



# MAG

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## **Aging & Family Services Advisory Council Meeting**

Orem MAG Conference Room and Zoom

Thursday, March 9, 2023

1:30 pm

### **MINUTES**

**Conducting:** Kendall Crittenden, Chair, Wasatch County Councilmember

**Attending:**

Tom Hogan, Community Action Services and Food Pantry  
Jamie Jensen, Lindon Senior Center  
Denise Andersen, Cedar Hills Mayor  
Cheri Tuckett, Utah County Senior Volunteers  
Jessica Wilde, Summit County Senior Services  
Sandra Curcio, Ability First Utah  
Jonelle Fitzgerald, Wasatch County Health Department  
Kena Mathews, Orem City Community Services  
Mike Winward, Wasatch County Senior Center  
Judy Maedel, Park City Senior Center  
Michelle Carroll, Executive Director, MAG  
Heather Dorius, Nutrition Program Manager, MAG  
Linda Cole, LTC Ombudsman and Aging Deputy Director, MAG  
Mary Lucero, Aging Director, MAG  
Jimmy Golding, Volunteer Manager, MAG  
Bonnie Lewis, RSVP and SHIP Program Manager, MAG

**Guests:**

Sarah Hodson, Deputy Director of the State Office of Health Promotion and Prevention  
Stephanie Benson, Communication Coordinator, MAG  
Tom Sakievich, Utah County Commissioner

**Excused:**

Gale Pace, RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program)

**Minutes**

Council Member Crittenden called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to approve January 12, 2022 minutes. Denis Andersen made a motion to approve the previous meeting minutes and Cheri Tuckett seconded the motion. The motion was carried and minutes approved.

**DISCUSSION & ACTION AGENDA:**

**Utah Healthy Places Index - Sarah Hodson**

Utah Healthy Places Index ( HPI) was created with a team of people from the state level of the Health and Human Services Department and was modeled from the California Health Places Index. The Public Health Alliance of Southern California was contracted to aid in developing the tool and these contracts were funded by the Overdose Data to Action Agreement with the CDC.

The Health Places Index was created because there are major disparities observed by the Health and Human Services Department across areas of the state and they wanted a tool to be able to clue into those factors controlling communities. Factors such as access to health care, people feeling connected in their personal neighborhoods, food accessibility and others. It was developed as well to help ensure that all Utahns have fair and equal opportunities to live safe and healthy lives.

Many partners and stakeholders were used over the years of development of the index. Other outreach to various states, non-profit organizations and government agencies was performed in the development stage so that the index could have the correct indicators and policies that accurately reflect the community. This mainly occurred over 2022 with the official launch date being in October of 2022.

#### Key Features of the Index:

- 1) Utah HPI Score- a composite measure of 20 indicators that fall into 8 categories and they are key drivers of health and life expectancy. The categories include: Education, Transportation, Housing, Social, Clean Environment, Healthcare Access, Economic, and Neighborhood. The scores given are given as a ranking compared to other areas around the state.
- 2) Decision Support Indicators- 300+ indicators that are not included in the total Utah HPI score, but can help communities have a more comprehensive picture of community conditions that impact health. Provides information based more on broad factors that can be affecting those in the state.
- 3) HPI Policy Guides- Evidence based policy recommendations that help policy makers figure out how to improve on the various scores in the area. Examples of this could be bike lane access, or homeownership

#### Key Features of the Utah HPI interactive map:

- 1) The state is shown by HPI Score with a color scale from dark blue to dark green. Dark Green represents more healthy community conditions with dark blue representing less healthy per category.
- 2) The map changes color of scale when looking at indicators not included in the overall score. The color scale changes from the blue to green to light blue to purple. It is also a more to less scale.
- 3) Areas of focus can be broken down to various levels of specificity such as census tracts, zip codes, cities/towns etc.
- 4) While focused on specific areas, the various results for the various indicators will be shown as well as the HPI score and its comparison to the whole state
- 5) The language used throughout the index is framed in a positive way and is ment to help foster improvement and not bring a negative connotation to various areas.
- 6) Scores for each indicators allows an overall picture and specificity for need for each area resented
- 7) Easy ways to see comparison on all the various indicators across the state
- 8) Highlights specific indicators, connections to health and why that factor is important to the community.
- 9) Policy Opportunities highlight ways to create a direct change for a specific indicator
- 10) Demographic information for each area such as race/ethnicity.
- 11) Different locations or indicators can be compared in the same view

The data that is used for the map is currently undergoing the process of updating. There is a plan in place for the date to start being updated this summer. The specific data lag depends on the various indicators. Currently, the data that is included in the index is what was the newest data available with the cut off of March 2022. Sources cause various indicators to be updated at different rates. Health data especially does not update quickly due to the nature of the data. On occasion data needs to be combined to allow for smaller viewing options on the map.

Website to access the Utah HPI: <https://dhhs.utah.gov/utahhpi/use-utahhpi/>

### **March for Meals - Stephanie Benson**

March for Meals is an annual event that is nationwide and we ask elected officials from the area to donate their lunch hour one day in the month of March to go around delivering meals to the seniors in their areas. It allows the officials to have boots on the ground experience with the program and shows the great impact the program has on the seniors in the community.

About 28 local officials in our region are currently signed up to participate. We are one of the most supported areas in Utah for this event.

The Older Americans Act that was signed in 1972 included senior nutrition which gave Meals on Wheels the momentum it needed to take off and start to become an organization. March for Meals is our way to celebrate that and keep moving the program forward. March for Meals has been going on for about 14 years and we have been participating for about 12.

Many connections are made with the seniors and the officials who participate, whether it is reconnecting past elementary teachers or helping seniors feel heard and seen.

### **Volunteer Appreciation Events - Jimmy Golding**

RSVP appreciation lunches are currently going and there are 4 in the various counties, the recent 3 have been great. The camaraderie within the volunteers is great and it's over all greatly appreciated by the volunteers. The volunteers get the chance to introduce themselves and tell about their personal experiences with volunteering. There were also 5 year achievement pins given out to the various volunteers. One of the volunteers has been volunteering for 25 years!

On August 5th, the Meals on Wheels will have their volunteer appreciation event. It will be a pool party that will take place at the SCERA pool in Orem. Lunch will be served after along with various recognition pins for the volunteers.

Volunteer t-shirts and gloves during the winter were given to the volunteers as small tokens of our appreciation and to help them feel special.

### **Legislation, Fundraising, and Executive Council Ratification Updates - Mary Lucero**

Legislation Updates:

- There was a one-time funding appropriation of a million and a half dollars that will be broken up amongst all of the AAA's. 35% of this is going to Salt Lake county and 20-23% will be coming to MAG. We are still working on getting ongoing funding to aid in the lack of ARPA funding at the end of the next fiscal year.

Fundraising:

- The first board meeting for the new non profit organization, Meals on Wheels Utah Summit & Wasatch, has occurred. There are currently 4 board members and they have great energy for the cause. The current members are: Claudia McMullin, Elieen Mullane, Anita Lewis and Curtis Blair.
- More board members are needed, especially from Wasatch County.
- There is still the hunt for an attorney and accountant to join the board as well. It has been recommended to reach out to Rachel Mabey from Provo City Council for the attorney position as well as Aimee Armor with the People's Health Clinic and Cortland Nelson.
- The time commitment currently is the every other month board meetings for one hour.

- Funding will come through asking corporations to be meal sponsors which will allow for that corporation's brand to be included with the meals for a specific amount of time.
- Fundraising will officially begin in about a year from now.

Membership:

- All new membership ratifications were approved by the executive council
- Denise Andersen is stepping away from the council due to a conflicting committee meeting. Mayor Carla Merril would like to take Mayor Andersen's place on the council.

**Roundtable discussion**

Mary Lucero and Heather Dorius updated the council that Mapleton is looking at building a new senior center and would like to start a congregate program that would be about once a week. Around 30/40 people from Mapleton are interested in starting the once a week program. The center would take about 5 years to complete. Park City is also interested in expanding their congregate meals from two days to about five days. Alpine is also looking at building a senior center and congregate meals as well.

Bonnie Lewis mentioned that she will be going to Mapleton as well to give a presentation about Medicare and SHIP and it was suggested that Jimmy go with her to present about the upcoming senior health challenge.

Kendall Crittenden shared that the various libraries in Summit and Wasatch counties are having a Smithsonian exhibit come rotate through the libraries. The libraries and senior centers are well connected and are great options for up and coming senior centers. Technology in the libraries is a great way for seniors to learn more and take various classes about how to use technology. The senior center is also now under the park and recreation department which has been a great benefit for the center.

Jonelle Fitzgerald mentioned how they have used the Utah HPI in the past with benefit. Various other programs have come about because of COVID and the HPI. These programs have also allowed programs such as Stepping on and Tai Chi to start for the seniors in the Wasatch County area.

Michelle Carroll has also been confirmed as the new executive director of MAG.

Mike Winward made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Tom Sakievich seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

**Next Meeting – May 11th 2023 - 1:30 pm  
MAG Main Office and Zoom**