting to swap some funding from their Caregiver Support and Counselling programming to their Caregiver Education Program due to increased demand.

Atrio is asking to shift \$10,000 from their respite programming to their homemaker program due to increased need.

Community Action is requesting \$6,000 for increased transportation needs.

Elders Helpers is requesting \$10,000 to serve the clients who are on their waitlist for a PERS device.

Ionia COA is requesting \$5,000 to increase the amount of homemaker units they can provide and \$5,000 for increased transportation needs.

Kent County Community Action is requesting \$6,000 to support the increase demand their Outreach and Assistance team is experiencing.

Legal Aid is requesting \$25,000 to serve more clients.

Senior Neighbors is requesting \$75,000 to support the increase demand their Outreach and Assistance team is experiencing.

Wellspring Adult Day is requesting \$6,000 to help cover the one-time cost of a handicap door installation.

Action Item: Chuck Hazekamp made a motion to approve the recommended FY23 OAA Funding Changes. Jane DeVries seconded and the others approved the motion. Motion carried.

D. Executive Director's Report

Kendrick Heinlein, Executive Director covered the following topics:

FY23 Advisory Council Schedule-BOD members are welcome and encouraged to attend as many meetings as they would like. If there is a scheduling conflict for a meeting they are scheduled to attend, he asked that they reschedule to attend another meeting in the year.

Older Michiganians Day (OMD)-The event will be May 17th at the agency. Meals on Wheels will be providing lunch at the event, partners will have booths set-up to share information and the BOD was asked to attend in support of this advocacy event if their schedule allows. Each BOD member was given a packet with letters regarding the

agency's Legislative Platform and advised to share them with friends, family, professional and community contacts to gain signatures. Signed forms can be returned to Kendrick Heinlein or Sheri Harris by May 12th.

Community Needs Assessment Subcommittee-At the June meeting, there will be further discussion and selection around this subcommittee. The Needs Assessment covers all of Region 8 and will be completed by September 30th, 2023. Sheri Harris is spearheading the assessment and is looking for feedback regarding implementation and best practices regarding information the agency should gather. Meetings will be held at the agency and at least one will be held in the northern region. Interested BOD members should reach out to Kendrick Heinlein or Sheri Harris for information on the subcommittee.

IV. Other

- A. **Bureau of Aging, Community Living and Supports Comments:** Ashely Ellsworth provided the following updates:

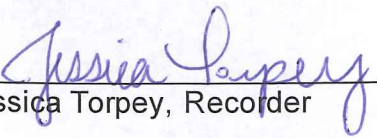
The Inner State Funding Formula has been in review and a couple of new weights have been added to it. The suggested changes are currently up for public comment until 4/30/23.

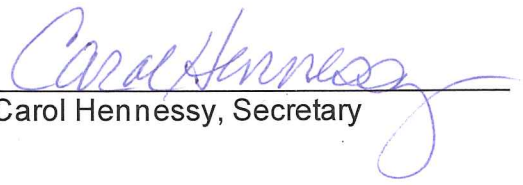
Discussion is being had around realigning the Multi-Year Plan for AAAs with the State Plan. The current process makes it hard for AAAs to align their focuses with State Plans. If this moves forward, they will extend the current MYP through 2026 which would realign both plans in 2027.

Carry Out Meal Standards have been in review by the ACL and their nutrition team. A new standard has been created and approved which allows each region the flexibility to determine how they will facilitate the carry out meal standards. Discussion took place around reinserting social opportunities for interaction in different ways clients receive meals.

There is an updated, draft version of Transportation Standards up for public comment until 5/17/23. Ashely Ellsworth was a part of this workgroup and is looking forward to presenting it forward after public comment closes.

- B. **Public Comments:** Kendrick Heinlein updated the Board on the Parkinson's Disease Support Group who recently came to the Board requesting funding/support. He shared the Leadership Team had lengthy discussion around this initiative. The group is not currently registered as a formal entity so they would not be able to receive funding from the agency. He is helping them work through attaining their 501c3 as a first step. Once that is established, he will sit on their Board to be able to provide guidance and make suggestions for support/vision from there.
- C. **Next Meeting Date:** Chair Bill Routley stated the next Board of Directors meeting will be on June 26, 2023 back at the AAAWM building. The meeting adjourned at 1:53 p.m.


Jessica Torpey, Recorder


Carol Hennessy, Secretary