



AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF LAKE & MENDOCINO COUNTIES PSA 26 ADVISORY COUNCIL MINUTES

March 20th, 2023

2:00 pm

Zoom Meeting

AAA Advisory Council Members Present:

Paul Branson - President

Linda Schoeller-Boyle (late 2:06 PM)

Janine Smith-Citron

Nancy Nanna – Vice President

Lisa Morrow

Jill Rexrode

AAA Advisory Council Members Not Present:

Priscilla Tarver (Excused)

AAA Staff Present:

Dena Eddings-Green - AAA Program Coordinator

Virginia Peeke-AAA Staff Services Analyst

Others in Attendance:

Shannon Kennedy

1. Welcome / Announcements:

- The meeting was called to order by Paul Branson at 2:00 pm. six (6) Advisory Council members were present out of a total of seven (7) active members. Attendees present introduced themselves.

2. Action Items

- Review and Approve Meeting Minutes for March 20, 2023, with the correction of Senior Month to Older Americans Month.

M/S Jill/Lisa All in Favor 0 Abstain

3. Comments from the public on non-agenda items:

4. Discussion of Next Area Plan

Nancy stated her proposal for the Area Plan under goal number one is to delete the verbiage related to dementia and add “identify and assist older adults who have mental health issues (depression, anxiety, etc.) and to participate in community education to promote mental health”. Under the section how “distribute education material on how to identify common mental health issues including those associated with dementia and how to access older adults that have these issues”. Attended community education for medical providers, caregivers, older adult services, providers, and promoting mental health for adults. Coordinate with new APS and mental health staff to obtain outreach workers at each senior centers on how to identify mental health issues including dementia and how to revert to available resources.

Nancy proposed under Tai Chi’s how-to, “encourage participation in both Zoom and in person” participation.

Paul commented that he heard that a lot of times when a senior has mental health issues the diagnosis is almost assumed to be dementia, and the Area Plan proposal would help eliminates the default diagnoses of dementia

Linda stated that in all her experience working for Senior Centers, a dementia diagnosis is always presented as the problem instead of exploring a mental health diagnosis.

Paul stated that he would like to add two more proposals to the Area Plan under the goals two sections. First, a new objective to develop an ADRC for PSA26 in partnership with Disability Services and Legal Center in order to better coordinate services for both seniors and disabled residents in Lake and Mendocino Counties. Then under the how-to section, work with Disability Services and Legal Center to apply for ADRC designation funding through the Department of Aging, and under implantation, we would implement the program. Second, a new objective review CDA master plan for aging and their associate objectives and initiatives to determine additional direction for PSA26 in addition to our current Area Plan goals and objectives to help further local initiatives that build age-friendly and disable friendly community.

Janine stated that under goal number one, “improve the health and well-being of the Lake and Mendocino County” which is fabulous, however, there comes a point in an older adult’s life when getting better is not an option and there is no reference to end-of-life care. Janine would if end-of-life care can be added into the Area Plan.

Dena responded to Janine statement that it is not really in the goal of the Area Agency on Aging, our goals is to help people age in place and remain in their homes as long as possible, so when people pass the point it is no longer part of the goals.

Janine stated that she hears what Dena is saying about the goals however when people receive palliative care and people are declining in their homes we want them to stay in their homes.

Dena ask the attendees where they think we could add palliative care.

Janine stated that palliative care would fit under goal number one, “improve the health and well-being of older adults”, and palliative care is part of the well-being.

Paul stated that he second Janine statement that palliative care should be under goal one, however maybe it should be the last one.

Nancy suggested that palliative care be put under the verbiage maintain because these individuals with some of their conditions are not going to be curable or preventable.

Paul asked if Nancy was looking to change the goal to “improve and maintain the health and well-being”?

Nancy stated yes, to change the goal to “improve and maintain the health and well-being”

Paul stated that we still need the objective of Hospice care.

Janine stated that it does not have to be limited to Hospice or palletize care, she liked Dena’s comment about aging in place and using that verbiage.

Dena stated that in goal one there are no objectives where you can add that, so a new objective would have to be added with a how-to.

Dena stated she would need guidance from the Advisory Council on how they would like to word the objectives and the how of the new goal.

Dena asked if the Advisory Council is ok with adding this new goal to the upcoming four-year Area Plan, that way we have more time to review and find the appropriate verbiage along with adding more things to the Area Plan. Due to the time restraints of this Annual update needing to be presented and approved by the upcoming Governing Board, we don’t have the time to add to this year’s goals.

Janine stated that she was ok with waiting for the new Area Plan for the fiscal year 2024-25 to add the new goal.

Dena stated that one thing that we have to do in the Area Plan is talk about anything that we have accomplished, did anyone come across anything they would like to add.

Janine asked for a day or two to send Dena information.

Lisa stated one of the success was Tai Chi classes during the pandemic and going to remote services was very successful.

M/S Jill/Janine All in Favor 0 Abstain

5. Next Elder Abuse Conference

Dena stated that she emailed her contract at U.C. Davis about doing a training on prevention and recognizing Caregiver Abuse and if they have a training and trainer that would fit that category however if they don't she will look for another agency that offers the category.

6. AAA Staff Report

Dena stated that other than the Area Plan and contract we don't have any other staff updates.

Paul asked about the funding for the new Ombudsman coordinator

Dena stated that it should be going to the Board of Supervisors for Lake County on April 11 and still working to get it on the agenda for the Board of Supervisors for Mendocino County.

Nancy stated that she would be willing to testify for the Mendocino County Board Supervisors because she had to use the Ombudsman program

7. Adjourned

Adjourned at 2:34PM

Next meeting

April 4th 2023

2:00pm

Zoom Meeting