



ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 20, 2025

The Milwaukee County Aging Advisory Council convened in-person at Washington Park Senior Center, 4420 W Vliet St, Milwaukee, WI 53208. Members and attendees also joined virtually and by teleconference.

Members Present

Ellen Pimentel, *Chair*
Barbara Wyatt Sibley, *Vice Chair*
Commissioner Paula Penebaker, *Ex Officio Member*
Joanne Allbaugh
Jennifer Bliese
Karen Guskowski
Demetrius Mack
Megan Newman
Amy O'Connor
Nancy Simuel
Linda Stone
Constance Tenhawks
Roland Dittus-Plath
Deiadra Queary

Members Present (Continued)

DA Leonard
Julia Means

Members Excused

Ann Laatsch
Deborah Lewis
Kent Mayfield
Gail D. Morgan
Cassandra Robinson
Suzanne Ryer
James Kimble

Staff Present

Emily Petersen, *DHHS*

MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Advisory Council Chair, Ellen Pimentel, called the meeting to order at 1:03 p.m., and Emily Petersen, AAA took the roll call. A quorum of Council members was not present. A quorum was obtained later in the meeting.

II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF OCTOBER 16, 2025, ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MOTION: To approve October 16, 2025, Advisory Council meeting minutes

ACTION: Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Guskowski Moved, Leonard Second).

III. REPORT FROM ADVISORY COUNCIL EX OFFICIO MEMBER

Commissioner and Advisory Council ex officio Member Paula Penebaker provided a report to the Council regarding senior centers, Age-Friendly

communities, vendor contracts and other work by the Commission on Aging. The Council discussed with no action taken.

IV. DISCUSSION OF OLDER AMERICANS ACT AND 2025-2027 AREA PLAN GOALS

The Council discussed the Older Americans Act (OAA) and the 2025–2027 Area Plan goals related to social supports and socialization programs. Staff reviewed OAA requirements, focusing on the definitions of “greatest economic need” and “greatest social need,” which guide service priorities in Milwaukee County.

For more information, see the PowerPoint presentation titled “OAA Overview—Supportive Services.” This item was discussed with no action taken.

V. PRESENTATION BY JILL KNIGHT, PROGRAM COORDINATOR OF MILWAUKEE COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING SOCIAL SUPPORT AND SOCIALIZATION PROGRAMS

Jill Knight, Program Coordinator, Area Agency on Aging, provided an overview of the Milwaukee County Area Agency on Aging’s supportive services, including senior centers and socialization programs. She emphasized that most services have no income or asset limits and are available to Milwaukee County residents aged 60 and older. Members discussed outreach challenges, unmet needs, and strategies for connecting isolated older adults, including partnerships with healthcare providers, faith-based organizations, and community groups. The Council discussed the item with no action taken.

VI. 2025 AREA AGING PLAN YEAR-IN-REVIEW

The Council discussed receiving a 2025 annual report on the Area Aging Plan at the January 2026 meeting. Due to time constraints, the Council did not discuss the attachment to the item and tabled it until the January 2026 meeting.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: To adjourn.

ACTION: Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Newman Moved, Stone Second).

Meeting Adjourned at 2:33 p.m. The next Advisory Council meeting is January 22, 2026.

Sincerely,

Vonda Nyang
AAA Executive Assistant