

**AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF PASCO-PINELLAS
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THE MEETING WAS HELD VIA ZOOM
September 13, 2021**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Miriam Benitez-Nixon, (Chair)
Kerry Kimball Marsalek, (Vice Chair)
Barbara Epstein
Beth Aker
Betty Beeler
Eric Gerard
Janet Hooper
Jodi Vosburgh
John Prendergast
Lenny Waugh
Mary Haddon Doyle
Michael Estigo
Nancy Giles
Thomas Barnhorn

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Carole Ware (excused)
Stephanie Doran (excused)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ann Marie Winter, AAAPP
Paula Moore, AAAPP
Virginia Cruz, AAAPP

Agenda Item #1 - Welcome and Introductions

Chair, Miriam Benitez-Nixon called the meeting of September 13, 2021, to order at 1:33 p.m. via zoom video call.

Agenda Item #2 - Roll Call

Ms. Ann Marie Winter, Executive Director, called the roll. A quorum of Advisory Council members was present.

Agenda Item #3 - Consent Agenda

Chair Miriam Benitez-Nixon presented the Consent Agenda which included, Advisory Council Meeting Minutes of July 12, 2021, and Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of June 21, 2021. Ms. Janet Hooper made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Eric Gerard seconded. None opposed, motion carried.

Agenda Item #4 - Items for Discussion from the Consent Agenda

None.

Agenda Item #5 – 2022-2023 Area Plan Contract Module

Ms. Paula Moore, Chief Financial Officer presented the Area Plan Contract Module for the year 2022-2023. Ms. Moore gave a summary of the Area Plan funding allocations by program by County for the 2022-2023 which included (a) C.I.F.AAA, (b) C.I.F. Pasco County (c) C.I.F. Pinellas County and (d) C.I.G. Combined Allocations respectively. There were questions and comments which were addressed by Ms. Paula Moore and Ms. Ann Marie Winter.

Mr. Eric Gerard made a motion to recommend taking the 2022-2023 Area Plan Contract Module as presented to the Board of Directors for approval. Mr. Lenny Waugh seconded. None opposed, motion carried.

Mr. Eric Gerard requested that a glossary of acronyms be attached to documents presented with acronyms for ease of reference for Council members.

Agenda Item #6 – 2020-2022 Area Plan CY2022 Updated Goals and Objectives

In the absence of Mr. Jason Martino, Ms. Ann Marie Winter presented the 2020-2022 Area Plan CY2022 Updated Goals and Objectives and the Summary of Changes. Ms. Winter highlighted the significant changes of the Area Plan. There were questions and comments which Ms. Winter addressed. Ms. Janet Hooper made a motion to approve the 2020-2022 Area Plan, CY2022 Updated Goals and Objectives and submit to DOEA. Mr. John Prendergast seconded. None opposed, the motion was carried.

Agenda Item #7 – Advisory Council Advocacy

Ms. Kerry Kimball Marsalek referred to discussions which were held at the July 12, 2021, Advisory Council meeting on advocacy efforts, the role of the council and agreed to draft guidelines on advocacy initiatives that Council members will undertake. Ms. Marsalek referred to the AAAPP Strategic Plan and recommended that the Advisory Council work within the existing framework of the strategic plan's goals and strategies instead of creating a separate plan. Ms. Marsalek informed that the Board Advocacy Committee was established to work on creating the messaging and the standard of communicating the work of the AAAPP hence the Advisory Council should be part of that initiative and ensure that the Council is effectively connecting with the Board of Directors and staff so that the Council works in the same direction on advocacy issues. Ms. Ann Marie Winter informed the meeting that the next meeting of the Advocacy committee meeting will be held on October 28, 2021 and invited Council to attend to understand the work of the committee. For information only, no action necessary.

Agenda Item #8 – Ms. Miriam Benitez-Nixon, Chair

Chair Miriam Benitez Nixon reported that Ms. Rebecca Yackel informed Ms. Ann Marie Winter that she could no longer serve on the Advisory Council and submitted her resignation. Ms. Yackel represented a Pasco County seat on the Council. Chair Nixon stated that there was now one open seat on the Advisory Council. The Nominating Committee has been advised and discussion about the open seat will take place. Ms. Winter thanked Ms. Yackel for her many years of serving on the Advisory Council.

Agenda Item #9 - Letter from a Caregiver

Chair, Miriam Benitez-Nixon presented a thank you letter that was sent to her by a Caregiver whose family received assistance recently. The family expressed gratitude to the AAAPP and partner agency who assisted the family. For information only, no action necessary.

Agenda Item #10 - Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director reported as follows:

The legislative delegation meeting will be held in person and will not present due to limiting her participation in public gatherings due to Covid-19 however will conduct individual visits, this year the Agency will seek level funding; received allocation for America Rescue Plan dollars, will received additional \$7.7 million over the next three years; hiring a Health and Wellness Coordinator to help manage the Agency's evidence based program; assessing how to expand the U-Connect program to reach more clients; focusing on staff retention strategies with the current very competitive labor market; the AAAPP in preparatory phase for DOEA monitoring scheduled for October 18-21, 2021, invitations will be sent out for the virtual entrance meeting. For information only, no action necessary.