



**Agenda Item Number
7 b.
Appointments to the Senior Services Advisory
Committee**

Date: June 23, 2022

Presenter: Brenda Wilson

Action Recommended: Appoint Members

Background:

The Bylaws of the Senior Services Advisory Council allow for no fewer than fifteen and no more than twenty-three members. A minimum of 50 percent of members are required to be age 60 or older. The Council shall also strive to have 25% rural representation. There are currently 13 returning Council members, of whom 8 are ages 60 or older and 4 are from a rural area.

The Senior Services Advisory Council (SSAC) operates on a July 1 – June 30 yearly cycle. New member recruitment typically occurs in late spring and early summer. Annual recruitment efforts took place during the month of April and three applicants are recommended for membership. SSAC considered the input of its Nominating Committee on May 17, 2022. On June 14, 2022, the LCOG Executive Committee unanimously supported recommending appointment of these three candidates.

Recommendation:

The SSAC recommends LCOG appoint the following individuals three members of the Council for three year terms. These additions will increase membership to 16 full members, of which ten are age 60 or older and 4 that reside in rural areas.

1. Tonya Spears, in her 70s: Tonya has lived and worked in Lane County for 50 years. She has been involved with persons living with Alzheimer's for 25 years. She has been a caregiver to her family for many years and is committed to ensuring everyone is able to self-determine their lives and pursue their own desires. She currently lives in Eugene. She has spent her whole life advocating and wants to continue to advocate for seniors.

2. Daniel Reti, in his 30s: Daniel has experience as a director of social services in hospice, a director of a memory care floor in an assisted living facility, and working directly in local governments to advocate for health needs of people experiencing homelessness, many of them seniors. He currently works at PeaceHealth, as an Advance Care Planning Program Coordinator. Having experience with multifaceted public programs he can lend his skills he has acquired, and his data driven approach to assist the council and focus on practical and measurable solutions, focusing on access to services for all older adults, regardless of location, housing status or race.

3. Joan Meekins, in her 60s: Joan is semi-retired current caregiver who lives and works in Eugene. She started understanding the importance of caregiving when her mother was not well enough to care for herself and she stepped in. She has learned firsthand the various challenges of caregiving – managing medications, doctors, relationships with providers and truly sees the different variables of getting older and what one goes through mentally. She wants to involve herself in something that makes a difference. Her goal is to help inform the public of the services available to seniors and ensuring access is available for anyone.

Proposed Action: Appoint these three applicants to the SSAC.