

Johnson County Task Force Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 14, 2020 – Zoom Meeting

Present: Angi Roemerman, Pat Heiden, Bob Welsh, Jeff Kellbach, Lindsay Glynn, Ed Dunbar, Larry Kudej, Megan Stroback attended on behalf of Access to Independence.

Excused: Eve Casserly, Kiersten Onanga

Agency Representative: Harrison March

Angi Roemerman started the meeting.

June Meeting minutes were approved. Motion by Pat Heiden, second by Bob Welsh.

Community Updates

Harrison thanked everyone for their flexibility as the Derecho hit ten minutes after the previous meeting was supposed to begin. Cedar Rapids has a lot of work to do before recovery is complete. They are receiving more information from Benton County needing assistance with rural buildings and farm equipment. Volunteers are also experiencing, in addition to individuals served, which has had an impact. Heritage to completing wellness checks and checking on most vulnerable and working on getting back to pre-storm normal.

Harrison presented FY2021 Task Force Orientation

Key Points

- Older adults want to stay at home and in their own community and will eventually need assistance in order to do so.
- Heritage, one of 600 AAAs nationwide, serves older adults, those with disabilities, family caregivers by providing support, funding, information & referral and advocacy in Benton, Linn, Iowa, Johnson, Jones, Cedar and Washington counties.
- Heritage's Mission: Provides leadership, advocacy and innovative services that improve the quality of life for older adults and individuals with disabilities and family caregivers.
- Heritage's Vision: Our service region is where optimal aging happens.
- Task forces meet to discuss priorities, local needs, strengths and available services which are then shared with the advisory council which is then shared with Heritage management and the Board of Directors.
- Tasks forces are focused more by area needs whereas Focus Groups are focused more on specific topics (e.g. transportation, nutrition, etc.).
- Task force members shall complete Conflict of Interest and Volunteer MOU (being mailed soon)
- Meeting calendar was sent in June, meetings will be via Zoom through 2020
- Call or email Harrison March if you need anything throughout your involvement in the Johnson County Task Force

FY2020 Service Data

The goal of gathering and sharing data is to communicate and explore areas of growth, need, and gaps. Data was reviewed by task force. Areas of discussion included:

- 274 individuals received home delivered nutrition.
- Caregiver Case Management provides information and referral to Caregivers for greater than 90 days.

- Supplemental Services consists of typically providing funding for the purchase of supplies. It tends to vary. This area tends to be slightly more difficult to secure funding for.
- Health Promotion: Evidence Based includes Tai-Chi, Matter of Balance, etc. Because they have been online, these numbers have been lower.
- Adult Day numbers were discussed. Only 9 people were served and only attended 55 days. A conversation was had about numbers in adult day being much higher but that only a small portion qualify for Heritage funding as they receive funding through Johnson County, East Central Region or Medicaid.
- Harrison mentioned that they data may not necessarily reflect where the need is.
- Only 460 congregate meals were served. Congregate dining are meals that are served in a group setting which is impacted by the pandemic.
- EAPA stands for Elder Abuse Protection and Awareness.
- Jeff reported that some needs that he is seeing include assistance with moving and scenarios involving hoarding.
- Lindsay Glynn mentioned that while numbers may be low in areas that are not highlighted it may not necessarily expose them as higher level of need, but an exploratory conversation may need to be had to see what other organizations are providing that service.
- Jeff Kellbach noted that areas highlighted in yellow may be areas that other organization cannot provide which may lead the group to want to focus more on these.
- Megan Stroback asked if Heritage has seen an increase in Elder Abuse since the onset of COVID-19. A group conversation took place regarding to the overall increase but the barriers in having accurate numbers in data.

Open Agenda

Larry provided an update on the upcoming virtual OIL meeting. Invitations were sent out last week, hopefully everyone has received them. The meeting is on Monday, September 28. Registrations and annual memberships are currently being taken. Linda Miller and the Governor have been invited to speak. It starts at 9:15 a.m. and should be over by noon. The structure is a little bit different but should be relatively straight forward. Key issues include housing, elder abuse, workforce concerns and the long-term care ombudsman program. If you are interested in attending but have not received your invitation you can email Larry. Eugenia Kendall, Angi Roemerman, Barb Werning, Larry Kudej, Bob Welsh and Lindsay Glynn are planning on attending. 5 Area Agency on Aging Directors across the state will also be attending.

Eve Casserly needs to resign from the task force due to personal reasons. The group discussed potential replacements for her. Harrison stated that a committee shall be formed in order continue that discussion and that he will be speaking with Eve to clarify with her on whether she is able to continue with the Advisory Committee. Bob Welsh mentioned that Lynn Cannon has regularly attended Advisory Council meetings. Angi stated that she is willing to serve as Chair but wants to follow appropriate protocol.

Motion by Larry Kudej to adjourn, second by Pat Heiden. Meeting adjourned at 2:07 p.m.

Johnson County Task Force Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 12, 2020 – Zoom Meeting

Present: Angi Roemerman, Pat Heiden, Bob Welsh, Jeff Kellbach, Lindsay Glynn, Lynne Cannon
Agency Representative: Harrison March

Angi Roemerman started the meeting.

September Meeting minutes were approved. Motion by Pat Heiden, second by Bob Welsh.

Community Updates

- Harrison explained to the group that Heritage staff continue to work remotely.
- Falls Prevention Week was in late September. Resources are available on the website. If you need any printed off resources let Harrison know.
- Caregiver Wellness Webinar, Part III is tomorrow at 1 p.m. It will be Live on Zoom and on Facebook. A recording will be on the Heritage website. Pam Railsback will be speaking about long term care options and Abbie Weirather will be speaking from the Mercy Caregiver Center.
- Jeff Kellbach announced that the Livable Communities Housing Webinar will be at noon, live on Facebook and Zoom, on October 14. The topic is gadgets that make life easier.
- Jeff Kellbach hosted a meeting this morning with Johnson County Public Health and senior service professionals to talk about older adults needs in the community, particularly during COVID-19. This group identified that social isolation is an area of concern. The group will continue to work on connecting resources to address social isolation and getting these resources out into the community. The next meeting will be October 26 to create plan of action.
- Pat Heiden reported that early voting is taking place. It's very convenient and is located outside of the County Administration building. You can also drop off completed ballots. You can go to the Secretary of State's website to track your ballot. If you have any concerns after looking, you can contact the Johnson County Auditor.

Heritage AAA Area Plan update

- The Heritage Service Needs Ranking form is currently being distributed. It gives stakeholders and community members the opportunity to communicate top needs in the community.
- Harrison encouraged everyone to attend November's Johnson County Task Force meeting as Eugenia Kendall, other key stakeholders will be in attendance to talk more about the Service Needs Ranking form.
- Bob Welsh mentioned that 60+ is a pretty broad age range and that in the future it may need to be broken down a little bit more.

Task Force Vacancies

- Task force roles were discussed as Eve Casserly was not able to continue as Chair.
- Bob Welsh nominated Angi Roemerman as Chair and Lindsay Glynn as Vice Chair. This motion was seconded by Pat Heiden. All were in favor.
- Bob Welsh nominated Lynne Cannon as an Advisory Council attendee. This motion was seconded by Pat Heiden. All were in favor.

Older Iowans Legislature 2020

Key Points

Three major bills were discussed at the Older Iowan Legislature meeting. One on elder protection, which passed the Senate last year but did not pass the House. The second one is in relation to housing- The Livable Housing Program bill. The third one is regarding financial support for the ombudsmen program and higher pay for direct care workers. Bob Welsh stated that people will need to contact leaders in the House and Senate advocate for these workers. Larry Kudej was nominated as the Chair of OIL. Harrison reminded the Task Force that December has historically been targeted as the month to invite legislative panelists to talk about older adult issues at a forum. The group discussed whether this is something that we would like to do. Angi Roemerman brought up doing something virtually. This will be brought up in November to gauge interest.

Open Agenda

No additional comments.

Motion by Angi Roemerman to adjourn, second by Pat Heiden. Meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Johnson County Task Force Meeting Minutes

Monday, Nov 9, 2020 – Zoom Meeting

Present: Bob Welsh, Angi Roemerman, Larry Kudej, Lynne Cannon, Jeff Kellbach, LaTasha DeLoach, Tom Brase, Ed Dunbar

Guests: Rose Rennekamp, Eran Roseman, Michelle Buhman, Sarah Martinez, Megan Stroback

Heritage AAA Staff: Eugenia Kendall, Barbara Werning, Ann Neville, Drew Floyd

Excused: Eve Casserly, Pat Heiden

Angi Roemerman started the meeting.

October Meeting minutes were approved. Motion by Lindsay Glynn, second by Larry Kudej.

Heritage Area Plan Discussion

- Barbara Werning and Eugenia Kendall provided background information on the agency and the Area Plan's process and purpose. Eugenia reviewed the results of the Service Needs Ranking Form sent by the agency in October. Results from this survey can be viewed in the presentation slides sent prior to the meeting.
- Barbara asked for examples, insights, etc. as to why certain services ranked higher than others within the county
 - Bob Welsh said he thinks Options Counseling is the most important service because it helps consumers understand how their needs can be met. Options Counseling can open the door to other services at Heritage and other organizations. The most common question he hears from others addresses exactly this.
 - Rose Rennekamp said Options Counseling higher on the list as well and would be curious to see an online tool that can help with this kind of service. She lives in a rural part of the county and hears most about meals, transportation and chore needs.
 - Regarding awareness of Options Counseling services, a few members present said there is plenty of room to grow. More people need to know the service is just a phone call away.
 - Sarah Martinez pointed out a benefit of phone calls with consumers over online research tools: the phone call allows the agency to assess consumer eligibility and talk through other potential concerns.
 - Eugenia talked about how LifeLong Links offers a geo-routed 800-number that directs calls to local AAAs. The online database serves some of the mentioned ideas as well.
 - Sarah recommended including a line about Options Counseling and the number to call on every service page on the Heritage website.
 - Larry would like to see a statewide effort to market AAA services to the general public led by i4a or IDA.
 - Bob and Lynne Cannon made recommendations for gathering more responses for this survey and for future similar efforts.
 - Drew Floyd said he was surprised to see transportation ranked so highly given the number of services available. He also ranked Homemaker services highly due to the cost of what's currently available. Some of his consumers simply cannot afford the service at the rate they need it. Megan Stroback and Ann Neville echoed the concern for Homemaker services.

- Regarding the free response “Top-of-Mind” issues for each consumer group, input included:
 - Sarah said Material Aid has been especially important during the COVID-19 pandemic.
 - Lindsay Glynn noted the distinction between the quantity of transportation services and the ease of accessing them. There are discrepancies for access between rural vs urban consumers and older vs younger consumers.
- Barbara asked the group for observations on how COVID-19 has affected services and needs
 - Bob shared three thoughts: 1) there is a shortage of direct care workers statewide, 2) there are no standards of care for in-home services and 3) there can be more emphasis on the importance of exercise to maintain physical health.
 - Rose said her friends who are caregivers are more fearful of in-home and out-of-home respite services due to the pandemic, which is taking a toll on those caregivers. Sarah said that, unfortunately, counseling and support groups are some of the first things to go when a caregiver starts to get overwhelmed. Sarah suggested calling caregivers directly to ask about services/support that will help the caregivers have a less-full plate.
 - LaTasha DeLoach offered to share a survey with similar questions that she worked on with the University of Iowa Public Policy Center before the pandemic. The Center has seen more concern around social isolation and loneliness during shutdowns.

Eugenia reviewed the Focus Groups she and Heritage staff host that keep similar discussions going year-round. Contact information was provided for interested members.

Forums Committee

Task Force Chair Angi Roemerman asked members for opinions on the status of the forums committee. Due to lack of in-person events and Task Force membership changes, the forums committee has been inactive for several months.

Larry said in his experience the Chair has worked on inviting members, but that was for in-person events. This year’s event would need to be via Zoom with details on the Heritage AAA account to be determined. Angi will reach out to Bob and Larry regarding setting this up and inviting the legislators.

Community Updates Related to Older Adults

Eugenia shared that Bryan Bruner, Heritage’s Health & Wellness Coordinator, will start a new tai chi class via Facebook Live next week. Classes are Tuesday afternoons.

LaTasha reported The Center is being remodeled. They have a survey available regarding the plans of the remodel so the public can offer input. The survey is available on their website.

Jeff Kellbach shared that Johnson County Livable Community will host a webinar on Holiday Coping Strategies. A flyer will be distributed when finalized.

Open Agenda

No additional comments.

Motion by Ed Dunbar to adjourn, second by Lynne Cannon. Meeting adjourned at approximately 2:20 p.m.

Johnson County Task Force Meeting Minutes

Monday, Dec 14, 2020 – Zoom Meeting

Present: Angi Roemerman, Larry Kudej, Jeff Kellbach, Pat Heiden, Lindsay Glynn, Bob Welsh, LaTasha DeLoach, Sofia Mehaffey, Tom Brase, Lynne Cannon
Heritage AAA Staff: Harrison March

Angi Roemerman called the meeting to order.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Larry Kudej motioned to approve the November 2020 minutes as presented. Pat Hedien second. Passed unanimously.

Community Updates Related to Older Adults

Harrison March, Heritage AAA

- The Caregiver Wellness Series concluded last week and the full archive of the series is available on the Heritage website. Thanks to the Caregiver Action Team at Livable Community for helping plan the series and secure speakers.
- Heritage will share COVID vaccine information for older adults on its website, but for all questions and medical advice seniors are encouraged to contact their doctor or local public health office.

LaTasha DeLoach, Senior Center

- Received more than 100 responses to the building survey for The Center. There will be a public presentation on the matter in early January – details will be sent to Harrison for sharing with the group. All programs still virtual. Bob Welsh commended the virtual programming The Center has put on during the pandemic.

Pat Heiden, Board of Supervisors

- Johnson County's mask proclamation was extended to Jan. 15. Johnson County Public Health is busy with vaccine coordination. Bob asked if President-Elect Joe Biden's anticipated 100-day mask mandate would be supported by the Board of Supervisors. Pat cannot speak for other Supervisors, but generally the Board has been in sync with guidance on mask wearing and other mitigation efforts from the state and federal level.

Senior Social Isolation Concerns

Jeff Kellbach shared an update on a group that has started meeting to discuss social isolation concerns for older adults in the county. Through a few meetings so far it's become clear that it's a big undertaking perhaps more appropriate for a whole new program rather than patchwork services. Some big picture questions remain: how to plan for handling the issue, how many people it'll reach, and what past or nearby examples can be followed.

Bob suggested GrandPads as a technological tool for connecting with isolated seniors. GrandPads are essentially trimmed down tablets that connect seniors with their family, doctors and games. Some Area Agencies on Aging in Iowa have access to these and he believes they could also gather local support.

The group's next meeting is in January. Next steps and the group's setup will be determined.

Forums Discussion

Angi Roemerman asked the group for ideas/topics for future forums. Discussion included:

- Larry Kudej noted hearing a lot about scams recently and that this topic generated interest in the past.
- Potential speakers could come from Heritage AAA, local police departments, the Better Business Bureau and phone companies.
- Recording this forum for wider distribution after the event

February 8 was determined to be a good date, as it provides some programming to entertain and inform those staying inside due to winter weather. Larry recommended a panel/webinar approach over a normal meeting setup via Zoom. Angi will reach out to members in the coming weeks to coordinate this forum.

Bob suggested a program in January or February regarding vaccine status and updates. Jeff noted an event on this topic is planned for Jan. 14, so he'll be promoting this in the coming weeks.

Open Agenda

Bob asked how the Task Force can help with the next steps in the Area Plan. Harrison said there is a public hearing scheduled for Jan. 20 via Zoom – he will send details in a follow up communication.

Motion by Bob to adjourn, Lynne second. Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:40 p.m.

Johnson County Task Force Meeting Minutes

Monday, Feb 2, 2021 – Zoom Meeting

Present: Angi Roemerman, Larry Kudej, Jeff Kellbach, Pat Heiden, Lindsay Glynn, Bob Welsh, LaTasha DeLoach

Guest: Kiersten Onanga (Access2Independence)

Heritage AAA Staff: Harrison March

Angi Roemerman called the meeting to order.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Ed Dunbar motioned to approve the minutes as presented, Lindsay Glynn second. Motion to approve the minutes passed.

Community Updates Related to Older Adults

Pat Heiden, Board of Supervisors

- Johnson County's mask proclamation remains in effect until Feb. 18 despite the lifting of the state's mask requirements last week. Next week's Supervisors agenda will include possible extension of the local proclamation. Bob Welsh voiced his support for extension.

Harrison March, Heritage AAA

- Amid Gov. Reynolds' announcements last week was Area Agencies on Aging and their roles in helping seniors with vaccines and appointment transportation. Harrison clarified Heritage's role at this time, which includes helping older adults connect with their local providers. Heritage staff cannot schedule appointments on behalf of the consumer except for in very limited contexts in which the consumer has no other means of doing so. The agency's role may change in the coming weeks and months as does vaccine rollout.

Transitions & Diversions Program – Access2Independence

Kiersten Onanga presented to the group about her new transitions program at A2I, helping people living in care facilities transition back into their home setting. Information included:

- Comparing the Medical Model and Social Model philosophies for assessing a person and their living environment
- Some ways people come to live in long-term care but later are ready to move out
- The funding process for resources and services upon exiting long-term care
- Services A2I provides that help with the transition
- Qualifications for A2I services

Harrison will send a copy of Kiersten's presentation and a flyer for her program to all members after the meeting.

Forums Update

Angi shared that a forum has been scheduled for March 8, 2021, at 2 p.m. Bobby Hansen from the Better Business Bureau will discuss scams and fraud concerns during the COVID pandemic. She will ask Bobby about potentially recording the forum for further distribution after the event.

Bob asked about plans to advertise the forum. Angi will reach out to local newspapers and develop a flyer that will be shared through Johnson County Livable Community, the senior center and Heritage AAA.

Open Agenda

Larry Kudej provided an Older Iowans Legislature update:

- Top priority remains elder abuse legislation, which has had three similar bills presented this session. One is from a Republican, which gives OIL hopes for passage due to the party's majority in both chambers. More advocacy is to come on this front.
- A bill regarding caregivers was filed today, but it hasn't been reviewed by OIL yet.
- New bills have been presented regarding the State Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman. OIL is waiting to hear more from SOLTCO before proceeding on these.

Bob Welsh added one more bill has been presented concerning livable homes. It seeks funding from the state's reserves to support a new program for older adults' and home modifications.

Adjournment

Larry motioned to adjourn the meeting, Bob Welsh second. Meeting adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

Submitted Feb 8, 2021

Harrison March, Heritage AAA

Johnson County Task Force Meeting Minutes

Monday, March 8, 2021 – Zoom Meeting

Present: Angi Roemerman, Larry Kudej, Jeff Kellbach, Pat Heiden, Lindsay Glynn, Bob Welsh, Lynne Cannon, Ed Dunbar

Guest: Megan Stroback (Access2Independence)

Heritage AAA Staff: Harrison March

Angi Roemerman called the meeting to order.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Pat Heiden motioned to approved February 2020 meeting minutes as presented. Larry Kudej second. Motion passed.

Community Updates Related to Older Adults

Harrison March, Heritage AAA

- Heritage AAA is hiring a Data Project Specialist. Details and application instructions can be found on the agency website. This position is replacing Mike Chapman, who will retire this summer.
- 2-1-1 Vaccine Navigators are slated to be available starting tomorrow (March 9) to assist older adults who cannot access the internet or navigate vaccine sign up processes. If 2-1-1 doesn't connect on a call, they also have a toll-free number: 800-244-7431

Jeff Kellbach, Johnson County Livable Community

- A small clinic is planned for Thursday led by the Senior Center. There may be upcoming clinics for the Phase 1C population, but there are no details to share yet.
- Larry asked if Johnson & Johnson vaccines have helped the local supply yet. Jeff said not at this time, as allocations for J&J are around 100.

OIL Updates

Larry provided updates from the Older Iowans Legislature:

- The funnel deadline recently passed and several bills of interest to OIL remain alive
- Elder abuse bill (SF 522) is out of committee and needs to get on the Senate calendar. OIL is identifying potential champions of this bill in the House to avoid a stall in support like last year.
- Multiple bills address appropriations for the Long-Term Care Ombudsman (HF 474, SF 200). LTCO proposed \$250,000 budget need, but OIL is following up to determine what all goes into that figure.
- Rep. Bergen is optimistic about a direct care workforce bill (HF 692), but there is a lot of work to be done on this one.
- A guardianship bill supported by OIL survived the funnel, but with many changes. OIL meets soon to determine if the revised bill will be supported.

Bob reported on a bill related to senior housing (HF 543):

- Everything is a "go" with the appropriations committee.
- Bob recommended OIL meet with the appropriations chairs, which he is trying to set up for next week.
- Added that OIL is not in favor of a position with LTCO that deals solely with resident councils.

Scams and Fraud Forum

Angi said everything is prepared for the forum following the meeting. She is open to ideas for potential future forums. No ideas presented at this time.

Open Agenda

Pat Heiden noted the Johnson County Board of Supervisors extended the county's mask mandate to March 19 and will continue evaluating this monthly. She is part of an ad-hoc committee looking at the reopening of public buildings and is optimistic that direction will clarify in the next month.

Lindsay Glynn reported Aging Services received Board of Supervisors approval to expand transportation services in Johnson County. Transportation services have been down during the pandemic due to volunteer concerns about safety, so Aging Services plans to add a driver to its staff. A donor approached the organization about donating a wheelchair accessible van, which will help move along the expansion of services.

Larry asked about updates from Heritage AAA Advisory Council. Angi said the last couple meetings focused on the Area Plan, what other county Task Forces are doing and derecho recovery in Cedar and Linn counties.

Angi reminded members to share forum ideas if any arise. Harrison added that this applies for meeting agenda items as well.

Adjournment

Bob motioned to adjourn, Larry second. Meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m.

Submitted March 9, 2021

Harrison March, Heritage AAA

Johnson County Task Force Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 12, 2021 – Zoom Meeting

Present: Angi Roemerman, Pat Heiden, Jeff Kellbach, Bob Welsh, Ed Dunbar, Len Sandler, Lindsay Glynn, Sofia DeMartino

Guest: Megan Stroback (Access2Independence)

Heritage AAA Staff: Harrison March

Angi Roemerman called the meeting to order.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Ed Dunbar motioned to approved March 2021 meeting minutes as presented. Pat Heiden second. Motion passed.

Community Updates Related to Older Adults

Harrison March, Heritage AAA

- Heritage AAA is hiring a Data Project Specialist. Details and application instructions can be found on the agency website. This position is replacing Mike Chapman, who will retire this summer.

Jeff Kellbach, Johnson County Livable Community

- Older Americans Month is coming up in May. Housing and Caregiver Action Teams will host online virtual events during the months. More details to come.

Pat Heiden, Johnson County Board of Supervisors

- Johnson County is planning for reopening public buildings
- Vaccine rates among seniors have been impressive. Bob Welsh asked about vaccine refusal rates and Pat felt it's a relatively small number.
 - Jeff said he typically suggests consumers talk to their doctor if worried about a vaccine
 - Harrison shared information from Public Health about potential in-home vaccinations for homebound persons. Details available on the Johnson County COVID webpage

Megan Stroback, Access2Independence

- A2I is still working through CARES Act funding to help seniors access communication devices and reduce social isolation during the pandemic

OIL Updates

Bob asked Len Sandler about the status of legislation regarding mobile home tenants'/owners' rights. Len reported no movement at this point due to a consumer fraud-related portion of the bill. It's unlikely to be tacked onto another existing bill, so it's being considered for redrafting next session.

Bob reported on other OIL-backed bills:

- Elder abuse bill (SF 522): stalled out in the House even after amendments were made addressing concerns in the Senate
- Caregiver bills are in the news in today's Cedar Rapids Gazette. Len suggested issues like this will need more mobilization and input from the disability community to advance further.
- Housing and home modifications: hoping for \$500,000 from Appropriations Committee, but not yet finalized

- Ombudsman bills: still alive, but OIL and the Long-Term Care Ombudsman office differ on whether to push for more local Ombudsman positions. OIL supports this effort.

Outreach Ideas/Priorities Post-Pandemic

Harrison asked about the group's interests and priorities for outreach after the pandemic, which may be possible in the next few months. Based on conversations thus far in the meeting, advocacy efforts may also be a good focus.

Bob noted Heritage's recently-drafted Area Plan has ambitious goals for outreach to communities of faith. He counted more than 70 such groups in the phone book for Iowa City alone, so it's a starting point but with much work to be done. Harrison will start compiling a list and researching contacts. Jeff suggested contacting the Consultation of Religious Communities as well.

Bob asked the group what simple message they would use to describe Heritage and attract attention. Ideas included:

- Megan: use a shortened or simplified version of the mission statement
- Bob: "We can help you"
- Pat: "Here to help" no matter the issue or problem

Bob will pose this same question to the Board of Directors Outreach Committee meeting next week.

Open Agenda

Lindsay Glynn said Aging Services is seeing some services thrive and others suffer still as a result of the pandemic. Adult Day Care services are down, while In-Home Respite is up, for example. Adaptations remain constant and emergency funds are helping some, but those grants don't always allow the flexibility needed. Options are being continually evaluated.

Sofia DeMartino reported Horizons is looking at a return to hot meals, which is exciting for the agency and consumers. Currently she's working on a grant application that if awarded would help increase Accessible Taxi services.

Adjournment

Bob motioned to adjourn the meeting, Pat Heiden second.

Submitted April 12, 2021

Harrison March, Heritage AAA

Johnson County Task Force Meeting Minutes

Monday, May 10, 2021 – Zoom Meeting

Present: Angi Roemerman, Jeff Kellbach, Ed Dunbar, Lindsay Glynn, Larry Kudej

Guest: Megz Stroback (Access2Independence)

Heritage AAA Staff: Harrison March

Angi Roemerman called the meeting to order.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Ed Dunbar motioned to approved March 2021 meeting minutes as presented. Lindsay Glynn second. Motion passed.

Community Updates Related to Older Adults

Jeff Kellbach, Johnson County Livable Community

- Aging in Place forums are coming up, starting with a Social Isolation forum Wednesday, May 12, and a Nutrition for Older Adults forum May 19

Lindsay Glynn, Aging Services

- Aging Services still working on enhancing transportation services in the county and need to hire a driver. To get more info or apply, [visit their website](#)

Harrison March, Heritage Area Agency on Aging

- Heritage AAA has a few jobs posted that range from social worker positions to office jobs. Information on these positions is available on the [Heritage website](#)

OIL Updates

Larry Kudej provided an update from the Older Iowans Legislature:

- This legislative session is starting to wind down
- Recently signed bills of interest to OIL
 - o SF 450: increased penalties for caretakers who commit dependent adult abuse that results in the death of the dependent adult
 - o HF 839: conditions under which financial records and information of designated eligible adults may be disclosed
- Budgets are out for the upcoming year with no big changes in state funding of aging programs, which is likely a result of federal dollars flowing down
- State Office of the Long-Term Care Ombudsman is conducting a search for a new director
 - o Jeff added that Pam Railsback, local LTCO, stated she has been approved to travel to long-term care facilities again

Communities of Faith Outreach

Following up on last month's discussion about outreach to communities of faith, Harrison reviewed the groups and resources to contact various churches, mosques and temples in Johnson County. Discussion included:

- Angi asked for an update on the Board subcommittee for outreach. Harrison reported the group is still small and has had a couple meetings, but is looking to expand membership to represent all counties. Members of this committee have also discussed making connections with faith leaders they know and Heritage personnel.

- Megz Strobach: need to make sure outreach is conducted equitably among various faiths. Johnson County has a large Muslim population relative to other nearby counties.
- Lindsay: based on past outreach experience, recommended asking the leaders about congregants who are particularly interested in/involved with grassroots efforts. These members may have more time, energy and experience to leverage than the faith leader.
- Jeff and Larry: recommended starting with Task Force member Bob Welsh, who has many connections through his career as a pastor.

FY22 Elections Next Month

Elections for Task Force officers and Advisory Council representatives are scheduled for June, though no current officers or representatives have reached their term limits.

Angi, Task Force Chair and AC Rep., noted she plans to resign from both roles due to time commitments, but would like to remain a Task Force member. Lindsay, Vice-Chair, thanked Angi for her leadership of the group during an unusual year due to the pandemic. Larry asked if Lindsay would consider moving up to the Chair role, but Lindsay is unsure at this time as her role on Advisory Council is fleshed out (she is in a unique position as a service provider that receives some Heritage funding).

Harrison encouraged members to consider potential nominees over the next month for Task Force Chair and the Advisory Council vacancy. He will check with former member Eve Casserly on her interest in returning to the group.

Open Agenda

Larry asked members to consider accounts of elder abuse that OIL could use to illustrate to legislators the seriousness of the issue. If you have a compelling story of helping a senior recover from elder abuse or one that highlights the importance of services related to it, please contact Larry.

Adjournment

Larry motioned to adjourn the meeting, Ed Dunbar second. Meeting adjourned at 1:35 p.m. Next meeting is Monday, June 14.

Submitted May 11, 2021
Harrison March, Heritage AAA

Johnson County Task Force Meeting Minutes

Monday, June 14, 2021 – Zoom Meeting

Present: Angi Roemerman, Ed Dunbar, Lindsay Glynn, Megz Stroback, Bob Welsh

Excused: Pat Heiden, Jeff Kellbach, Larry Kudej

Heritage AAA Staff: Harrison March

Angi Roemerman called the meeting to order.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Ed Dunbar motioned to approved May 2021 meeting minutes as presented. Megz Stroback second. Motion passed.

Community Updates Related to Older Adults

Bob Welsh

- At a recent Commission on Aging meeting, Bob expressed concern about awareness for IDA and AAA services and advocated for a statewide marketing campaign. A new member of the Commission runs a marketing/public relations firm and offered his expertise to assist.

Harrison March, Heritage Area Agency on Aging

- Congregate dining sites in the Heritage Nutrition Program are planning reopening starting in July. Decisions are up to the site directors based on local safety guidelines and consumer participation.

OIL Updates

Bob Welsh provided an update from the Older Iowans Legislature:

- The OIL Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sept 27, 2021, on Zoom. It will be similar to last year's virtual meeting, but with breakout rooms added to facilitate more focused discussion of issues.
- With legislative session over, Bob hopes to have dialogue with a couple representatives who were key in stalling elder abuse legislation this year.
- Angela Van Pelt has been named State Long-Term Care Ombudsman. Bob feels this is a very good hire and he hopes to have a meeting with her and Larry Kudej after she settles in.

FY22 Elections

Task Force Officers

- Angi and Lindsay Glynn are both willing to return as Chair and Vice-Chair, but do not want to be in the way of other members who may be interested in these roles.
- Harrison clarified that Secretary is available as well, though not required as he can record minutes if needed
- Bob motioned to reelect Angi as Chair and Lindsay as Vice-Chair.
- Angi asked if tabling the motion for the next meeting would be appropriate with several members unable to attend today.
- Bob agreed to table the motion for the next meeting, Ed Dunbar second.

Advisory Council Representatives

- Bob motioned to nominate Ed Dunbar, Lindsay Glynn and Megz Stroback as Advisory Council Representatives. Similarly, this motion is tabled for the next meeting, Angi second.

- There is still one more opening for a Johnson County Representative after these three nominations.

FY22 Meeting Plans

Attendees unanimously agreed to maintain the meeting schedule for FY22: second Monday of the month at 1:00 p.m. with no meeting in July and January. Harrison will look into reserving the old meeting room location in the Coralville Public Library.

Open Agenda

Bob recommended a goal for the coming year of adding new Task Force members, both current non-voting members, a representative from the Senior Center and people from outside these scopes. Angi recommended putting this discussion on the agenda for the next meeting.

Megz asked if there are plans for the Johnson County Fair this summer. Ed reported hearing that vendors will be limited to about half that of previous years. Harrison will forward information he recently received from the Fair.

Adjournment

Ed motioned to adjourn the meeting, Lindsay second. Meeting adjourned at approximately 1:40 p.m.

Next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 9, at 1 p.m.

Submitted June 15, 2021

Harrison March, Heritage AAA