

**Oakland County Senior Advisory Council  
Meeting  
Monday, June 17, 2024  
10:00 am – 12:00 pm 1:00 PM**

**WELCOME, CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Rock Abboud called the meeting to order and asked each member present to introduce themselves. He welcomed all members to the SAC meeting and called the meeting to order at 10:03 AM.

**Attendance Matrix:**

<b>Dist</b>	<b>RC</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Dist</b>	<b>RC</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Dist</b>	<b>RC</b>	<b>Name</b>
1	E	Royetta Ealba		E	Mark Kelly	3	E	Suzanne Patton
4	E	Dianne Bubnar	5		V	6	E	Bridgette Giampa
7	E	V	8	A	Robert Whitcomb	9	E	Ruth Jordan
10	P	Cameron McClure	11	E	Sylvia Whitmer	12	E	Rusty Rosman
13	P	Norene Yuskowatz	14	P	Marcy Boskee	15	P	Brenda Anderson
16		V	17	P	Barbara Seldon	18	P	Greg Keeler
19	E	Martha Schlesinger	AL	P	Rock Abboud	AL	P	Marcus Jackson
SR	P	Pat Zawadzki						
SR	P	Genessa Doolittle						

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**

Dr. Russell Faust, Medical Director, Oakland County Health and Human Services  
Jim Ellison, Chief, Older Adult Services  
Stephanie Hall, Director of Planning and Advocacy, AgeWays  
Danisha Weathersby, Communication & Marketing Assistant, Older Adult Services  
Barbara Garbutt, former member of SAC  
Sandra Dorey, Recreation Supervisor, Oakland County Parks and Recreation  
Kathleen Yanik, Director or Communications, AgeWays

## ROLL CALL

There was **not** a quorum (8 members, three presenters). Chair Abboud introduced new member: Marcy Boskee, District #14.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Senior Advisory Council minutes for the meeting held May 20, 2024, were delayed approval until a quorum would be present at the next meeting.

## SPECIAL PROCLAMATION

Vice Chairman McClure presented a proclamation from the Oakland County Board of Commissioners to Barbara Garbutt, who resigned from SAC after eight years of exemplary service on the Council.

## HEALTH DIVISION UPDATE

Dr. Russell Faust

### HPV Virus/Vaccinations

- HPV causes various cancers, especially cervical cancers and oral-pharyngeal (mouth and throat) cancers.
- Ninety percent of HPV are preventable with the HPV vaccine.
- HPV can cause warts (papilloma).
- HPV causes 150 human papilloma species that have preference for various tissues.
- About forty HPV viruses affect the genitals.
- Young adults between the ages of sixteen and eighteen are at high risk for HPV, while younger children are at low risk.
- CDC recommends that vaccinations should occur between the ages of nine and forty-five.
- Some adults between the ages twenty-seven through forty-five may decide to get the HPV vaccine based on discussion with their clinician.
- Oral Pharyngeal/respiratory cancers are specifically caused by the HPV virus.
- Most humans have been infected during their lifetime and may have developed immunity. Most adults have been infected with genital HPV. *If you have a wart on your finger it is caused by HPV.*
- All sexually active persons should be vaccinated.
- There is increasing concerns among older adult males with oral HPV.
- Encourage parents to have their children vaccinated.
- The HPV virus crosses the placenta, and the fetus of the pregnant mothers can be affected.

- A thorough explanation using visual slides shows how HPV affects the oral-pharyngeal area.

## COUNTY UPDATE

Jim Ellison

- The new Oakland County Older Adult Resource Guide was shared with the SAC members. Danisha Weathersby will be responsible for updating and publishing the guide three times/year to be distributed to Oakland residents. Members of SAC may have as many copies as needed for their senior centers.
- Jim Ellison will get his notes to Pat Zawadzki to ensure all information presented is captured by the secretary.
- There are three Senior Expos coming up: All three start at 10:00 AM.
  - August 29<sup>th</sup> at the “J” in West Bloomfield
  - September 11<sup>th</sup> at the Southfield Pavilion
  - October 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Royal Oak Farmers Market.
- Senior Day at the Detroit Zoo was highly successful. Admission was free for seniors.
- There is a new Older Adult Services Hotline – **248-858-0593**.
- Jim and Danisha will be setting up more Coffee and Conversation Sessions with Presentations of Interest identified by each senior center.

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Stephanie Hall

- As requested at the last meeting, Stephanie presented data on the Older Michiganians Day (OMD) event.
  - The OMD Platform was to support the increase of funding for the Silver Key Coalition, the Long-Term Care Ombudsmen Program, for Caregivers and the My Choice Program.
  - There were 420 attendees on the Capital lawn (the largest since COVID), 180 attendees live streamed, over 11,400 letters of support written to legislators, over 13,200 folks reached by social media, plus thirty-six legislators were in attendance.
- Federal Update
  - Budget Update: The final fiscal year 2024 budget was passed at the end of March. The House and Senate released the 2025 budget at the end of April. AgeWays continues to work on budget bills for the fiscal year 2025.
  - The Older Adults Act is reauthorized.
  - Markup of a senate bill will be taking place soon.
  - Walberg, James, McClain, Stevens are all on the House committee looking at OAA reauthorization.
  - House - Committee on Budget, Employment and Pensions/Senate - Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

- SAC, please reach out to your Reps and Senators to support US Aging priorities even if they are not on the key committee – Stephanie Hall can provide advocacy materials if you send her an email.
- State Update
  - Budget Update: Conferees have been announced for the Department of Health and Human services budget. Senators: Santana (D-Detroit) Anthony (D-Detroit), Bumstead (R-North Muskegon), and representatives: Morse (D-Texas Township), Martus (D-Flushing), Green (R-Watertown Township). AgeWays continues to work on the State final budget. It is expected to be ready later this month.
- Guardianship Bills
  - Senator Chang - said she was hopeful there would be some action in the Senate on these bills before summer break.
  - Hoping to kick it out of committee by Summer.
  - The second chamber bill has already passed through the House.
  - Interest from legislators in addressing asset limit.
  - Working through ways to address this.
- Ageways Update
  - Care Transitions Will likely not roll out until later in the year.

## **OAKLAND COUNTY PARKS AND RECREATION**

Sandra Dorey

- Over 150 programs planned with the help of new staff (Anna).
- Programs are open to everyone!
- New pickleball courts and other recreational activities are being added to the facilities.
- Parks and Recreation has new Outreach Programs especially for veterans.
  - Transportation to and from Veteran Affairs downtown allows veterans to participate in scheduled programs and events.
- Anna is attending all the scheduled Senior Expo Events.
- Anyone sixty-two years old or older, Individuals with a Permanent Disability, Active-Duty Veterans and Veterans can get a free vehicle permit to enter the parks.
- After Hours 50+ Programs like River Walk and Trailblazers are receiving enthusiastic responses from attendees.
- Royal Oak, Hazel Park and Southfield seniors can be picked up and taken to the parks at no cost.
- Parks and Rec has a Parks Historian who schedules “Fireside Chats”.
- Parks and Recreation did not acquire the Oakland County Community College’s Highland Lake Campus. Discussions are underway in Waterford Township regarding establishing a proposed community center on the site.

## **FAMILY CAREGIVERS EVENT**

Kathleen Yanick

- Grant was received. Funds will be used for the Family Caregivers Event at the **Suburban Collection** to be held on **October 5, 2024**.
- Approximately two hundred caregivers will be invited.
- Vender tables will be spread around the room. There will be speakers talking about things of significant for caregivers. There will be a presentation addressing legal concerns and the Alzheimer's Association will speak about communicating with your loved ones.

## **GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

In the absence of Martha Schlesinger, Chairperson Abboud passed out the Goals and Objectives information compiled from last month's meeting. We will evaluate its content at the next meeting.

## **SAC UPDATES**

Pat Zawadzki, SAC Coordinator

- There have been ongoing issues with scheduling in-person SAC Monthly meetings, will discuss when the Council resumes monthly meetings in September.
- Pat distributed the Fall/Winter 2024 Senior Advisory Council Meeting Schedule along with other information materials.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Rock Abboud

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM

**NEXT MEETING**  
**Monday, September 16, 2024**  
**Location TBD**