

**AREA AGENCY ON AGING OF PASCO-PINELLAS
ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
THE MEETING WAS HELD VIA ZOOM
March 8, 2021**

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None.

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ann Marie Winter, AAAPP
Kristina Jalazo, AAAPP
Virginia Cruz, AAAPP
Celisa Bonner, Madonna Ptak Center for Alzheimer's Research and Memory Disorders Clinic

Agenda Item #1 - Welcome and Introductions

Chair, Miriam Benitez-Nixon called the meeting of March 8, 2021 to order at 1:31 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 January 11, 2021, Board of Directors Meeting Minutes of January 11, 2021, and Revised Program Monitoring Schedule. Ms. Beth Aker made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Ms. Nancy Giles seconded. None opposed, motion carried.

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

None.

Agenda Item #5 – Guest Presentation

Chair Miriam Nixon welcomed guest presenter Ms. Celisa Bonner LCSW, Madonna Ptak Center for Alzheimer's Research and Memory Disorder Clinic. Ms. Bonner presented the AAAPP/MDC Partnership on Dementia Care and Cure Initiative. In her presentation she highlighted that Florida has the second highest incidence rate of Alzheimer's Disease in the nation with approximately 1,152,00 unpaid caregivers in Florida who care for loves one with ADRD. There are over 580,000 known cases of Alzheimer's in Florida with 16,243 probable cases in Pasco County and 33,951 in Pinellas County. By 2025 it is projected to increase to 720,000 cases. Other areas of the presentation included: fear of stigma; participating DCCI Communities; care and cure; the brain with Alzheimer's disease; 10 early signs and symptoms of Dementia; changes in communication; responses to behavior and what could be done. There were questions and comments. Ms. Winter updated the meeting on the Alzheimer's Disease Initiative services provided by the AAAPP and the support provided by Ms. Bonner and her team at Morton Plant Mease. Ms. Winter thanked Ms. Bonner for her presentation.

Agenda Item #6 - Advisory Council Nominating Committee Report

A. Advisory Council Vacancies

Ms. Ann Marie Winter, Executive Director gave recognition to members of the Nominating Committee namely, Jodi Vosburgh, Barbara Epstein and Mary Haddon-Doyle. Ms. Winter gave a summary of the Committee meeting which was held on February 22, 2021. At that meeting 3 candidates were recommended for election to the Advisory Council for the 2021-2022 term. The candidates are Eric Gerard, Commissioner City of Largo of Pinellas County, Janet Hooper of Pinellas County and John Prendergast of Pasco County.

Ms. Kerry Kimball-Marsalek made a motion to accept the Nominating Committee's recommendation. Ms. Beth Aker seconded the motion. None opposed, motion was carried.

The new candidates were invited to introduce themselves.

B. Advisory Council Officer Position Vacancy

Ms. Ann Marie Winter informed that Ms. Lena Wilfalk has been elected to the AAAPP Board of Directors. Ms. Wilfalk will resign from the AAAPP Advisory Council and step down as the Council's Vice Chair at the end of this meeting. The Nominating Committee recommended that Advisory Council elect Ms. Kerry Kimball Marsalek to succeed Ms. Lena Wilfalk and finish her term as Vice Chair of the AAAPP Advisory Council. Mr. Mike Estigo made a motion to accept the Nominating committee recommendation to elect Ms. Kerry Kimball Marsalek to succeed Ms. Lena Wilfalk and finish her term as Vice Chair of the AAAPP Advisory Council. Mr. Thomas Barnhorn seconded. None opposed, motion carried.

Agenda Item #7 – AAAPP Annual Luncheon 2021

Ms. Ann Marie Winter gave an update on the 2021 AAAPP Annual Luncheon. The luncheon will be a live virtual event on Thursday June 17, 2021 at 11:00 a.m. The event will include a keynote speaker, the Outstanding Humanitarian Award winner, honoring the volunteers of the Agency, the partners and highlight the issues of senior during this Pandemic.

Agenda Item #8 – Executive Director's Report

The Executive Director reported as follows: Annual Report will be out after the board meeting of Monday March 15, 2021; the AAAPP Helpline backlog is down from 14 days to 1 business day; there have been increase in calls for the Covid-19 vaccine from seniors; to help mitigate loneliness among seniors a new program "U-Connected" was created in January, a virtual senior center concept; has been asked to join the City of St Petersburg Food Policy Council; partnering with Community Tampa Bay a local organization that focuses on exclusivity and diversity training for staff; partnering with Social Venture Partners (SVP) of Tampa Bay; AAAPP granted permission

by DOEA to allow AAAPP partner organizations to use funding to transport seniors for Covid-19 testing and vaccination appointments; governor requested that all AAAs conduct survey of all active and waitlisted home bound seniors to assess their interest in being vaccinated.

Agenda Item #9 - Announcements

Chair Nixon announced that the next AAAPP Board of Directors Annual Board meeting will be held on March 15, 2021 at 9:30 a.m.

Agenda Item #10 – Advisory Council members Comments

None.

Agenda Item #11 - Adjourn

There being no further business for discussion, the meeting adjourned at 2:47 p.m.