

Northwest Senior Services Board Meeting Minutes

January 9, 2024

Members Present via Zoom or Telephonically: Carl Bender, Shirley Bennett, Georgiann Dustin, George Edward, Jana Finkbonner, Marshall Gartenlaub, Alberta Horn, Mary Kanter, Bob Monize, Stephen Shubert, Jodi Sipes.

Members Absent: Jennifer Lautenbach, Mike Shaw.

Staff Present: Amanda McDade, Bethany Chamberlin, Jeri Johansen.

Guest: None

Call to Order at 1:02 PM

Review of September 12, 2023, Minutes:

Motion put forward by Georgiann Dustin to accept the minutes from the September 12, 2023, meeting. Motion was granted by Stephen Shubert and seconded by George Edward. **Motion Passed.**

Announcements: None.

Public Comment: None.

Nomination and Vote for Chair: Georgiann Dustin
Board Members Terms Expiring: To be checked in member roster.

Board Members Committees: Review

Overview and discussion of requirements for a vote. Georgiann Dustin nominated. 9 Yeah & 1 Nay

Motion put forward by Georgiann Dustin to accept the nomination and vote for Chair. Motion was granted by Mary Kanter and seconded by Shirley Bennett. **Motion Passed.**

2024 Meeting Dates

Presented, discussed, and noted as follows:

January 9
March 12
May 14
July 9
September 10
November 12

Executive Director Updates

Agency Updates – Review

2024 Budget Overview. Revenue and expenditure discussion and review.

Legislative Priorities. Top three requests are:

- The need for caregivers and the current shortfall, including the impact this can have on case loads for case managers and care coordinators.
- Hunger – Food and Nutrition assistance.
- Increase in Non-Emergent Medical Transport (NEMT) for administrative costs.

Staffing Changes. Approved at the Governing Board meeting for additional Behavioral Health, Contracts Specialist, IT Specialist, and Q&A Training Coordinator.

Clinical Programs Overview

Elizabeth Anderson

Presentation and discussion of Clinical Services including, Behavioral Health, Care Coordination Programs, and Jail Health.

Strategic Plan The 2024-2027 Strategic Plan is on nwrcwa.org. in a slideshow format. Key themes are building long-term care services and support system to meet complex needs, supporting family caregivers and people impacted by dementia, providing information and access, transportation, coordination with tribes, social isolation and loneliness, and diversity and equity.

Break – The decision was made to continue through the break.

Bylaws Overview

Bethany Chamberlin

Deferred to next meeting – or possible special meeting to be set by Bethany. Due to time constraints and a request to review the Bylaws one last time before presenting to the Governing Board.

State Council on Aging Update (SCOA)

Stephen Shubert - Deferred until next meeting.

Georgiann was elected to DAC (Dementia Action Collaborative).

Communities

Bellingham: Whatcom Council on Aging looking for a new building. Jodi met with Pete Nelson, Executive Director of the Blaine Senior Center and was impressed with their community inclusion.

Lynden:

Mount Vernon:

Orcas:

Snohomish/Island Counties: The Center (Senior Center, Oak Harbor) is more community oriented.

Amanda noted that Mt. Vernon ADR staff will be working out of the Camano Island center once a week.


Adjourn: 3:20

A motion was made to adjourn by Georgiann Dustin and seconded by George Edward & Stephen Shubert.
Motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 PM

Jeri Johansen, Administrative Assistant

Reviewed and approved by the Northwest Senior Services Board at the March 12, 2024, meeting.

DocuSigned by:

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Georgiann Dustin, NWSSB, Chair