



## Milwaukee County Department on Aging Advocacy Committee March 5, 2018

The Milwaukee County Commission on Aging Advocacy Committee held its monthly meeting on March 5, 2018 at the Marcia Coggs Building, 1220 West Vliet Street, Room 104, Milwaukee, WI 53212 in Room 104.

### **Commissioners Present**

Fred Kneuppel  
Bettie Rodgers

### **Commissioners Excused**

Gwen Jackson – Commissioner Emeritus

### **Advocacy Members Present**

Barbara Bechtel  
Tom Frazier  
Bob Haase  
Tim Harrington  
David Hoffman  
Dain Maddox  
Gary Mikolajczyk

### **Advocacy Members Excused:**

Casper Green  
John Griffith  
Dr. Elliott Moeser  
Judith Troestler

### **Milwaukee County Staff Present**

Andy Bethke  
Jon Janowski  
Jill Klecha  
Carmen Pangilinan

### **Guests Present**

Tom Gossett- Goodwill  
Tammy Keen- Hunger Task Force  
Deborah Lewis- Senior Ambassador  
Bill Meunier- SDC Senior Companion Program  
Steve F. Taylor- County Supervisor

## INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

### I. **CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Bob Haase called the meeting to order at 1:30 PM.

- II. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES FROM MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2018**  
**MOTION: Approve the February 5, 2018 minutes.**  
**ACTION: Motion carried unanimously (Hoffman moved, Kneuppel seconded)**

**III. INFORMATIONAL AND ACTION ITEM- UPDATE ON SENIOR CENTER ASSESSMENT PROJECT, JON JANOWSKI, DIRECTOR OF ADMINISTRATION, MCDA**

Mr. Janowski created and reviewed a one-page summary of a recent meeting with the County's Performance Management staff. One of MCDA's two performance management goals relates to the senior center project. The County Executive's office wants MCDA to collect more information and to conduct more research about other models of senior centers throughout the state and how they are funded to collect a clearer baseline before focusing on a more long-term planning effort. Project updates and particular tasks to be completed are outlined on attached document. Mr. Janowski and Ms. Davis will meet with the Performance Management staff again in four weeks and all information needs to be collected for Performance Management staff by May. Mr. Janowski noted that there may be assistance provided from other county departments to help collect more data, including from the Department of Administrative Services.

The Committee asked some follow up questions and asked for some clarification on some items:

- Ms. Bechtel asked who attends Performance Management meetings and is there a way to get more information about this group. Mr. Janowski noted members of Performance Management staff include staff from the County Executive's Office, Human Resources, Department of Administrative Services and the Facilities Director. Mr. Janowski offered to facilitate Performance Management staff coming to an Advocacy Committee or Commission on Aging Meeting.
- Mr. Kneuppel suggested having the contracted agencies incorporate some of the required financial information into the RFP process and suggested Mr. Janowski speak to Mr. Jordan Luhr of the Service Delivery Committee for further assistance. He also suggested reaching out to the Department of Health Services for demographic data.
- Mr. Maddox asked if there were any more planned conversations with senior center participants. Mr. Janowski explained this was not specifically being planned right now, however, feedback is being gathered in other ways including through staff visits to senior centers and through the area planning process.
- Mr. Maddox asked for clarification of Phase 2 of the process. Mr. Janowski explained that this has not been defined as of now, but the Department will know better after May as to what Phase 2 will look like.
- Supervisor Taylor noted that eventually this process will need to expand beyond staff to include outside assistance and he indicated that is what he anticipates using the funds being held in emergency reserve to accomplish.
- Mr. Mikolajczyk asked for clarification as to whether the Program Coordinator for Senior Centers was eliminated in the last County Budget. Mr. Janowski confirmed that it was eliminated in the past budget.
- Mr. Frazier suggested Mr. Janowski reach out to Christine Beatty of the Madison Senior Center and Jill McHone of the Wisconsin Association of Senior Centers to get information about what is happening at other senior centers throughout the state. Mr.

Frazier also noted that senior centers are about programming, not buildings. There have not been complaints about programming, but when cuts are made, they are to programming. Mr. Frazier noted frustration with the fact that the buildings seem to be the issue, but the cuts go to programs.

- Mr. Frazier asked if MCDA is planning to ask for the remainder of the funding being held by the County Board at the next Finance and Audit Committee Board meeting. Mr. Janowski indicated MCDA will be asking for the funding that is reflected in the current contract with Unison for senior centers and will not be asking for the remainder now as there has not been any evidence that it is essential at this time.
- Mr. Taylor stated that he feels this committee and the Commission should be focused on nothing but the need for shared revenue from the state and should be going to Madison about this specific issue.
- Mr. Maddox discussed the need to keep older adults up to date with all of the issues they are faced with and an honest, open conversation is essential.

In keeping in line with the Committee's approved policy priority of opposing cuts to senior centers, Mr. Frazier shared dates of upcoming County Board meetings and encouraged people to attend and testify in person or writing:

- **Health and Human Needs Committee, March 14, 9:00 am, Courthouse Room 201 B**
- **Finance and Audit Committee, March 15, 9:00am, Courthouse Room 203 B**

#### **IV. INFORMATIONAL AND ACTION ITEM- UPDATE ON PACKAGE OF DEMENTIA BILLS AND REVIEW OF ALZHEIMER'S ADVOCACY DAY, TIM HARRINGTON, ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION OF SOUTHEASTERN WISCONSIN**

Mr. Harrington provided a review of Alzheimer's Advocacy Day which took place on February 27. Additionally, he provided an update on legislation which has the support of the Alzheimer's Association and the Advocacy Committee. The following bills will be considered by the State Senate on March 20:

- Silver Alert Referral (AB 628/SB517)
- Adult Uniform Guardianship (AB629/SB518)
- Caregiver Tax Credit (AB631/SB528)
- Statewide Alzheimer's Awareness Campaign (AB632/SB527)
- Supported Decision Making (AB655/SB522)

Mr. Harrington anticipates four of these bills will pass easily, there may be issue with the Caregiver Tax Credit due to the associated costs, but he remains hopeful that if it does not pass this session it will come up again in the future.

#### **V. INFORMATIONAL AND ACTION ITEM- FEDERAL UPDATES ON AGING ISSUES**

Mr. Helbick of Senator Baldwin's office was unable to attend due to illness, but provided an email update. Senator Baldwin is accepting appropriation requests for the 2019 fiscal year and encourages people to submit requests by March 16.

**VI. MILWAUKEE COUNTY DEPARTMENT ON AGING UPDATES**

No updates provided.

**VII. ADVOCACY COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS REGARDING UPCOMING EVENTS, ACTIVITIES, AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR SENIORS**

- Super Senior Friday, March 16, 2018, 8:30am-12:30pm, Clinton Rose Senior Center
- Area Plan Public Hearings, April 30, 2018, 1:30-3:30pm Wilson Park Senior Center and May 22, 2018, 9:30am-11:30am Clinton Rose Senior Center
- Clinton Rose Senior Center Rummage Sale, June 9, 2018. Commissioner Debra Jupka will collect your donations for the rummage sale and will donate proceeds to Clinton Rose Senior Center and scholarships for Rufus King High School students. Contact Debra at: [djjupka@gmail.com](mailto:djjupka@gmail.com)
- Mr. John Griffith has been appointed to the Advocacy Committee. He was unable to attend today, but will be formally joining the Committee at the April meeting.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 2:48 PM. Motion for adjournment was moved by Mikolajczyk, seconded by Maddox. **Next meeting will be held on Monday, April 2 at 1:30pm at 1220 W. Vliet Street, Room 104.**

**Respectfully submitted,**



**Carmen Pangilinan  
Program and Policy Coordinator**

## Senior Center Assessment Project Update – March 2018

MCDA management met with the County's lead performance management (PM) staff on March 1<sup>st</sup>. A summary of the key issues that were discussed include:

- PM staff would like MCDA to collect more information to establish a clearer “baseline” before moving forward with a long-term planning effort. Specifically, PM staff recommend that MCDA collect or provide the following data:
  - A map showing all of the senior and community centers within City of Milwaukee boundaries, and those centers that operate outside of City boundaries. Purpose is to show relationship between city/county's senior population and where centers are physically located.
  - Additional detail on the staffing, operations, and buildings of the centers outside of the City of Milwaukee (i.e., the centers outlined in the Phase I report)
  - Additional research exploring senior/community programming trends (from centers in Wisconsin or throughout the country).
  - Additional detail relating to the finances of the ten senior/community centers that MCDA supports, including:
    - a breakdown of the funding (and the source of that funding) that is spent on programming and maintenance at the five county-owned senior centers
    - Detail on the staffing levels and staff responsibilities at each of the centers
    - Detail on the budgets of each of these centers, including a breakdown of other (non-county) funding sources
    - Detail on the extent to which volunteers provide “in-kind” support at each of these centers
    - Additional detail on the customers served at each of these centers (demographic breakdown)
  - Operational, financial, and contractual detail on the MLK (1531 W. Vliet St.) and Kozi (2201 S. 7<sup>th</sup> St) community centers (i.e., what programming is provided there? Who are the customers (demographic detail)? What are the public and private funding streams that support programming there? What is the state of the buildings?)

### Immediate Next Steps:

- PM staff to assess whether, or to what extent, other county staff can help with the “programming trends” research. MCDA staff to connect with UNISON staff to determine what information they can contribute.
- MCDA staff to collect and compile “financial model” information on the 10 centers supported by the Department. PM staff to explore whether Budget Office and/or DAS-Facilities Division staff can assist.
- MCDA will craft an informational report for the Health and Human Needs Committee for the May cycle – purpose is to update the Committee on 1) the work that was done in Phase I, and 2) the immediate next steps to collect additional “baseline” information. Monthly updates on data collected would be shared with the HHN Committee.