

**Aging Advisory Council Meeting**  
Mountainland Association of Governments  
Thursday, January 11, 2018  
1:30 p.m.

**MINUTES**

**Conducting:** Chairman Wright, Summit County Councilmember

**Attending:**

Heath Bateman, Lindon Senior Center  
Gena Bertelsen, Orem Senior Center  
Lyndia Carter, Springville Senior Center  
Marianne Christensen, Senior Companion Program  
Heidi DeMarco, Director, Mountainland Aging & Family Services  
Steve Farrell, Wasatch County Councilmember  
Ashley Fish, Wasatch Senior Center  
Ralph Horne, Utah County Senior Community  
Andrew Jackson, Executive Director, Mountainland Aging & Family Services  
Heather Nalette, Summit County Senior Services  
Grant Parker, American Fork Senior Center  
Jeremy Pehrson, Nutrition Manager, Mountainland Aging & Family Services  
Judy Seegmiller, Caregiver Representative  
Joan Stradling, Information & Referral, Mountainland Aging & Family Services  
Lopini Wolfgramm, United Way  
Glenn Wright, Summit County Councilmember

**Guests:**

Stephanie Benson, Public Relations, Mountainland Aging & Family Services  
Bonnie Lewis, RSVP & SHIP, Mountainland Aging & Family Services

Heidi DeMarco called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm and welcomed everyone in attendance. Ashley Fish offered the opening prayer remarks and Councilmember Glenn Wright led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **2018 Aging Advisory Council Officers – Heidi DeMarco**

Heidi asked that we make an accommodation on the agenda in order to elect a new Chair and Vice-Chair. She commented that Mayor Hadfield has served as Chair for many years and Bill Lee, Utah County Commissioner, has served as Vice-Chair for the past several years. The Aging Advisory Council By-Laws require that both the Chair and Vice-Chair be elected officials. She asked for a nomination of a new Chair and Vice-Chair for the Aging Advisory Council.

**Ashley Fish moved that Glenn Wright, Summit County Councilmember, be appointed as the Chair, and that Steve Farrell, Wasatch County Councilmember, be appointed as Vice-Chair of the Aging Advisory Council. Judy Seegmiller seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

Heidi invited Councilmember Wright, as the new Chair, to conduct the remainder of the meeting.

### **Minutes**

Councilmember Wright asked if there were any comments to the minutes of the November 9th, 2017 meeting, copy provided with the agenda.

**Gina Bertelsen moved that the minutes of the November 9th, 2017 meeting stand approved. Lyndia Carter seconded the motion. The motion was carried.**

### **DISCUSSION & ACTION AGENDA:**

### **2018 Aging Advisory Council Membership – Heidi DeMarco**

A roster of the proposed 2018 Aging Advisory Council Members/Officers was presented to the Council for approval. Heidi noted that the primary change is that Councilmember Danny Goode will no longer serve and Councilmember Steve Farrell will replace him. The changes for Chair and Vice-Chair will be made.

Heidi indicated she is looking for someone from the RSVP Advisory Board to join the Council. Ralph Horne asked that he be allowed to retire as a member of the Council. Heidi and other Board members expressed appreciation for his service.

**Ashley Fish moved and Gina Bertelsen seconded a motion to approve the Council membership with the above-mentioned changes. The motion carried.**

### **2018 Aging Advisory Council Meetings – Heidi DeMarco**

A copy of the proposed 2018 Aging Advisory Meeting Schedule was presented to the Council for approval. Heidi said it is proposed that the meeting schedule be changed to every other month (rather than monthly), acknowledging that everyone is very busy with their respective duties. She invited input from the Council. No additional input was given.

**Ashley Fish moved to approve the 2018 Aging Advisory Meeting Schedule meeting as presented. Gina Bertelsen seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

Heidi indicated that adjustments to the schedule may be needed. She will let everyone know if changes are required.

### **Retired and Senior Volunteer Program – Bonnie Lewis**

Bonnie Lewis, RSVP Program Coordinator, explained that the RSVP Program is a constantly changing program. March 31st will be the end date for our current three-year grant, and we are in the process of writing a new grant for 2018-2021. If we are a successful applicant, the new grant will be implemented April 1, 2018. The federal focus areas for the program are: 1) Capacity Building, 2) Education, 3) Environmental Stewardship, 4) Healthy Futures, 5) Other Community Priorities, and 6) Veterans & Military Families.

Bonnie indicated the requirements for the program have changed.

1. We must target our volunteers to service in one of the focus areas.
2. We can now only count one service area per volunteer, so for those volunteers serving in more than one capacity, we will only count their service in one area. There are 187 volunteers currently serving in focus areas; however, since some of those volunteers are serving in more than one service area, that total number is lower.
3. Performance measures have added requirements for measurable outcomes as a result of the volunteer service, and volunteers must now be involved for at least 3 months in order for the performance outcome to be counted.
4. We will no longer be able to recognize the service of Senior Center volunteers unless they are serving in one of the focus areas.
5. We are looking at adding new volunteer stations that can meet the performance measures and provide outcomes, such as the Utah Valley Rides Program and the Friendly Callers Program.

We currently have more than 475 volunteers in the program, including Senior Center volunteers. Bonnie reported that the RSVP recognition events will be coming up in March. This will be the last year that we will be able to recognize all volunteers that have been serving, including those in community placements, such as the Senior Centers.

We have had some discussions with Senior Centers, and many do recognize the contribution of their volunteers individually. Heidi emphasized that the service provided by these volunteers is valued and appreciated, they are a necessary component to sustaining our Congregate Meal program and other activities in the Senior Centers. Although many senior centers are providing recognition to their volunteers, MAG is willing and able to participate or provide assistance in continuing recognition events for Senior Center Volunteers.

Heidi commented that Bonnie came on board with the RSVP program at the beginning of the 3-year grant and she has done a tremendous job to get the program aligned with new requirements so that we are an eligible applicant to apply for the project.

## **Other Business**

Stephanie Benson, Public Relations Coordinator, provided copies of recent news articles featured in the Daily Herald highlighting several volunteer opportunities in the community. The Golden Angels project (sponsored by the Sub for Santa program), the MOW program and the “Socks for Souls” project (sponsored by the RSVP program) received some great publicity.

Bonnie Lewis indicated that, in recognition of Martin Luther King Day, the RSVP Council came up with the “Socks for Souls” drive as a way for people to provide service in the community. A total of 20,561 pairs of socks have been collected. Socks have been distributed to non-profit organizations including Operation Hope in Park City, Tabitha’s Way, MOW recipients, DCFS, Agape’ Food Pantry, Utah County Security Center, Utah State Hospital, Catholic Charities, Women & Children in CRISIS, HEAT program, as well as other non-profit organizations not mentioned. They have had an amazing outpouring of participants, including families, church groups, schools, etc., and we are thrilled with the outcome.

Stephanie Benson informed the Council of recent changes to the Mountainland website. She noted that we now have an online referral form for our aging services. She showed the Council the process of sending a referral online and said the goal is to get back to the client within one business day. The online referral form went “live” this week, the intent is to get a referral card made as well. Heidi added that we are hoping the online referral option will be helpful for a lot of professionals and working family members who now have an opportunity to reach out to us at any time of day.

Stephanie reported that Mountainland Aging & Family Services will be hosting the “May for Meals” program this year. Elected officials will be invited to participate in delivering meals to seniors during the second week of May. Heidi commented that senior center directors will also be invited to participate in this event.

## **Roundtable Discussions**

Members present reported on activities and events in each of their respective areas as part of the round table discussion.

**Heather Nalette moved and Lyndia Carter seconded a motion to close the meeting. The motion carried.**

The meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm. The next meeting of the Aging Advisory Council will be March 8, 2018, 1:30 pm, at Wasatch County Senior Center, Heber, Utah.