

Oakland County Senior Advisory Council
Virtual meeting
Monday, April 17, 2023
10:00 am – 12:00 pm

WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER, SELF INTRODUCTIONS: Chairperson Cameron McClure, District #10, welcomed all to SAC meeting and called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

Dist	RC	Name	Dist	RC	Name	Dist	RC	Name
1		Royetta Ealba	2	P	Mark Kelly	3	P	Suzanne Patton
4	P	Dianne Bubnar	5		Jerry Sowik	6	V	
7	P	Linda Hyaduck	8	P	Carolyn Morrison	9		Claudia Buckley
10	P	Cameron McClure	11		Sylvia Whitmer	12	P	Barbara Garbutt
13		Norene Yuskowatz	14	V		15	P	Brenda Anderson
16	V		17	P	Barbara Seldon	18	P	Greg Keeler
19	P	Martha Schlesinger	AL	P	Rock Abboud	AL		Marcus Jackson
SR	P	Pat Zawadzki						

Key: District# (AL- Member-at-Large, SR – Staff Rep); RC=Attendance (P-present; E - Excused; A – Absent; V – Vacant); Name = District Council Member

OTHERS PRESENT: James Ellison, Chief Older Adult Services; Stephanie Hall, AAA-1b, Barbara Winters, Oakland County Board of Commissioners

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

A nominations slate was developed, and elections were held for the 2023 SAC officers. The following are the 2023 officers for the SAC: Chair, Rock Abboud, At-Large; First Vice-Chair, Cameron McClure, District #10; Second Vice-Chair, Martha Schlesinger District #19 and Recording Secretary, Barbara Seldon, District #17.

Cameron McClure stated his gratitude to the Sac membership for the help and support that was given him over the 5 years as chairperson.

Rock Abboud gave a special thanks to everyone on the council for having the confidence in him to take the leadership of the SAC. He gave special thanks to Martha

Schlesinger for her detailed minutes, Barbara Garbutt for sharing important information, and everyone for their input hard work for the SAC.

The gavel was passed to Chair Abboud who continued as chair of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Cam McClure made a correction regarding District #17 covered by Barbara Seldon. Sandra Thomas is not at Royal Oak; she is over the Pearl White Senior Center.

The Senior Advisory Council minutes for the meeting held March 20, 2023, were approved with correction.

COUNTY UPDATE:

Genessa Dolittle represented Leigh-Anne Stafford, Director of the Oakland County Health, and Human Services:

- Medicaid continuous coverage rule ended April 1, 2023. Anyone on a Medicaid plan did not have to renew their coverage for the last 2 years due to the Covid pandemic. The Medicaid continuous Coverage rule will now end.
- People with coverage such as My Child or Healthy Michigan who do not go to the My Bridges website and update their information will lose their Medicaid coverage. Everyone must update whether there are changes or not or they will lose their coverage. If the update is not completed, a renewal package will be sent to them that must be returned within 60 days or they will lose your coverage. If you know of anyone, please inform them. There will be a press conference to cover this important rule change later this week.
- There will be a complete county website overhaul. It is in the process. It will be more user-friendly. Old information will be migrated into the latest information. The Medicaid Continuous Coverage Rule will be on the front page of the website. Suggestions are welcomed for changes to the health division page.
- Covid 19 numbers are continuing to drop. There is a second bi-valent booster. Approval may be closer to Fall before the second bi-valent booster will be available.
- Flu shots are still available.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

Stephanie Hall represented Katie Wendel AAA-1B Director of Planning and Advocacy.

May 17th is Older Michiganians Day. Senior Action Week is the full week of May 17th. The program will be like last year's hybrid model where a small group will convene on the Capital Mall. Ten tickets are available for the SAC members to come in person. There will be no bus service. You must provide your own transportation to Lansing. It will be streamed live with watch parties. The time is from 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM. Lunch will be provided. There will be a letter writing campaign to support the Older Michiganians platform and Older Adults services. SAC members are asked to participate. SAC members are asked to collect signatures to be submitted to their legislators.

OLDER SERVICES ACTIVITY UPDATE:

Mr. James Ellison, Chief of Adult Services, provided an update on his accomplishments thus far relative to contacting and speaking to Senior Center representatives discovering what is out there for seniors. He stopped in at Novi and at Huntington Woods. He will be stopping in at Pontiac, Bagley Street. He will coordinate with the SAC representative for each Center so they may meet him at the center.

Mr. Ellison has a 3D program where he Discovers what are the services and where are the holes; Defines what is done and how it can be done better; Distributes by getting the people to use the programs and getting programs out there for people to use. Programs such as pickle ball, meals on wheels, and lunch programs. He will be discovering what each center is doing, looking at commonalities, determining if others (non-residents) can use their programs.

Sylvia Whitmer asked "what are centers doing for special needs? Do centers have social workers? How are we talking about this and do centers know the statistics about those with special needs?" Barbara Winters indicated that an ad hoc committee of AAA-1B did a survey looking at what services are provided by each center. Mr. Ellison will share the survey with the Senior Advisory Council.

SENIOR CENTER MATCHING GRANT STATUS PROGRAM:

Ashley McBride was unable to attend. Mr. James Ellison briefed the council on what information was available to him.

SUB-COMMITTEE WORKING GROUPS:

Barbara Garbutt – Bylaws

The sub-committee usually meets at the main branch of the West Bloomfield library. Committee Meetings may be in person or virtually. Barbara Garbutt will chair the Bylaws Sub-Committee. The committee members are Martha Schlesinger, Sylvia Whitmer, Pat Zawadzki, Rock Abboud, Gregory Keeler, and Susie Patton. The new members may want to serve to learn additional information about the SAC and learn how SAC works.

Chair Abboud mentioned that SAC is governed by the State Open Meetings Act; that SAC meets every 3rd Monday of each month; Rock Abboud reviewed the County by-laws that states when amending the by-laws article 8, section 1,2, and 3, that the council's by-laws may be amended by 2/3rds vote of those present at any meeting where a quorum for conducting official Council business is present. Section 2: proposed amendments to the by-laws must be provided in writing by the SAC coordinator to the council membership at least 10 days prior to council vote. Section 3, Amendment to the by-laws shall be effective immediately upon adoption unless the motion adopts specifics or otherwise. Meetings should be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order.

Pat Zawadzki indicated that there are other SAC committees that will need volunteers.

COMMUNITY UPDATES: (BY DISTRICT#)

Each district was asked to report on their centers specifying what progress has been made.

Mark Kelly: District #2

- Does not have a senior center. Seems that the Community Center does not want to have a relationship with the Friends of Troy even though its membership has more than 1300 members.
- Spoke in front of City Council for Troy Senior.
- Clawson's Paperwork was submitted for the \$250,000.00 grant but never heard back. The Troy Community Center received the \$250,000.00 grant but does not have a senior component. They accept other activities over senior activities due to their ability to pay. Mark Kelly wants to know just what he can do. It was suggested that Ashley McBride needs to communicate just when funds will be available. It was suggested that Mark Kelly talk with his commissioner. A quick note should be sent to the commissioner regarding the matching funds and a special meeting should be called so that it is at the top of the commissioner's awareness. It was also suggested that a letter be written and sent to David Woodward and Kristen Nelson. Availability from February 2nd to now has been 4 months. This is too long. There is a deadline for usage and the longer the funds are unavailable the shorter the time for use.
- Pat Zawadzki suggests that each member of SAC send a quick note to all commissioners and let them know just what is being discussed today.

Diane Bubnar (District #4)

- The Older Persons Commission (OPC) 5K run/walk for meals on wheels annual fundraiser is June 3rd at 8 AM. The run/walk goes down the Clinton River Trail starting and ending at OPC.

- The Summer Soiree Elegant Garden Affair in the OPC Stone Cottage Garden is June 23rd. This fundraiser for the Meals on Wheels Program includes a strolled dinner, live music and auction, and many other surprises.
- The OPC Meals on Wheels Program that benefits homebound seniors in Rochester, Rochester Hills, Oakland Township, Auburn Hills, Addison, Brandon Lake Orion, Oxford, and Independence township provides a birthday card for each MOW client on their birthday.

Jerry Sowik (District #5)

- Oxford did not participate in matching funds grant
- Looking forward to opening in the spring getting members around getting together playing cards

Linda Hyaduck (District #7)

- Event coming up on April 22nd Raking and Rocking program will be a community helping project for spring clean-up for seniors who needs help with spring clean-up. Eagle Scouts, Cup Scouts, church groups all who can help. Solicit all who can help.

Carolyn Morrison (District #8)

- Will e-mail immediately the representative about the grant funds
- Independence Township Senior Center:
 - 1100 members increase at the Independence Township Senior Center
 - April 27th - will celebrate the 1,000 volunteers at a luncheon acknowledging and thanking them for their volunteerism.
 - April 28 – 30 - Impact Weekend in Clarkston. Volunteers will clean up around the center and provide landscaping.
 - April 30th - Clean-up around the center and landscaping for the summer.
- Golden Age Club:
- Will meet with them and bring them up to date with SAC.

Cameron McClure (District #10)

- Waterford celebrated its 50th anniversary at an area high school. A lot of elected officials were present. It was a grand affair.
- Bowling center has a terrible Meals on Wheels program. The areas commissioner was informed.
- Ashley McBride did contact the center. Ashley and Jim attended Healthy Aging Ad Hoc Committee. The Ad Hoc Committee is made up of Commissioners.
- Jewish community center did not know who to talk to, but Ashley did respond back to them.

Sylvia Whitmer (District #11)

- Bloomfield Township did not submit for the grant. Richardson did.
- No monies received.
- Pickle Ball seems to be the rage and more people are coming to the center for programs.

Patricia Zawadki ended the meeting with an important summary. She stated that it is important that each SAC member recognizes their role and responsibility which is to keep the County Executive informed of senior activities back and forth. The distributors of grants are employees, keep the issues full front with your commissioners. Your role is to be the council and the voice for your district. Keep your commissioners informed. You represent the concerns not just of the centers but the seniors. You should let them know.

Chair Rock Abboud called for adjournment. It was moved by Martha Schlesinger and seconded by Cameron McClure that we adjourn.

Meeting time ended without completing all the progress of the districts. District reports will continue at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 12:07 PM.

**NEXT MEETING
VITUAL OR IN PERSON (TO BE DETERMINED)
MONDAY MAY 15, 2023
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM**