

Washtenaw County Commission on Aging

June 7th, 2024 | 9am – 11am | Remote Via Zoom

Join by Zoom:

<https://washtenawcounty.zoom.us/j/83980272102>

Meeting ID: 839 8027 2102 Phone: 1-312-626-6799

County Site: <https://www.washtenaw.org/3402/Commission-on-Aging>

AGENDA

- I. **Call to Order (9am)**
- II. **Roll Call**
 - a. Present: Ballard, Larson, Gress, Reynolds, Thompson, Green, Herzig, Astrein, Heckendorn, McKinney, Foreman
 - b. Absent: Cooper
- III. **Public Participation (4)**
 - a. Monica Prince: Thanked the Coalition for petitioning and speaking with commissioners to get millage onto ballot in November. Looking forward to swapping gears to start talking about the vote.
 - b. Ypsi MOW: Expressed deepest gratitude for work on the milage to get placed on the ballot and start working to get a public information campaign
- IV. **Commission Response to Public Participation**
 - a. First reading was done of the millage effort, second reading on July 10th before we go into campaign mode; still continue to talk to commissioners about voting positively for the millage
- V. **Approval of Minutes – May 3, 2024**
 - a. 9:10 am: Moved: McKinney, Supported: Herzig
- VI. **Discussion Items**
 - a. **Presentation – Basset Murray Law Group with End of Life Planning**
<https://link.edgepilot.com/s/9915e4c7/3E6eXfWgHUO6BKD2IAQgdg?u=https://bassettmurray.com/> ; 2045 Hogback Rd, Ann Arbor, MI 48105; 734-930-9200

Power of Attorney is the legal document in Michigan to hold up in court

Planning for End of Life; utilizing the Living Will; that way for the patient advocate will be able to do what person want's versus what they want for the person

- The living will can be super informal (video, letter, forms)

The Commission's purpose is to define the needs of and advocate on behalf of Washtenaw County seniors 60 years of age and older to promote equitable well-being and quality of life opportunities and outcomes. This will include providing recommendations to the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners and relevant stakeholders on the prudent spending of public funds related to senior services.

Presentations that the Commission may hear at future meetings: End of Life Planning, ARPA Funding Agencies, Housing, Transportation, Care Coordination, Caregivers, Aging in Place, Emergency Response Protocols

Advanced Directives (terminology in Medicare/Medicaid) – Healthcare facilities have to ask about these documents

- POAs, Living Wills, Do Not Resuscitate, Mi-Post orders (standing order when a person has critical care in place)
- If these documents are not in place, no one else has a legal authority to make decisions for someone else, until probate court appoints a Guardian, which may not always have the person's wishes in mind
- Funeral rights; can direct what happens to remains and services, representatives, next of kin are designated if not designated by person
 - i. Discussion:

McKinney: goes to a doctor and they provide forms, are these the forms?

- Doctors are handing them out now to ensure that they know what to do in the event you can't tell them. Not always legal though, but better than nothing.

Heckendorn: Older adults who don't have support or resources, where can people go? How is DPOA active?

- Legal Services will do POAs, filling out the ones at doctors or hospitals is still better than nothing with no monetary requirements. Sometimes resource fairs.
- Appoint professionals if no one else, encourage making that choice ahead of time.
- Activation of Medical Power of Attorney; 2 physician signatures before the decision maker can make start making decisions. Same for reversing.

Reynolds: Resource for MPOA designated, if someone is a member of a faith community, they may have forms to fill out and options for them to go through as well.

Thompson: State of Michigan has a website for information, as well as the State Bar has a website that may also be helpful for those without attorney. Encourages family discussions ahead of need.

- Lawyers know verbiage and provide counseling as well and back up to the decisions implemented.

Astrein: Any Washtenaw specific resources outside of what has been discussed?

- Presentations are being conducted to all sorts of community avenues. End of Life Doula.

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Herzig: Reinforcement of counseling of making end of life decisions. Sometimes people don't know to what extent they are signing over to and may make decisions before changes are discovered in the medical community. An ethical will is also a communication tool for family and reflection.

b. Subcommittee Updates

- i. **Communications** – Larson, Heckendorn, Green, Cooper
- ii. **Moving Forward/Future Planning/Millage** – Herzig, Cooper, Astrien, McKinney, Ballard, Foreman
 - 1. Thompson, Foreman, Astrein attended Wednesday for the first reading of the senior millage. Presented on the Silver Tsunami. Commissioners made comments about their concerns and things they think are important. ([Link to recording](#)). Need to start discussing and communicating home stead exempt portions of the millage and taxes.
 - 2. Gress: Screen Share of documents for what was presented
- iii. **Townhall** – McKinney, Heckendorn, Reynolds, Thompson
 - 1. Next week Friday: a lot of great response should have a great turn out, thank everyone for participating. All speakers have confirmed.

VII. **Report from the Board of Commissioners** ([Upcoming Meetings](#))

VIII. **Report from the Chair**

- a. July 10th second reading, make sure to extend thanks to individual commissioners for passing.

IX. **New Business:** None

X. **Setting Next Meeting** – August 2, 2024

XI. **Adjournment:** 11:00 am

Washtenaw County Commission on Aging meetings are recorded and are available at

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLR9rFHLfXEKHiQa3DQzHLSmdjlc00Jtb>

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