



**Aging Advisory Council  
Meeting Minutes  
November 10, 2021**

**Members Present**

Commissioner Janice Wilberg, *Chair*  
Commissioner John Griffith  
Milwaukee County Supervisor Jason Haas  
Patricia Dunn  
Gene Guskowski  
Debra Jupka  
Nia Norris  
Commissioner Cherie Swenson  
Barbara Wyatt Sibley

**Members Excused**

Barbara Bechtel  
Ruth Bevenue  
James Kimble  
Sally Lindner  
Commissioner Leonor Rosas  
Patti Pagel  
Amanda Weiler

**Milwaukee County Staff Present**

Michelle Allison, *DHHS*  
Alena DeGrado, *DHHS*  
Daniel Idzikowski, *DHHS*  
Jon Janowski, *DHHS*  
Jill Lintonen, *DHHS*  
Pam Matthews, *DAS*  
Vonda Nyang, *DHHS*  
Mary Proctor Brown, *DHHS*  
Bekki Schmidt, *DHHS*  
Carrie Vallejo, *DHHS*

**Attendees**

Alice Kunkel  
Rita Bruce  
M Hoppe  
Melissa Meier  
Cathy Wood

**I. Call to Order and Roll Call**

The Advisory Council members convened virtually on Wednesday, November 10, 2021. Chair Wilberg welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m. Daniel Idzikowski, Program and Policy Coordinator for DHHS Division on Aging, took roll call. A quorum was present.

**II. Review and approve the Advisory Council meeting minutes from the October 13, 2021, meeting.**

**MOTION:** To accept the October 13, 2021, Advisory Council meeting minutes.

**ACTION:** Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Jupka, Guskowski seconds)

### III. 2022-2024 Area Aging Plan Review and Approval

DHHS Division on Aging's Program Coordinator Daniel Idzikowski reviewed the final draft of the 2022-2024 Area Aging Plan with the Advisory Council. Chair Wilberg asked for a motion to approve the 2022-2024 Area Aging Plan.

**MOTION:** To recommend approval to the Commission on Aging of the 2022-2024 Area Aging Plan as presented.

**ACTION:** Motion prevailed by unanimous consent (Jupka, Griffith seconds).

### IV. 2022 Aging Advisory Council Focus

**2022-2024 MC AAA Vision Statement and Aging Network Goals:** The Advisory Council discussed the following steps to implement the Aging Network Vision Statement and the Area Aging Plan goals. Chair Wilberg asked the Advisory Council to share their ideas on how to advance the vision statement and goals and particularly to begin addressing structural racism and utilizing the eight dimensions of wellness in their processes. Chair Wilberg asked Council members if they would like to volunteer to develop a scope of work. Chair Wilberg would like the volunteers to meet between now and January 2022 to discuss the specific areas the Advisory Council should focus on during 2022.

The Council discussed the need to reach all generations of older adults and to enhance collaboration with the broader community. The Council must search for new ways to communicate and engage a larger audience. Also, there's a need to educate the younger generation on what it's like to become older and learn how the next generation communicates and obtains their information. One of the ways discussed was the need to start utilizing social media – having a social media presence, including through its public hearings.

Upon request by member Deb Jupka, Bekki Schmitt, DHHS Community Programs Coordinator, discussed an intergenerational project that she is working on to implement intergenerational initiatives as suggested in the area plan with Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) Brown Street Academy and the Clinton Rose Senior Center. The name of this initiative is "Connecting our Generations."

The Advisory Council also discussed the desire to have Milwaukee County's racial equity staff training invite the participation of the Commission on Aging and its committee/council members.

The Chair asked again for volunteers to meet between now and January to flesh out ideas and alternatives. She requested that interested members put their names in the meeting chat box.

**V. Aging Advisory Council Membership**

Idzikowski led the discussion on the Advisory Council's current membership and the process for individuals interested in joining the Council. Idzikowski discussed the categories of representation still needed for the Advisory Council are veterans' healthcare, general healthcare providers, local elected officials, minority groups (Native American Indian community), racial/ethnic diversity (Latino and Asian), and caregivers.

**VI. 2022 Meeting Schedule**

Another suggestion was to utilize members of the Advisory Council to present the 2022-24 Area Aging Plan to the public through a series of public outreach meetings. A discussion regarding a schedule for such outreach was postponed until the State approves the Area Plan and sends it back to the Commission. The Advisory Council also decided to postpone consideration of their regular meeting scheduled until after considering the recommendations for the Council's focus in 2022, which will be presented at their first meeting in 2022 on the second Wednesday of the month, January 12, 2022.

**VII. Announcements**

Idzikowski informed the Advisory Council on accessing the final Area Plan. It can be found on Milwaukee County's website and on the County Legislative Information Center (CLIC) and on DHHS Division on Aging's webpage.

**VIII. Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

The next Advisory Council meeting is at 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 12, 2022, as a virtual meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Vonda Nyang  
Executive Assistant