

**Healthy Aging Partnership
Meeting Minutes
July 24, 2007**

Those attending the meeting were:

Marsha Appleton, Community Services for the Blind and Partially Sited, mappleton@cspss.com
John Barnett, AARP, ybyb1@verizon.net
Dave Broom, Mayor's Office for Seniors
John Deacon, Senior Services, JohnD@seniorservices.org
Cheza Garvin, Public Health Seattle/King County, Cheza.garvin@kingcounty.gov
Lillian Hayashi, Kawabe Memorial House, royhay@verizon.net
Kathy Hultquist, Senior Services, KathyH@seniorservices.org
Cheryl Lau, Evergreen Healthcare, cmlau@evergreenhealthcare.org
Karen Lewis, CHEF, kewis@chef.org
Teresa Moore, HAP, teresam@mooreink.com
Bob Riler, Pierce County Human Services – Aging and Long-term care, briler@co.pierce.wa.us
Celeste Sather, Harborview, Vizmanos@u.washington.edu
Lani Scheman, Jewish Family Services, lscheman@jfsseattle.org
Sheryl Schwartz, UW Health Promotion Research Center, sheryls@u.washington.edu
Linda Wells, King County DCHS/CSD-Aging Program, linda.c.wells@metrokc.gov
Linda Woodall, United Way King County, lwoodall@uwkc.org

Next meeting: August 28, 2007

Facilitator: Cheza Garvin

Agency presentation for July: Harborview Medical Center – Celeste Sather

Financial Report (Karen Lewis – CHEF)

The steering committee is meeting this week to outline a new fund development strategy. HAP finances are dwindling and we need to secure additional funding this calendar year to sustain and grow our work and reach. Partner organizations will be asked this summer to renew their financial support of HAP. Meeting attendees are asked to advocate on HAP's behalf to their decision makers.

Discussion Question (John Barnett – AARP)

Teresa provided an excellent history of HAP's funding. In the earlier years (6-8 years ago) HAP had more financial resources but fewer active partners. Today we have a very active, vibrant and creative group of partners but less financial participation. The group brainstormed ideas that the steering committee will talk about at their meeting this week, including emphasizing how our broad health education and health promotion activities help prevent senior ER visits, and the benefits of asking for *continued* funding from certain agencies instead of one year at a time. A full report will be provided at the next meeting but fund develop activities will begin immediately.

Unveiling of new HAP website (Teresa Moore – HAP)

Our new website was previewed and very well received. The site was focus tested by seniors (thanks to Aging & Disability Services and UW Health Promotion Research Center) and many of their concerns and suggestions were incorporated into the new site. An especially convenient new feature will allow people to register for events right from our web site. Teresa is going to look into some additional questions/suggestions that arose at the meeting:

- Adding links to web tutorials to teach people how to do basic navigation
- The ability for partners and others to donate to HAP online
- Create a page on the HAP Web site that speaks to the importance of advocacy and links people to partner organizations that have legislative agendas

- How to potentially engage volunteers or one volunteer who might serve as a sort of part time program assistant [**Good discussion question for August meeting**]

She encouraged HAP partners to put a link on their organization web site to the new HAP web site.

Report back from Elder Justice Act (John Deacon – Senior Services)

John Barnett recapped his position on this particular act and reported that the HAP steering committee chose not to support it but that the Elder Justice Coalition did. Attendees again reviewed HAP's process for taking positions on public policies that were adopted in May 2004. It states that "any partner member may request that the Healthy Aging Partnership consider a position of support or opposition to proposed local, state or federal policy and legislative issues supporting healthy aging. Such requests will be made to the steering committee, and then considered at a regular HAP monthly meeting." The requested position must be in line with HAP's mission and goals and meet several other criteria. If any HAP partner opposes the position, no action will be taken.

Since many advocacy issues are time sensitive, the steering committee may forward requests for opinions prior to the next scheduled monthly meeting. This would allow for possible action to be taken by HAP and/or individual partner organizations through their own advocacy networks.

Report from July 19 King County Board of Health meeting (Cheza Garvin – Public Health)

Cheza shared that the King County Board of Health did vote to ban all trans-fat products in restaurants in King County. They also mandated that all restaurants with 10 or more locations (not just in King County) must provide nutritional labeling, including total calories, carbohydrate, fat and sugar contents. This advocacy opportunity was not supported by HAP but John Barnett provided testimony and many other advocates spoke in favor of this public health need.

Public awareness efforts:

Teresa Moore handed out copies of one recent HAP article on unique issues that LGBT seniors face. It was published in the Kent Reporter. These monthly articles on healthy aging issues were originally intended to promote the 1-888-4ELDERS number. All are posted on the HAP Web site under "Tips for Healthy Living" and available for use by partner organizations in their newsletters. With the newly-designed Web site, articles will be grouped into categories (nutrition, safety, etc.) so topics are easier to find.

Announcements

Sheryl Schwartz reported that legislation was passed that would allow same sex couples and different sex couples (if one is older than 62) to register as domestic partners and not get penalized and lose necessary state and federal benefits.

Marsha Appleton announced that Kevin Nathan has changed jobs and will be now working with children and families. She will introduce his replacement to the group once hired.

Bob Riler reported that Pierce County and the Puyallup Tribe are hosting a conference on West Nile Virus at the Emerald Queen Casino, August 1, 10:30 a.m. – Noon. The session is free and you receive lunch at a discounted rate. No registration necessary.

Linda Woodall announced that United Way will be awarding grants to support caregivers of older adults. The RFP will be available August 1 and a bidders conference will be held August 13 or 14. Announcements will be made September 25. It was mentioned that perhaps HAP and a partner organization should apply.

Sheryl Schwartz reported that she, Kathy Hultquist, Cheza Garvin and Karen Lewis met with the UW Health Marketing Research Center staff to discuss HAP evaluation efforts. They posed some interesting questions and will soon be choosing community groups to engage with – hopefully HAP will be one!

Reminder: Seattle's Old Timers Picnic is scheduled for August 28 at Woodland Park Zoo.