

Northwest Senior Services Board Meeting Minutes

November 8, 2022

Members Present In-Person: None

Members Present via Zoom or Telephonically: Carl Bender, Georgiann Dustin, Shirley Forslof, Wendy Gilbert, Alberta Horn, Denise Irely, Mary Kanter, Kathleen O'Connor, Barb Pesola, Jodi Sipes, George Edward, Jennifer Lautenbach, Marshall Gartenlaub, Doug Cornelsen, Mike Shaw

Members Absent: Shirley Bennett, Jana Finkbonner, Bob Monize, Stephen Shubert

Staff Present Zoom or Telephonically: Amanda McDade, Bethany Chamberlin, Ryan Blackwell, Darla Smith, Jeri Johansen

Guest: None.

Call to Order (Barb Pesola) at 1:00 PM

Review of September Minutes:

Motion put forward by the Board President, Barb Pesola to accept the minutes from the September 13, 2022, meeting.

Motion was made to approve the September 13, 2022, meeting minutes by Mary Kanter and seconded by Jodi Sipes. **Motion Passed.**

Announcements: Introduction of new member Mike Shaw.

Executive Director Updates

Amanda McDade, Executive Direction

- Agency Updates – NWRC is almost fully staffed. This meeting marked nearly the end of Amanda McDade's first year as Executive Director. Presentation and overview of the Tentative Funding Allocations 2023.
- Legislative Updates – NWRC will continue building on last year's initiative to keep funding for case management on par with inflation, so that funding does not fall behind. The focus being on both Health Homes and Case Management funding, Health Homes is the less complicated "ask" of the two.
- State Council on Aging Fall Gathering Review – NWSSB Board members, Barb Pesola and Georgiann Dustin, stated that the conference was very good with many stories shared highlighting the importance of the work we do. If you could not attend, the conference is on the SCOA website for review. The consensus is that the 2023 SCOA conference will be much better, with the hope of being able to attend in person. Dementia support was a topic of focus. Georgiann has been appointed to the DAC (Dementia Action Collaborative) and will attend one of NWRC's Dementia Support meetings.

- Preliminary Annual Report (Tentative) – Overview of the 2022 Annual Report, A Year of Transition. This is a more formalized version of the annual report, the goal being to share it with the NWRC Governing Board, the NWSSB and NWRC partners. It could possibly be an excellent marketing tool, explaining who we are and what we do. The report was very well received.
- 2023 Schedule – The 2023 NWSSB meeting schedule was presented with anticipation for the need of hybrid meetings both in person and online. The schedule is as follows:
 - January 10: Regular Board Meeting – Bellingham
 - March 14: Regular Board Meeting – Mount Vernon
 - May 9: Regular Board Meeting – Bellingham
 - July 11: Regular Board Meeting – Mount Vernon
 - September 12: Regular Board Meeting – Bellingham
 - November 14: Regular Board Meeting – Bellingham

Discussion of attending the W4A days in Olympia, January-2023. Announcement has not yet been made as to specifics regarding W4A, but the plan is to attend and as soon as Ryan Blackwell has information, he will share with members. There is not currently a plan to attend Senior Lobby Day.

Introduction and welcome to Mike Shaw, Skagit County, as a new member. Mike brings with him more than 30 years in senior and community service. Welcome to NWSSB!

Terms Expiring June 30, 2023: Alberta Horn, Jodi Sipes, Douglas Cornelsen, Jana Finkbonner.

NWSSB Committees

Breakout Discussions

Break

2:15-2:30

State Council on Aging Update (SCOA)

Will be meeting again in another week. Report given previously during discussion of SCOA Fall Gathering. Focus on Dementia and how DAC may utilize the help of Area Agencies on Aging to disseminate information.

Updates from Our Communities

Senior Centers News:

- **Bellingham SC** will be having a craft fair on November 19 with 24 vendors. There is a bike group offering three levels of participation. Meals are back to 5 days a week with a wonderful chef. The Director (Chris) and staff do a great job of making everyone welcome.
- **Lopez SC** is presenting a series of four talks on Dementia.
- **Lynden SC** has provided more than 14,000 meals and 17,000 visits. Exciting to see the revitalization of our senior centers.
- **Everson SC** is open one day a week.
- **Sumas SC** is still closed due to flooding earlier in the year.
- **Blaine SC** is partially back with limited programs.

Adjourn:

Motion was made by George Edward, that there being no further business, this meeting is adjourned. Motion seconded by Mike Shaw. **Motion passed.**

The meeting adjourned at 2:37 PM

DocuSigned by:
Darla Smith
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Darla Smith, Office Supervisor

Reviewed and approved by the Northwest Senior Services Board at the January 10, 2023, meeting.

DocuSigned by:
Barbara Pesola
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Barbara Pesola, NWSSB Chair