



Wauwatosa, WI

Senior Commission

Meeting Minutes

7725 W. North Avenue
Wauwatosa, WI 53213

Monday, May 19, 2025

4:00 PM

**Wauwatosa Health Department
Conference Room and Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89993052063>,
Meeting ID: 899 9305 2063**

Hybrid meeting

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 pm by Kathy Causier.

ROLL CALL

Present:

Non-voting member: Carmen Pangilinan, Public Health Strategist

Excused:

Non-voting member: Kosta Zervas, Wauwatosa Recreation Department

Guests:

Bob Heller

Dan Idzikowski

Present 5	Commissioner, Chair Kathy Causier Commissioner Patricia Bruce Commissioner Dianne Dagelen Commissioner Michael Meier Commissioner Elise Riepenhoff
Excused 2	Commissioner Dain Maddox Commissioner Jeanne Sidner

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

This was approved.

RESULT: APPROVED
MOVER: Patricia Bruce
SECONDER: Elise Riepenhoff

1. Approval of April 21, 2025 Minutes [25-0797](#)

NEW BUSINESS

1. Discussion: Dan Idzikowski, Director of Aging Services, Milwaukee County Department of Health and Human Services [25-0798](#)

Dan provided an overview of Aging Services at Milwaukee County. He described the Area Agency on

Aging (AAA) and their charge with providing a framework of services and supports for people 60 and over in Milwaukee County. AAA is the regionally designated agency to provide advocacy, supportive services, wellness, nutrition and caregiver support. They do this by providing funding available through the federal Older Americans Act (OAA). This funding is sent to states and on to AAA's and finally distributed to local organizations that provide the direct services. He also described the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) and the services they provide. Dan also reviewed the most recent goals contained with the 2025-27 Area Plan. This is a plan created every three years to outline goals of the AAA. Dan shared that the County wants to stay connected to the municipalities that have aging commissions, such as Wauwatosa. They want to maximize input of older adults themselves and allow decision making to be local. Milwaukee County has a Commission on Aging. They have a broad charge and a fairly large authority. Dan would like to encourage partnership and working together to identify and achieve goals. Pat suggested that the Senior Commission members take some time to review the goals within the Area Plan to identify initiatives Wauwatosa may already be working on, and to identify gaps in our efforts. We will address this again at a future meeting, date TBD.

2. Advocacy Updates and Opportunities

[25-0799](#)

Federal update

President's budget proposes cuts to

- * the reduction of Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program
- *reductions to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
- *reductions to the Section 202 Housing program for the elderly
- *reductions to the Community Supplemental Food Program, also called the Senior Stockbox program
- *complete elimination of AmeriCorps, including senior programs like Senior Companions and Foster Grandparents

Federal Budget Bill

Originally did not make it out of committee to get to the House Floor, but last night several Republicans changed their vote to "present" to allow it to move out of committee. It is worth noting they voted no because they did not think the cuts went far enough.

The proposed changes to Medicaid cut \$715 billion in spending over the next 10 years, which could result in more than 13 million people losing their health care coverage. 3 in 5 people in long term care are covered by Medicaid.

State update

Aging Advocacy Day was held 5/13; 250 people attended from throughout the State. The group covered 4 priority areas:

- ***Investing in Aging and Disability Resource Centers (ADRCs)**
- ***Direct Care Workforce Supports**
- ***Safeguarding Meals-on-Wheels/Home-Delivered Meals**
- ***Reducing Falls among Older Adults**

*A letter was drafted by Kathy to send to members of the state legislature regarding the 2025-2027 budget. The letter asks the legislature to reinstate the proposals below. The letter will be sent to all members of the Wauwatosa legislative delegation. The Joint Finance Committee has modified the Governor's proposed budget. Several aging specific items were **removed**.*

***Full Medicaid Expansion**

- ***Home-delivered meals** - proposed increase of \$21M in General Purpose Revenue (GPR)
- ***Home and Community Based Services** - proposed increase of \$6M in GPR and federal funds to support ADRC IT projects and the resident and assisted living facility assessment tool (currently ARPA funded)
- ***Falls Prevention (Healthy Aging) Grants** - proposed increase of \$900,000 in GPR to Wisconsin Institute on Healthy Aging for statewide falls prevention programming *
- ***Senior Farmers Market Nutrition Program** - proposed increase of \$500,000 in GPR
- ***Board on Aging and Long-Term Care** - proposed increase of \$654,200 for five new staff positions.

WAUWATOSA HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- 1. Senior Center/Senior Club [25-0806](#)
No report. Kosta unable to attend through July due to tennis coaching schedule.

- 2. Police Department [25-0801](#)
No report.

- 3. Health Department and Age-Friendly Tosa [25-0802](#)
No report.

- 4. Joint Housing Coalition [25-0803](#)
They have worked with the Community Development Committee (CDC) to establish the affordable housing fund which will be brought to Council. It contains incentives for developers.

- 5. Common Council [25-0805](#)
No report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pat met with Veraunica from Eras. Still no replacement for Vanessa's position. For now, Veraunica will plan to attend our meetings quarterly to give updates on Tosa services. Working collaboratively to try to create some goals that will also be beneficial for both Eras and Tosa residents.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 5:11 PM.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, June 16, 2025 at 4:00 PM.