

Washtenaw County Commission on Aging

June 6, 2025 | 9am – 11am | Remote Via Zoom

Join by Zoom:

<https://washtenawcounty.zoom.us/j/85172952645?pwd=WCsITXxdYVpx8PaHaeha4JHQXptQ6G.1>

Meeting ID: 851 7295 2645 Passcode: 219086 Phone: 1-312-626-6799

[Commission on Aging | Washtenaw County, MI - Official Website](#)

Open Seat District 9: Apply Here - [Boards, Committees and Commissions Application](#)

AGENDA

- I. [Call to Order](#)
 - a. 9:03am
- II. [Roll Call](#)
- III. [Public Participation](#)
 - a. Justine Bykowski – older adults searching for assisted living options don't receive meaningful information and the process is complex. She couldn't find guidance – only general information.
- IV. [Commission Response to Public Participation](#)
 - a. Developing a guide for picking assisted living options. Requesting feedback on the guide.
 - b. Larson suggests providing the information to the Director of Senior Services once the position is filled.
 - c. Astrien suggests including information on ownership and reviews from participants.
 - d. Reynolds suggests including the Long-Term Care Ombudsman as a resource in the guide.
- V. [Approval of Minutes – May 2, 2025](#)
 - a. Motion – Reynolds, seconded, Herzig
- VI. [Discussion Items](#)
 - a. [Presentation from Catholic Charities of Washtenaw County](#)
 - i. Presentation will be posted. Presentation includes programs offered by CCWC.
 - ii. Astrien asks for how much of this funding is provided by federal funds. Kerr states that most of it comes from federal dollars, but there has been a push in the last year to go after more private funding.
 - iii. Foreman asks if they receive any Medicare or Medicaid funding from insurers. Kerr states they are looking into this for some programs.
 - iv. Gress asks about the Older Persons Millage and Kerr states that she would like the millage to support current programs.

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.

- v. Gress asks for some metrics. Kerr says there are 8 or 9 staff, serve about 1,000 older adults annually and depends on the funding resources available, and serve individuals around the county but mostly in Ypsilanti.
- vi. McKinney asks if an individual needs to provide their own equipment. Kerr states CCWC provides.
- vii. Astrein asks Kerr for some cost-saving metrics from the programs.
- viii. McKinney asks if other groups are doing lawn and snow removal. No one is aware of another organization that does the same services.

b. Subcommittee Discussion

i. Communications – Gress, Litten

- 1. None

ii. Future Planning – Herzig, Astrein, Reynolds

- 1. None

iii. Townhall – McKinney, Litten, Foreman, Astrein

- 1. Waiting to see how budget cuts will impact our existing programs and searching for speakers.
- 2. Waiting to see how millage dollars are going to be allocated.

iv. Millage Workgroup – Larson, Astrien, Green, Foreman, Thompson, Ballard

- 1. Commissioner Rhabi held a town hall on the millage.
- 2. There was a first reading of the Older Persons Millage at the County Commission meeting and there will be a second reading on July 2.
- 3. Gress is sharing the list of recognized senior centers.
 - a. Ann Arbor, Chelsea, Dexter, Northfield Township, Pittsfield, Saline, Ypsilanti, Ypsi Township, Lincoln Golden Ages.
- 4. Larson brings up that townships and communities that do not have a current Senior Center will think about starting one now that there is reliable funding. Suggests that the committee develop a way to support the development of new senior centers.
- 5. Somerville reiterates that this funding is to support and expand existing services. Suggests that the subcommittee develop a recommendation on future senior centers.

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

- a. Somerville shared that she is confident that this will move forward to get dollars out quickly. Gress asked for transportation funding and Somerville stated that there are numbers provided but that she doesn't control what goes on the agenda.

VIII. Report from the Chair

- a. None

IX. New Business

- a. None

X. Setting Next Meeting – August 1, 2025

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XI. Adjournment

- a. Motion – McKinney, Larson second.

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

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLR9rFHLfXEKHiQa3DQzHLSmdjIcf00Jtb>

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