



TRI-COUNTY AGING CONSORTIUM ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, January 11, 2024, 1:00 PM

Members Present*	Members Absent*	Staff Present
Susan Cockerill	LaSandra Jones	Andrea Radel, Executive Director
Sue Hoffman		Carl Buonodono, Nutrition Director
Zeenat Kotval-Karamchandani		Kate Long, Planning and Program Development Manager
Gloria Kovnot		Kendra Voelz, Volunteer and Outreach Specialist
Phil Kozachik		
Jessica Maas	Members Excused*	Members of the Public
Lucy Maillette	Robyn Ford	Michigan Public Service Commission and Community Outreach, Reka Holley
Susanne Mannino	Ruth Pearson	Michigan Public Service Commission and Community Outreach, Steve Kimbrell
Stephen McCartney	Raul Presas	Michigan Public Service Commission and Community Outreach, Brandy Quinn
Raheema Muhammad	Tonya Randall	
Kelly Neve		
Tom Nobach		
Chelsea Rider		
Barb Smith		
Madelyn “Archi” Tomczyk		
Anita Turner		
Jen Zatkan		

*Please see Attachment 1 for the TCOA Advisory Council 2024 Membership List with member affiliations.

- I. Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order by **G. Kovnot** at 1:01 pm.
- II. Welcome**
- III. Approval of the Agenda for January 11, 2024:** **A. Tomczyk** motioned for approval. **L. Maillette** seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- IV. Approval of the Minutes from November 9, 2023:** **A. Turner** motioned for approval. **A. Tomczyk** seconded the motion with the addition that A. Turner was present. Motion carried.

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V. **Public Comment and Correspondence: K. Voelz** informed the council that TCOA created 2024 wall calendars in celebration of TCOA's 50th Anniversary and invited them to take a copy.

K. Long invited the council to join the TCOA 50th Anniversary Planning Committee. Interested members may reach out to Kate Long or Casey Cooper.

VI. **Executive Director's Report: A. Radel** reported that the federal government is still operating under a continuing resolution (CR.) This keeps the government funded at FY 2023 levels through January 19, 2024. We anticipate an updated Statement of Grant Award notification from ACLS Bureau ahead of that expiration date.

The Area Agencies on Aging Association (4AM) Advocacy Committee in collaboration with the Michigan Senior Advocates Council (MSAC) has established their advocacy priorities for 2024, including:

- A. Direct Care Worker (DCW) Wages
- B. Caregiver Support
- C. Long-Term Care Ombudsman (LTCO) Expansion

Other important advocacy issues include Guardianship legislation, Nutrition Programs funding, MI Choice Waiver rates, and the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act.

The USAging Policy Briefing in Washington DC will be held on March 12 and 13 with TCOA staff in attendance.

VII. **Presentation: Michigan Public Service Commission and Community Outreach, Reka Holley**

R. Holley shared an informational overview presentation about the Michigan Public Service Commission and their Community Outreach efforts. Questions and discussion followed.

VIII. **Old Business**

- A. **G. Kovnot** shared information about a new outreach initiative at TCOA. The goal is to utilize TCOA's new technology in the Community Rooms to expand our reach and promote TCOA as a hub of information for the senior community throughout Clinton, Eaton, and Ingham counties. A meeting to discuss this will be held on Microsoft

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Teams on Friday, February 2 at 10:00 am. All members are welcome to attend.

IX. New Business

- A. **K. Long** shared updates, statistics, and information from the 2023 Semi-Annual Report.
- B. **K. Voelz** reminded the council to complete the Conflict of Interest form and return it to Casey Cooper or Kendra Voelz.

X. Council Reports

- A. **Social Security Administration:** No report.
- B. **Michigan Senior Advocates Council (MSAC):** No report.
- C. **State Advisory Council (SAC):** No report.
- D. **Nutrition Council: C. Buonodono** shared the current number of people being served by the Nutrition Program at TCOA:

Home Delivered Meals – 1,126 participants.

Carry Out Meals – 103 participants.

Congregate Dining – 739 participants.

E. **Transportation Advisory Boards**

CATA: K. Voelz provided the CATA update. Highlights include nine new fixed-route buses, a new radio system, and ridership has continued to increase.

Eatran: K. Voelz provided the Eatran update. There is a new connector service from Charlotte to Delta Township that will begin on January 15, 2024. Staffing at EATRAN is improving significantly and ridership is also increasing.

Clinton Transit: A. Tomczyk shared that the transit has been busy and they continued to do well over the holidays. Clinton Transit has begun to collaborate with CATA and Eatran.

XI. Member's Time and/or Announcements:

The next Advisory Council Meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2024, at 1:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 2:49 PM.

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Attachment 1: TCOA Advisory Council 2024 Membership List

*13 Senior Representatives Appointed by local units of government and
Up to 13 Agency Representatives Appointed by Tri-County Aging Consortium Administrative Board*

Clinton County (2 Total)

Thomas Nobach, *Corresponding Secretary*
Madelyn “Archi” Tomczyk, *Second Vice President*

Eaton County (3 Total)

Susan Hoffman
Ruth Pearson
Barbara Smith

Ingham County (3 Total)

Susan Cockerill
Gloria Kovnot, *President*
Lucy Maillette

City of East Lansing (1 Total)

Kathy Bouchard-Wyant

City of Lansing (4 Total)

LaSandra Jones
Susanne Mannino
Raheema Muhammad
Anita Turner, *First Vice President*

Community Mental Health Older Adult Services

Tonya Randall

Disability Network Capital Area

Phil Kozachik

Ingham/Eaton County DHS

Kelly Neve

Tri-County Nutrition Council

Barbara Smith (Eaton County)

Social Security Administration

Robyn Ford

Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency

Steve McCartney

Maplewood AFC

Raul Presas

Michigan State University

School of Planning, Design and Construction

Zeenat Kotval-Karamchandani, PhD

Legal Services of South-Central Michigan

Jessica Maas

Hospice of Lansing

TBD

Capital Area Housing Partnership

Jen Zatkin/Emma Henry

VACANT (Agency)

VACANT (Agency)

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Attachment 1: TCOA Advisory Council 2024 Membership List, continued

Representatives (non-voting)

Michigan Senior Advocates Council

Mary Ablan

Susan Hoffman

Vacant

State Advisory Council

Robyn Ford

Vacant

Vacant

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