

# Vermont Action Plan for Aging Well Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

**Date:** February 27, 2023  
**Time:** 10:00AM – 12:00PM  
**Location:** Hybrid (in person & MS Teams)

**Members Present (alphabetical):** Janis Appel, Ruby Baker, Anna Benvenuto, Mark Boutwell, Lynne Cardozo, Liza Eager, Eric Fritz, Keith Grier, Dan Groberg, Mary Hayden, Elaine Haytko, Deanna Jones, Michele Karel, Marc Levine, Margaret Lewis, Ross MacDonald, Dan Noyes, Janet Nunziata, Jill Olsen, Meg Polyte, Jamie Renner, Christine Ryan, Symphorien Sikyala, and Julie Skarha.

**Planning Team Present:** Angela Smith-Dieng, Kerstin Hanson, Megan Tierney-Ward, Rhonda Williams, Jason Pelopida

**Presenters Present:** Joe Nusbaum, Jamie Renner, Tucker Jones, Melissa Phillips

**MINUTES:**

Topic	Notes	Action
Welcome, Introductions and Announcements	New Committee Member Introduction: Dan Groberg, Community Planning and Project Manager at the VT Department of Housing and Community Development, replacing Jake Hemmerick.	<i>Welcome</i>
Panel Presentation & Discussion:	<p>Panelists each presented on the topic: Safety and Protection and Self-Determination</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joe Nusbaum, Division of Licensing &amp; Protection, DAIL</li> <li>• Jamie Renner, The State of Vermont Attorney General’s Office</li> <li>• Ruby Baker, Community of Vermont Elders (COVE)</li> <li>• Tucker Jones, Department of Public Safety               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Overview of fire safety, emergency management, VT Intelligence Center, VT State Police, and intersections with safety for older Vermonters, including:                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Fire safety inspections of Long Term Care facilities</li> <li>▪ Community emergency planning (see workbook resource below), and option to sign up for CARE (Citizen Assistance Registry)</li> <li>▪ New Missing Vulnerable Adult Alert in response to issue of wandering</li> <li>▪ Training opportunities for law enforcement and 1<sup>st</sup> responders for interacting with older adults, i.e. those living with dementia</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><i>See presentation slides attached.</i></p> <p><i>Send any follow up questions to Angela.</i></p>

## Vermont Action Plan for Aging Well Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

<p>Q&amp;A/Discussion</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Family Emergency Preparedness Workbook (paper) – contact <a href="mailto:Emily.Harris@vermont.gov">Emily.Harris@vermont.gov</a> or call 1-800-347-0488</li> <li>○ Contact with questions: <a href="mailto:Tucker.Jones@vermont.gov">Tucker.Jones@vermont.gov</a></li> </ul> <p>Q&amp;A/Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● How do we separate out what is abuse and what is lack of resourced, education, etc.? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Report it so the situation can be assessed and provide an entry point, even if not warranting investigation.</li> <li>○ Inter-agency collaboration on education and sharing of resources.</li> <li>○ Resources and information for older Vermonters and their caregivers: <a href="https://www.vermontelders.org/vtresourceguide">https://www.vermontelders.org/vtresourceguide</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>● Isolated older New Americans living with adult children &amp; grandchildren; at risk of neglect/abuse. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cultural differences and education are key. Connect with resources. There is a point at which isolation becomes restraint or confinement that is unlawful. A gray area.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Come together as community to find a solution.</li> </ul>	<p><i>Ask Safety &amp; Protection subcommittee workgroup to discuss in further detail.</i></p>
<p>Updates</p>	<p>Needs Assessment: Listening Sessions Draft Report; Planning Focus Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Listening Sessions overview</li> <li>○ Focus Groups planned for those not necessarily heard from</li> <li>○ Listening Sessions report is in the works</li> </ul> <p>MPA Learning Collaborative: Communications and Polling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Hark Communications contract for marketing</li> <li>○ Polling – Vermonter Poll in March, results in April</li> </ul> <p>Q&amp;A/Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ LGBTQ+ group via Montpelier Senior Activity Center may be a helpful starting point for reaching that population.</li> </ul>	<p><i>See presentation slides attached.</i></p>
<p>Crafting the PLAN</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● 6 Subcommittee Workgroups March - May</li> <li>● Template to complete with recommended objectives &amp; strategies</li> <li>● Templates to be submitted by June 1<sup>st</sup></li> <li>● Present first draft of the Plan at the June 26<sup>th</sup> meeting</li> </ul>	<p><i>See presentation slides attached.</i></p>

## Vermont Action Plan for Aging Well Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Schedule	<p><b>Next Meeting: Check-in for Subcommittee Workgroup Facilitators and Optional for Advisory Committee Members - Monday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2023, 10:00AM – 12:00PM likely hybrid in Waterbury and on Microsoft Teams.</b></p> <p><b><i>Note: Plan on an in-person meeting in Waterbury June 26, 2023</i></b></p> <p>Reminder, you can find minutes/materials from meetings here: <a href="#">Vermont Action Plan for Aging Well Advisory Committee   Disabilities, Aging and Independent Living</a></p>	
------------------	--	--

### Additional Resources

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has an excellent website full of resources for personal preparedness: <https://www.ready.gov/>  
Specifically, information for Older Adults can be found here: <https://www.ready.gov/older-adults>

Questions/edits re: these minutes, please contact [Kerstin.Hanson@vermont.gov](mailto:Kerstin.Hanson@vermont.gov).