



Greater Wisconsin Agency on Aging Resources, Inc.

GWAAR BOARD MEETING

Stevens Point, Wisconsin | August 9, 2019 | 9:30 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

MINUTES

Members Present: Members present were Lane Delaney, Wes Martin, Beth Esser, Dave Ostness, Robert Borremans, Miki Bix, Erv Teichmiller, Va Thao

Members Excused: Herschel Ryales

Others Present: Bob Kellerman, Executive Director; Patrick Metz, Fiscal Manager; Janet Zander, Advocacy & Public Policy Coordinator; Cindy Ofstead, Director, Office on Aging, DHS; Michelle Flood, Fiscal Lead for aging and Disability Programs, BADR; Cindy Piotrowski, ADRC Director of Portage County; Kristie Cooley, Nutrition Program Director of Portage County; Rosanna Mazzara, Operations Coordinator

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 9:35 a.m. by Lane Delaney, Chairperson

Review and Approval of Agenda:

There will be some slight adjustments to the agenda:

- Advocacy and Public Policy will follow the Director's Report
- Financial Accounting Strategies will follow Advocacy
- Finance Committee Report will follow Financial Accounting Strategies and then a break for lunch

- There will be no BADR Updates from Sara Koenig as she was unable to attend

Motion by Miki Bix to approve agenda with said adjustments, seconded by Va Thao. Motion unanimously carried.

Review and Approval of the June 21, 2019, Draft Minutes:

Motion by Dave Ostness, seconded by Erv Teichmiller, to approve the June 21, 2019 draft minutes. Motion unanimously carried.

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

GWAAR Updates

Executive Director's Report:

- The National Association of Area Agencies on Aging (n4a) Conference took place on July 26-31 in New Orleans. The prevailing theme in the conference was partnering with healthcare as the future of the ageing network.
- GWAAR received an Aging Achievement Award for work with Sustainable Kitchens to change Portage County's nutrition program from catered to fresh, local foods prepared in an on-site kitchen. This is GWAAR's third Aging Achievement Award from n4a.
- Bob Kellerman was appointed Chair of n4a's Public Policy and Grassroots Committee, one of five n4a Board committees.
- Bob participated in a five-member panel presenting about leadership at a special luncheon for the 2019 graduates and alumni of the n4a Leadership Institute.

- Bob was appointed to a SHIP/AAA/MA Conflict of Interest Workgroup for the Administration for Community Living (ACL). This group will develop policy around the possible conflicts of interest arising from the AAA's contracting with healthcare and Medicare Advantage plans.
- GWAAR received special recognition, along with four other states, from PCHP, a management services organization and business partner with n4a, for our pioneering work around business development in the aging network in 2018.
- The Elder Law and Advocacy Center within GWAAR experienced a few personnel changes this summer. Attorney Scott Sussman, Benefit Specialist Supervising Attorney has left to take a position in the legal department of the Madison VA; Attorney Jessica Trudell, Managing Attorney of the Guardianship Support Center has accepted the legal position with the Wisconsin Board on Aging and Long Term Care. The Title V, Older Worker Program's Madison office has a new Coordinator, Dave Chapman.
- GWAAR received three proposals in response to their RFP to aging units interested in working with our Sustainable Kitchens project in 2020. One will be chosen this Fall.
- The WI Department of Justice has submitted a grant proposal to the Federal Office for Victims of Crime to create an Elder Abuse hotline and has asked GWAAR to operate it if their proposal is funded.
- GWAAR has begun talking about holding a one-day conference this year for the aging network around partnering with health care and health care payors.
- GWAAR is actively recruiting for Advisory Council Members. Please feel free to contact Jayne Mullins (Jayne.Mullins@gwaar.org) or Bob Kellerman (Bob.kellerman@gwaar.org) if you know of anyone that might be interested.

Motion by Wes Martin, seconded by Miki Mix to receive and place on file Executive Director's report.

Advocacy Update:

Janet Zander distributed and discussed a WAAN Advocacy Alert Brief regarding the Older Americans Act. The brief encouraged everyone in the aging network to:

- Ask U.S. Senators, Tammy Baldwin and Ron Johnson to adopt House-approved funding increases for Older Americans Act and other Aging service programs in fiscal year 2020.
- Ask U.S. Senators, Tammy Baldwin, Ron Johnson, and your U.S. Representative to support moving bipartisan reauthorization of the Older Americans Act forward this fall.
- Aging Advocacy day is Tuesday, May 12, 2020 at the Best Western Premier Park Hotel in Madison. The focus will be on what can be done to prevent poverty among older Americans.

A 2019 GWAAR/WAAN legislation tracking sheet was also distributed and some legislative bills discussed were:

- AB 76: Hours of instruction program for nurse's aides
- AB 83: Authorizing creation and implantation of an advance directive registry and granting rule-making authority.
- AB 126: Creating a non-refundable individual income tax credit for certain expenses incurred by a family caregiver to assist a qualified family member.
- AB 132: Electric bicycles and providing a penalty.
- AB 168: The requirement for stating name and address prior to voting.
- AB 242: Establishing a Palliative Care Council.
- AB 246: Voter registration
- AB 247: Absentee voting and voting procedures
- AB 287: Certifications for advance directives and finding of incapacity related to powers of attorney for health care.
- The CARE Act
- Elder Benefit Specialist Support

- Healthy Aging Grants/Fall Prevention
- Long-Term Care Investment Savings Plan
- Silver Alert Fix
- Dementia Coordinator Position at WI DHS
- Capping the cost of a 30-day supply of insulin to \$100
- Prescription Drug Importation

Financial Accounting Strategies:

- Cindy Ofstead, Director, Office on Aging, DHS; and Michelle Flood, Fiscal Lead for Aging and Disability Programs, BADR; addressed the Board about financial accounting and monitoring strategies at GWAAR.
- The State is looking to improve oversight of GWAAR due to the Administration for Community Living (ACL) requiring more accurate state reporting data. In order to do this, it is necessary for GWAAR to improve reporting discontinuities.
- Better alignment of GWAAR's fiscal and program reporting numbers is necessary. Discontinuities and errors in reporting are creating visible errors in federal reporting which could impact future funding dollars. It will be necessary for GWAAR to work more closely with County/Tribal Aging Units to align fiscal and service data.

Finance Committee Report:

- Erv Teichmiller, gave an overview of GWAAR's current fiscal report, along with follow up given by Patrick Metz, Fiscal Manager.

Motion by Miki Bix (subject to audit), second by Wes Martin, to receive and place report on file.

- There was discussion regarding the best strategy to add a new Fiscal position with an audit background.

Motion by Erv Teichmiller to hire an additional fiscal position on a temporary basis until a qualified person is found, and details regarding the final hiring to be referred to the Finance Committee for final approval. Second by Beth Esser. Motion unanimously carried.

- 2019 Audit: Request for Proposals: There was discussion regarding the pros and cons of obtaining a new auditor for GWAAR's 2020 audit.

Motion by Robert Borremans to receive new auditor proposals, second Beth Esser. Motion unanimously carried.

Amended motion by Robert Borremans to receive 3-year contract auditor proposals, seconded by Beth Esser. Motion unanimously carried.

Advisory Committee Report:

Wes Martin, GWAAR Board Vice-Chairperson, had no updates.

Board Development Committee Report:

Wes Martin, GWAAR Board Vice-Chairperson, had no updates.

Portage County's Sustainable Kitchens Updates and Kitchen Tour:

- Cindy Piotrowski and Kristie Cooley gave an overview, update and tour of their newly updated kitchen facility and partnership with Sustainable Kitchens.

Next Meeting Date: October 11, 2019; Portage County ADRC

Adjournment

Rosanna Mazzara, Recorder