

Age-Friendly Minnesota Council Meeting

April 8, 2026

AGE FRIENDLY
minnesota



Agenda

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|-----------------|--|---|
| 9:00 am | Call to Order and Roll Call | Chair Pugh |
| 9:05 am | Advocacy/Policy Committee Report | Chair Pugh / Farah Baig |
| 9:15 am | Action Report Updates and Request | AFMN Staff |
| 9:25 am | Director/Staff Report | Lisa Edstrom |
| 9:30 am | Action Items | AFMN Staff |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Staff will recommend grant awards for 2026 extension and expansion | |
| 9:45 am | Presentation and Discussion | Nikki Peterson and Vital Research Team |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nikki Peterson from Aging and Adults Services and Vital Research will share the progress of the Comprehensive Aging Survey being conducted by MBA, DHS and AFMN | |
| 10:15 am | AFMN Council Steering Committee | AFMN Executive and Policy Committees |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Suggestion to change from “Blueprint” to “AFMN Council” Steering Committee to address strategic positioning and planning for AFMN Council. Membership requested. | |
| 10:30 am | Adjourn | |

**Next Council Meeting:
Wednesday, May 13, 2026 | 9 am to 1 pm | In person
MN Humanities Center**



Policy & Advocacy Committee Report

Key Activities & Dates

Hearing in Senate Human Services Committee – Sherrie and Adam Suomala to testify *April 8, 3pm*

Status in House Human Services Finance and Policy

Committee deadline for Budget Items in original jurisdiction *April 17*

End of session *May 18*



AFMN Council Policy and Advocacy Committee

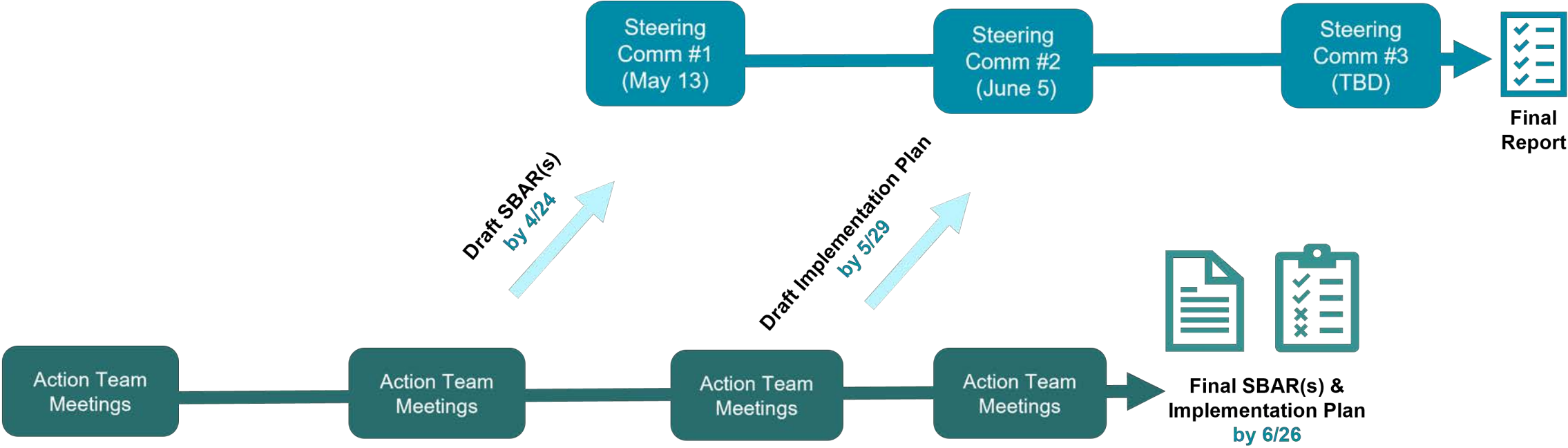
- **Council members:**
 - Chair Sherrie Pugh
 - Sandy Vargas
- **Partner members:**
 - Georgia Lane
 - Adam Suomala



Action Teams Report and Request

Timeline Overview

Mar	April	May	June	July
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Process Kickoff	Recommendation Development	Recommendation Review	Report Development
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Roles/Responsibilities



Action Teams

Led by the Action Team Convener, each team will meet 3 – 4 times to...

- Identify 1 to 3 tactics to prioritize in 2026
- Have in-depth discussions and develop preliminary recommendations
- Support the development of SBARs and an Implementation Plan **(by June 30)**

Steering Committee

Made up of Action Team Conveners and AFMN Council Champions, the Committee will meet 3 – 4 times to...

- Identify strengths and opportunities for improvement
- Identify cross-cutting themes and outcomes
- Finalize a set of recommendations and develop a summary report **(by July 31)**

AFMN Council

With AFMN Council Champions serving as a bridge between the Action Teams/Steering Committee and the AFMN Council, the Council will...

- Review and adopt the Final Recommendations report (by August 31)

Process Deliverables

Action Teams



Situation
Background
Assessment
Recommendation

Action Teams will be asked to develop an SBAR for each of the tactics that you have prioritized. SBAR is a simple tool that will provide context/rationale for the recommendations that are developed.



Implementation Plan

Action Teams will also be asked to develop an Implementation Plan that includes each of the recommendations developed. The Implementation Plan will help to identify potential leads, collaborators, and resource/other needs that will help to inform implementation.

Steering Committee



Final Recommendations Report

The Steering Committee will utilize the SBARs and Implementation Plans to develop the final recommendations report.

Steering Committee Meetings

Steering Committee #1

(May 13)

- Review process structure and roles/responsibilities
- Discuss draft SBARs (Strengths and Areas for Improvement; Opportunities for Alignment)

Steering Committee #2

(June 5)

- Discuss draft Implementation Plans (Strengths and Areas for Improvement; Opportunities for Alignment)
- Discuss potential output and outcome measures

Steering Committee #3

(TBD)

- Discuss draft Recommendations Report

Director/Staff Report

- **Farah and Lisa attended a workshop** in Pennsylvania last month. Representatives from states launching or implementing a Multisector Plan on Aging (MPA) gathered to share best practice and tools with emphasis on implementation, data sharing and tracking, leading cross sector teams and sustainability
- **The Blueprint document** is receiving some much-needed formatting and an introduction was added. The final version is being drafted and we hope to have it available for print by the end of April. A copy was sent to Council members last week for preview and comments.
- **AFMN will have a table and be presenting at Minnesota Gerontological Society** on April 29 and 30. Several other Age-Friendly MN grantees are presenting over the two days.
- Planning work is underway for the fall **Regional Exchange events**. A planning team includes representatives from across the state. This year we will do a virtual statewide gathering on day one and local in person gathering on day two.
- **I will be presenting** this month at Freeborn County Age-Friendly gathering and at the White Bear Lake DFL senior caucus meeting (both are by invitation).



Grants Update and Action Items

Community Grantees: Extension Requests to 12/31/2026

Grantee

Asian American Business Resilience Network

Byron Community Education (Byron Public Schools, ISD #531)

Central Lakes College Foundation

Faith Community Nurse Network of the Greater Twin Cities

Keystone Community Services

Northspan Group, Inc.

Minnesota Center for Health Care Ethics

Joelle Hoeft – Nature As We Age

TAP Grantees: Additional Time/Funding Requested

Grantee	Contract Extension Date	Expansion Award Recommendation
Minnesota Gerontological Society	12/31/2026	\$15,000
KOOTASCA Community Action, Inc	12/31/2026	\$10,000
Arrowhead Area Agency on Aging	12/31/2026	\$20,000
Gifts for Seniors	12/31/2026	\$10,000
Leah Hill	6/30/2027	\$60,000
Minnesota Leadership Council on Aging	6/30/2027	\$60,000
Available: \$176,000		TOTAL: \$175,000
<i>Contract Extension Only</i>	Date	
InTegrity Partners Consulting	12/31/2026	
Dancing Sky Area Agency on Aging/NWRDC	12/31/2026	
Central MN Council on Aging	12/31/2026	
Family Service Rochester	12/31/2026	
Morken Consulting	6/30/2027	

Community Grantees: Additional Funding Requested; Awards to be determined

Grantee	Amount Requested
Community Mediation Minnesota	\$10,000
Ecolibrium3	\$10,000
LMNOP, LLC	\$10,000
Lutheran Social Services of MN	\$10,000
RoundtableRx	\$10,000
Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services (SMRLS)	\$10,000
Veteran Resource and Enrichment Center	\$10,000
Living at Home Network	\$9,000
Rivers of Hope	\$7,000
HACER	\$7,000
CAIRO	\$6,430
Total	\$99,430



Comprehensive Aging Survey Presentation and Discussion

Council Planning/Steering Committee Discussion

- Need for strategic planning and positioning for the Council
- Set goals for Council
- Collective messaging and vision for future
- Define our partnerships / relationships
- Formalize council service, membership and expectations (governance)

