



Area Agency on Aging

**Washington County Task Force  
August 28, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Harold Frakes, Karri Fisher, Kiersten Onanga

**Ex-Officio:**

**Staff:** Harrison March

**Excused:**

**Guests:** Maddie Widmer (Central Park Community Center)

Chair, Harold Frakes, called the meeting to order and attendees introduced themselves.

**Heritage Task Force Training/Orientation**

Harrison March conducted the annual Task Force training/orientation.

**Outreach Update**

1. Harold requested to add Maddie Widmer and her information about the Central Park Community Center as numeral iv under outreach events. Members agreed to allocate time for this purpose.
2. Wellman Day Parade: Elizabeth Koehn was not in attendance at this month's meeting, so no update could be given at this time.
3. Washington Co. Fair: Harold and Eugenia Kendall (of Heritage) attended. Harold reported speaking with about 10 attendees, most of whom were interested in information regarding caregivers. Harold recommended attending this event again next year.
4. Thriving in Life: Harrison reported Eugenia attended the two events in the series that Heritage was invited to. The first night had 25 older adult attendees, while second night (part three of the series) had 45.
5. Karri Fisher recommended attending Latino festivals for future outreach opportunities. Harrison noted that Heritage does not currently have Spanish language outreach materials, but that it has been discussed at Heritage to do so after the brochures are condensed/redesigned. Task Force members noted contacts/family members who are multilingual and could be resources for translation, reviewing documents, etc.
6. Maddie presented an overview of the Community Center, including: history, present efforts, financial situation, efforts to reinstate 501(c)(3) status, and goals/ideas for the future. Harold requested to put further discussion of the Center on next month's agenda and that Tim Getty (of Heritage) attend the meeting to provide input about a potential congregate dining location. Harrison will update the agenda accordingly and check with Tim. Members agreed to host September's meeting at the Center.

**Open Agenda**

Harold shared information about a bill being worked on at the Iowa State House similar to Oregon's "Death with Dignity" law. He offered handouts to raise awareness ahead of the Older Iowans Legislature in September. He disclosed his support at a previous OIL session, but did not make effort to persuade Task Force members' opinions.

Caregiver Wellness Day advertisements were passed out to various members with the goal of placing them in libraries and post offices around the county.



Karri shared an update the Double Up Food Bucks program as it related to the Fareway in Washington. The program is still in its pilot phase with only a few locations, but the head of the program said she would contact the Washington location about potential expansion after the pilot phase. The Washington location also expressed its interest to Karri.

Harold asked if the new homeless shelter had opened in Washington. Karri said that it is ready and provided a contact name – Jen Wideman at Public Health – for those interested in learning more.

Kiersten Onanga requested that an agenda item be added to September's meeting regarding nursing homes. With only a couple minutes left in the meeting, she opted to push it to next month to ensure time for a full discussion of the topic. Harrison will update the agenda accordingly.

### **Next Meeting**

Next meeting is scheduled for September 25, 2019, at 1:00 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Central Park Community Center. Harrison will provide end-of-year outreach data for FY2019, as well as goals for FY2020.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:30 p.m.

### **Submitted By**

Harrison March  
August 29, 2019



Area Agency on Aging

**Washington County Task Force  
September 25, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Karri Fisher, John Greener, Harold Frakes, Kiersten Onanga, Elizabeth Koehn

**Staff:** Harrison March

**Guests:** Talor Gray (Access 2 Independence); Maddie Widmer, Barb Nelson, Ken Widmer, Ken Weaver, Nancy Kimmel and Ruth Howard (Central Park Community Center)

Chair, Harold Frakes, called the meeting to order and attendees introduced themselves.

August 2019 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.

Harold gave a brief overview of Heritage and gave an overview of his goal for the day's discussion: to assess potential partnerships between the Community Center and Heritage.

**Community Center Update**

CPCC President Barb Nelson estimated membership to be around 18-20 people, which is up from before the recent trivia night. Though memberships are up, it is not enough to cover monthly operating costs.

501(c)(3) designation from the IRS was approved since the last meeting. Tax-exempt status does not reduce monthly operating costs, but will save money in the long term on annual and sales taxes.

Harrison March relayed a message from Tim Getty: Heritage is working on pulling pieces together, but started a new nutrition program in Washington will depend on grant and resource timelines. It's taking a little longer than Tim would like, but this is a matter of "when," not "if."

Karri Fisher and CPCC members expressed interest in also exploring a home-delivered meals program in the region. Harrison said that while it's not necessarily out of the question, to his knowledge the current work being done at Heritage relates to a congregate dining program.

Attendance and programming: Kiersten Onanga recommended working with assisted living facilities to get more people in the door. Harold suggested a wintertime indoor market like the one done in Fairfield, Iowa. CPCC can host bingo, but a lack of gambling license doesn't allow attendees to pay admission to the event. Karri recommended pairing an educational event with a community event like a market or resource fair. Advertising costs are often prohibitive with dwindling financial resources. Transportation is a big barrier, but Heritage's Eugenia Kendall will come next month to share more information on available services.

Maddie Widmer would like to create a regular schedule of programming, such as card games on certain days or exercise classes every other week. Beyond costs, time commitments for organizing/leading events are a big obstacle.

Harold suggested targeting groups that might be interested in renting the facility for meetings and events. This may provide access to additional revenue.

**Nursing Homes Transition Presentation**

Kiersten and Talor Gray from Access 2 Independence delivered a presentation on transitioning out of nursing homes. Kiersten said oftentimes residents who are able to live independently face barriers from nursing home staff when trying to transition out of facilities.



Kiersten will provide a copy of the presentation to be shared with the Task Force.

**Outreach Data**

Harrison shared data including: county-by-county populations in Heritage service area, service delivery year-to-date, and service delivery projections for FY2020.

**Open Agenda**

Heritage's Eugenia Kendall will attend the October meeting to deliver a transportation services training.

Heritage offices are closed on the originally scheduled November meeting date (Nov. 27) and Harold is unavailable as well due to the Thanksgiving holiday. A new meeting date for November will be determined at the October meeting.

Elizabeth Koehn reviewed the Older Iowans Legislature 2019 session, including the priority issues adopted by the OIL committee-of-the-whole:

SR 19-01: Elder Abuse Protection

QL 19-03: Adopt an accessibility code for new housing

QL 19-04: Dining Site Innovations

WC 19-05 & 06: Incentives and Strategies to Attract and Retain Healthcare Workforce & Community Colleges to Address Shortage in Iowa's Healthcare Workforce

Karri offered to share copies of the Washington County Public Health Annual Report with anyone interested.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for October 23, 2019, at 1:00 p.m. at Dodici's Coffee Shop.

**Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:40 p.m.

**Submitted By**

Harrison March

September 25, 2019

## Washington Co. Task Force Meeting

### Transportation Discussion

October 23<sup>rd</sup> 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

Participants: Brock Grenis, Nichole Slabach, Harold Frakes, Karri Fisher, John Greener and Kiersten Onanga.

Staff: Eugenia Kendall

- I. Call to order
  - The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m.
- II. Welcome & Introductions
  - Members were welcomed and introductions were made.
- III. September 2019 meeting minutes
  - September minutes were approved as emailed.
- IV. Transportation Training
  - Eugenia explained the reason for having a transportation conversation within the Task Force meeting came from the HCBS – Transportation Focus Group. One of the strategies identified within the Area Plan is to expand or enhance transportation services. The focus group decided to hold a conversation within each county to first share information about existing services and assess for any gaps in service.
  - A handout on how to access transportation options in Washington County was reviewed.
  - Washington Mini Bus is the main option for transportation services within Washington County. Eugenia shared details regarding this service as defined with the 2016-2020 Passenger Transportation Plan.
    - Members have a list of questions for Chris with Washington Mini bus including:
      1. What cities use this service?
      2. How often?
      3. Where are they going?
  - Harold suggested we could create a survey and including it within their utility bill to see what residents transportation needs are.
  - Kiersten highlighted the need for affordable non-emergency medical transportation options to Iowa City. If on Medicaid a person can get Medicaid transportation. However if a person is on Medicare would need to private pay.
  - Karri Fisher brought up an important issue that the contract for the county's critical care ambulance service will be ending this year and the county is exploring options of either

the county or hospital manage the program. The decision will be made within an upcoming Board of Supervisors meeting.

- Brock shared information about funding for public transportation systems in Washington County. He also shared information about Iowa Rideshare that is a statewide ride matching tool available for free online.
- Eugenia shared a resource that highlighted common questions to ask and information to have ready for transportation provider when scheduling a ride. Harold suggested to simplify the tool before it's shared with the public.
- Members discussed the idea of having the county hire a mobility manager to assist residents getting connected with transportation options within their area. Perhaps even contract with Johnson Co. to also cover Washington Co.
- Members would like to continue discussing transportation issues within upcoming meetings.

V. Outreach

- Table until next meeting.

VI. Open Agenda

- Nichole requested ideas for resources/funding for an older couple in their 80's who are in need of replacing their septic system. IowaAble is a loan available for home repairs. Harold suggested a resource called PEO – a women's organization.

VII. Next Meeting

- Eugenia suggested Harrison will contact members to schedule a date to hold the November meeting.

VIII. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 2:15 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Eugenia Kendall

11-15-2019



**Washington County Task Force  
November 19, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Harold Frakes, Elizabeth Koehn

**Excused:** Kiersten Onanga, Karri Fisher

**Staff:** Harrison March

**Guests:** Tim Getty (Heritage), Don Kline, Nichole Slabach, Christine Yancey

Task Force Chair Harold Frakes called the meeting to order and attendees introduced themselves.

October meeting minutes approved. Motion by Elizabeth Koehn, second by Harold Frakes.

**Outreach Opportunities**

Harold asked Harrison March to give an overview of Heritage's outreach goals and how the Task Force fits within those goals. Harrison noted traditional outreach events like resource fairs are great, but we can also think outside the box and find places to promote Heritage. Harold asked Harrison to bring more brochures to the Task Force so the group can work on strategic placement around the county.

Harold requested that Heritage provide service delivery data on a quarterly basis to give the Task Force a better idea of ongoing needs to be addressed. This may help the Task Force focus on future initiatives.

The Central Park Community Center (CPCC) is still needing financial help, so Harold encourage members to think of creative ways to bring people and revenue to the venue. Nichole Slabach recommended looking to similar venues in Kalona and Iowa City, which have implemented successful programming for older adults.

Harrison reviewed the Older Iowans Legislature priority issues and will send out copies for members to have on hand. Harold encouraged attendees to vouch for these issues with any state legislators that are able to connect with.

**Dining Center Pilot Program (Tim Getty)**

Tim, Regional Nutrition Coordinator at Heritage, said implementing a pilot dining program is a matter of "when" and not "if." Heritage must be thoughtful and strategic in its actions while ensuring compliance with all state and local regulations. Heritage's Regional Nutrition Program can change quickly while adapting to needs of older adults and state guidelines, but recent changes also allow for more flexibility in menu writing, programming and encouraging socialization. There are some other dining sites in Washington County, but none that are currently part of the Heritage program.

Christine Yancey said that attendance at the Riverside dining site dropped off when the site switched from meals prepared on-site to off-site. Diners said they preferred the "homemade" quality of the prior meals. She asked if on-site preparation was possible for the future dining location. Tim said either is fine as it pertains to state code, so the difference will be in weighing cost effectiveness, quality of food, the provider's options and other factors.

Harold asked how this project might relate to the CPCC. Tim said the CPCC is a potential location for the pilot program, but location is not yet set in stone. Tim added that the key to success will likely lie in following the "revitalization" model set forth by Encore Café in Marion &



Cedar Rapids. At another location, daily attendance rose from 6/day to 20/day after implementing the principals of Encore Café. It could be a stationary location or follow the pop-up model, but that would be determined based on the data collected in the pilot. Christine noted her support for the choice entrees, salad bar and volunteer service. She said that would help give the location a restaurant-like feeling.

Tim distributed a summary document covering the Encore Express pilot program. Harrison has copies if needed. Tim emphasized that this will be a “pilot” program, so data will need to be collected for several months before justifying a future course of action. Tim set the goal of opening on February 1, 2020, as previous openings during the holiday season have adversely affected rollout. Christine and Nichole asked about locations and if those locations are “paid rent” by Encore Café. Tim said that could be built into the cost per meal, but is not yet determined.

Members and guests unanimously offered their support for the Encore Express pilot program. Next steps include: determining exact funding (Tim will know later this week), determining a good point of contact to keep it moving on track, and developing a marketing strategy. Tim said past marketing successes have come via word of mouth and local newspapers/radio.

Harrison will send out a follow up one-pager for Task Force members to reference and share with community contacts. Harold said he’d like for the Task Force to meet between now and the next scheduled meeting. Next meeting time and location are to-be-determined.

### **Open Agenda**

Harold distributed data from the Iowa Policy Project covering cost of living in Washington County compared with the rest of the state.

Harold created and distributed a “Brighton Transportation Survey” that he hopes could be used to collect information on the transportation needs of the community. Members gave feedback on question wordings and voiced support for developing this tool to address transportation concerns.

### **Next Meeting**

The next meeting is scheduled for February 26, at 1:00 p.m. at Dodici’s Coffee Shop. The group will likely meet before then to coordinate efforts related to Encore Express. There are three ways to add a meeting to the schedule:

- Harold may call a meeting with 5 days written notice to all Task Force members
- three Task Force members may come together to call a meeting with 5 days written notice to all Task Force members
- Harrison can facilitate another online survey to determine the best date/time

### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 3:40 p.m.

### **Submitted By**

Harrison March  
November 21, 2019





Heritage  
Area Agency on Aging  
**Washington County Task Force**  
**February 26, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Harold Frakes, Karri Fisher

**Excused:** Kiersten Onanga, Elizabeth Koehn

**Staff:** Harrison March

**Guests:** Tracy Laws, Don Kline, Christine Yancey

Task Force Chair Harold Frakes called the meeting to order. Attendees made introductions.

November meeting minutes approved unanimously.

### **Heritage Reports**

A. Board of Directors (Harrison): held a retreat in January and considered Executive Director position and Heritage's Mission and Vision statements. Mission and vision may be updated to more accurately reflect Heritage's work. February meeting highlighted by approval of two new members: Dusti Winkie of Benton County (At-Large, replaces Beverly Winkie, who passed away in January) and Stacey Walker of Linn County (Board of Supervisors representative, replaces David Theilen). Harold suggested inviting Washington County Board of Supervisors representative Richard Young to a Task Force meeting. Harrison will reach out.

B. Advisory (Harrison): meets on Feb. 27. Recently worked on Area Plan updates.

C. Advocacy: monitoring bills after first 'funnel' of the legislative session. Harold covered Older Iowans Legislature priority bills. Harrison noted a reauthorization of the Older Americans Act has been proposed and sits in the Senate. The Iowa Association of Area Agencies on Aging has endorsed the bill. Harold requested contact information for senators in case anyone would like to advocate for this bill. Harrison will find this info and share with members.

D. Staff update (Harrison): positions for Information Specialist/Options Counselor and Executive Director are posted.

### **Encore Express**

Harrison distributed an updated Encore Express fact sheet, asking attendees to review and point out information they think is missing. Harold pointed out that it does not say when meal events at the church begin and end.

Christine asked about the freshness of the food served at Express, citing concerns from past programs when food was brought from an outside vendor and diners weren't pleased with freshness. The HyVee in Washington is nearby and will use proper storage and temperature maintenance to counter these, both with hot and cold foods. Christine also asked what number of participants will constitute success and how far in advance diners can pick up vouchers.

Items Harrison will need to ask Tim about, then pass along answers: meal event run time, target participation, how far in advance vouchers can be picked up.

Advertising and marketing suggestions from all present included: diners already eating at Hy-Vee, The News in Kalona, City of Riverside billing inserts, The Clarion in Brighton, local post offices, Casey's, Halcyon House, Presbyterian Home, City of Wellman, Washington Evening Journal and KCI radio. Also recommended to try to get news coverage at the grand opening event.



Harrison will produce a 1/3-page-sized flyer for easy distribution. The flyer and one-pager will be sent for use in spreading the word.

Harold suggested moving the next meeting up to accommodate the timeline. Harrison will send a survey to determine availability.

### **Heritage Outreach Update**

Harrison reported the agency is ahead of pace to meet its FY2020 outreach goals for activities and units. Region-wide data is reported to the Iowa Department on Aging. Heritage goes one step further to breakdown goals based on county populations. In this regard, Washington County goals for the year are met, but efforts will continue regardless.

Upcoming opportunities include the Encore Express launch and Farmers Markets.

### **Open Agenda**

Harold shared a one-page sheet from the VA titled "Tackle the Changes of Aging" and suggested incorporating this page or something similar to distribute at the Encore Express launch.

Christine asked if Heritage has noticed any changes related to 211 since it was centralized to Des Moines. Harrison is not sure if referral data would include insight into this, but will find out.

Harold would like more information on transportation services after the discussion held in October 2019. Costs can be too high for many seniors and some cannot access services because they need help beyond curb-to-curb or door-to-door service. Tracy pointed out that planned, scheduled group rides may help reduce costs, but providers often cannot enter the home due to their certifications or liabilities.

### **Next Meeting**

Scheduled for March 25, 2020, at 1 p.m. at Dodici's Café, but Harrison will send a survey to determine if the group is able to move the meeting up.

### **Adjournment**

Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:06 p.m.

### **Submitted By**

Harrison March  
February 27, 2020



Area Agency on Aging  
**Washington County Task Force**  
**May 27, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Harold Frakes, Karri Fisher, Elizabeth Koehn, Kiersten Onanga

**Staff:** Harrison March

**Guests:** Don Kline, Christine Yancey, Jenna Rider (A2I intern)

Task Force Chair Harold Frakes called the meeting to order at 1:02 pm.

### **Review of Procedure**

Harrison March explained the makeup of the Advisory Council and the allotment for a certain number of representatives from each county based on population size. Washington County currently has two positions on the Council, one of which is held by Elizabeth Koehn. The Council meets monthly and advises Heritage AAA management on administration of the area plan and the many facets that encompasses.

Elizabeth shared concern regarding her role on the Council, specifically feeling she did not have adequate time to make comments during meetings. She would like to consider finding a representative who can participate more actively, as she's unsure where she fits in on the Council. Harrison noted he doesn't attend Council meetings and can't speak to the specifics, but said members are serving in voluntary and advisory roles so there is no defined expectation on how often someone comments on a particular topic. He offered to share the bylaws, which explicitly state the purpose of the Council and may help clarify. Elizabeth said she'd like to learn more about those and the three groups of consumers Heritage serves, so she and Harrison will set up a time for a 1:1 phone call.

### **Advisory Council Appointments**

Harrison opened the floor to nominations for Washington County's one open position on Advisory Council. There being no nominations at this time, Harold asked members to think about it leading up to next month's meeting. In the meantime, he requested Harrison send the bylaws to all Task Force members to reference as they consider nominations. He asked if Advisory Council meetings are being held via Zoom/conference call like the Task Force meetings. Harrison confirmed that they are and Kiersten Onanga added that Access2Independence is doing the same.

### **Officer Elections**

Harold shared his intention to step down as Chair of the Task Force due to concerns about the future of the Encore Express project and his ability to attend future meetings in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. He was looking forward to the Encore Express project, but has a hard time seeing a way forward at this time. He encouraged Elizabeth, Task Force Vice-Chair, to ascend to Chair. Elizabeth said she would consider it, but is unsure at this time due to the time commitment. More discussion will be had in the June meeting.

Harrison updated the group on the Encore Express project. It cannot proceed at this time due to crisis response and because it falls into two categories under restrictions by the governor: a restaurant and a senior center. Though restaurants have some restrictions lessened, senior centers are still closed. Heritage still plans to open the site in the future, but the timeline is on hold at least until such a gathering is legal and possibly beyond then based on serving the interest of public health.



Elizabeth asked about the status of farmers markets this summer. Harrison said Heritage will once again be a distributor of the Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program (SFMNP), but he received an update shortly before the meeting and hadn't had a chance to read it yet. Elizabeth followed up specifically on the Washington Farmers Market. Harold said it will be open, but in a different form than past years.

Harold asked how the SFMNP can be promoted in the county. Harrison said a press release will be drafted for local newspaper, radio and TV. Heritage can also contact previous participants via the information they provided in past years.

### **Questions Regarding Heritage/Open Agenda**

Harold asked about operations at other programs represented by the attendees. Kiersten reported that Access2Independence (A2I) is working remotely. A2I received some funds that connect consumers with technology that can help combat social isolation, but setting them up can be a challenge when she's not there to help the person navigate the new technology. A2I also received CARES Act funds to assess food insecurity for home-bound consumers. They collaborate with HACAP to administer that service.

Harold asked Karri Fisher for an update from Washington County Public Health. Karri said about two-thirds of staff are working from home and direct care staff are still doing home visits with protective gear and extreme caution. Interaction with new clients requires isolation gear.

Harold asked if Public Health has COVID-19 tests available. Karri said they recommend the Test Iowa service as a starting point for those seeking to be tested. Public Health doesn't have tests on-hand, but practitioners around the county do. Some clinics have been restructured to address needs, including one that now serves as a respiratory clinic. Clinics have seen an increase in telehealth usage and are screening patients by visiting their car in the parking lot before entering the building. Most calls are about connecting with local doctors.

Harold asked if Heritage has seen a change in call volume from Washington County. Harrison doesn't have access to that information, but will ask Eugenia Kendall (Heritage AAA staff) to pull that data. Harold asked how Heritage can promote services in the county and recommended KCII radio as a popular medium among older adults. Harrison will make sure KCII remains on the media contact list, especially with upcoming information on the SFMNP.

Christine Yancey offered to help in Riverside, saying she can help include Heritage info with the monthly newsletter. Harold asked Harrison to make a one-page resource including SFMNP and general Heritage info for Christine and for other members to use.

Kiersten noted that A2I is also active in the county and is available for referrals.

Harold thanked attendees for their time and encouraged Jenna to join again next month. He requested an application for Task Force membership be sent to Don Kline and other non-members who attend regularly.

### **Next Meeting**

Scheduled for June 24, 2020, at 1 p.m. on Zoom/conference call.

### **Submitted By**

Harrison March  
May 28, 2020



**Washington County Task Force**  
**June 24, 2020 Meeting Minutes**

**Present:** Harold Frakes, Liz Koehn, Kiersten Onanga, Don Kline

**Staff:** Harrison March

**Guests:** Jenna Rider (A2I intern)

Task Force Chair Harold Frakes called the meeting to order at 1:05 pm.

### **Review of Meeting Minutes**

Harrison March asked for a motion to amend or approve the minutes of the Task Force's two prior meetings in February and May 2020. Harold motioned to approve both, Kiersten Onanga second. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Officer Elections**

In the May 2020 meeting, members chose to delay election of a Task Force Chair to the June meeting, allowing for members to consider potential nominees. Harrison opened the floor to discussion and nominations.

Kiersten shared her preference to have a Washington County resident serve as Chair, as the Task Force has members who live outside the county but work with clients in the county. She felt this is a logical approach to having residents represented in the group.

Harold nominated Liz Koehn for the Chair position, which Liz accepted. Harrison asked for a vote from members present. Liz was elected unanimously as FY2021 Chair.

Harrison asked for nominations to the Secretary position. There being none, Harrison will continue performing the duties of Secretary in FY2021.

### **FY2021 Meeting Schedule**

As the calendar turns to FY2021 in July, Harrison asked if members would like to repeat the FY2020 schedule or make any changes.

Kiersten asked if the Task Force could add a meeting back to January and hold it via Zoom. The main reasons this month was skipped in FY20 were people out of town in the winter and potentially hazardous driving conditions. Since the group is now using Zoom regularly, this could be helpful in coordinating a January meeting. Liz, Don Kline and Harold all agreed that Zoom has worked well thus far. Harold added that with the uncertainty of events outside the home, it's at least good to stay in touch with everyone in the group.

Liz asked for how long Heritage plans on holding meetings via Zoom. Harrison said it's likely for the next couple of months, but will have a specific directive from Heritage management soon. He will share it with the group via email by the end of the week. Harold and Liz both noted they're unlikely to attend in-person meetings or events until they can receive a vaccination.

Members agreed to amend the FY2021 meeting schedule to include a January 2021 meeting. Harrison will send the master schedule, a contact list and the decision about in-person meetings via email later this week.

### **Caregiver Wellness Series**

Harrison updated the Task Force on plans for Caregiver Wellness Day. The in-person event is



canceled for 2020 due to COVID-19, but the planning committee has partnered with the Caregiver Action Team at Johnson County Livable Community to produce a series of webinars. Each webinar will feature a keynote speaker similar to what would be at the regular event, as well as a short presentation on community resources to support caregivers and their care recipients. There will be one webinar per month from July to November.

Harold asked Harrison to share the flyer with him so he can distribute via the library's book pickups. Don and Liz also asked for copies of the flyer to share, so Harrison will send it to the group when details are finalized. Liz requested hard copies, which Harrison will mail to her.

### **Open Agenda / Community Updates**

Kiersten reported that Access2Independence is in more of an emergency response mode as clients continue working through the challenges posed by COVID-19. With elections coming up in November, they'll be doing a lot of work helping individuals register if they wish.

Harold reported seeing Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program sign ups at the farmers' market, as well as hearing about it on KCII radio.

Harold shared that Ron Jerome, Older Iowans Legislature Secretary, announced the 2020 session will be held virtually via Zoom. Harrison will forward the details Ron provided, as well as any future news about specifics such as registration.

Kiersten noted a key focus for OIL and the state legislature in the upcoming year may be transitions out of long-term care facilities (LCTF) to individual homes. With COVID-19 outbreaks hitting several LTCFs in Iowa, it's likely that residents may want to move out and supporting this has been a consideration with the CARES Act. Liz asked where in Iowa they are piloting these transition programs. Kiersten said it is somewhere in northwest Iowa and they are using an MFP (Money Follows the Person) model.

Harold asked if Heritage's new Executive Director, Barb Werning, may be interested in joining a Task Force Zoom call to learn about the group. Harrison will ask Barb about this when he's able to meet with her after her July 1 start.

Liz shared she feels "at a loss" about new projects to take up during COVID-19 due to restrictions and advisements against gatherings. Harrison said he wants to support the passions of the group, so long as they fall under the Heritage umbrella. If members are passionate about a certain issue, this should be a priority. If no particular issues emerge, Harrison can provide service data that may help identify 'gaps' between actual services delivered and what would be expected based on population size and certain demographics. Harrison will work with Eugenia to get FY2020 data prepared and sent to the Task Force for the August meeting.

Don recommended advertising Heritage via facemasks, as they could be both practical and promotional. Harrison will talk to his vendor contacts about what might be available.

### **Adjournment & Next Meeting**

The meeting adjourned at 1:48 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for August 26, 2020, at 1 p.m. on Zoom/conference call.

### **Submitted By**

Harrison March  
June 25, 2020