



**Meeting Minutes**  
**Ohio Advisory Council for Aging**  
**Policy Committee**  
May 6, 2021 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Virtual Invitation

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM.

Semanthie Brooks welcomed members and Alex Lapso acknowledged attending ex-officio members and additional guests.

Roll call was conducted and a quorum was confirmed- Semanthie Brooks, Stephanie Garrett and Louis Borowicz were present.

The members reviewed the minutes from the prior meeting. Semanthie Brooks made a motion to accept the minutes. Louis Borowicz seconded the motion. The minutes were approved without objection.

Alex Lapso provided an update on the recent budget testimony provided by Director McElroy to the Ohio House of Representatives and the Ohio Senate regarding ODA's initiatives and budget priorities. Alex reviewed the budget sub-bill process and timeline for amendment, review and approval.

Alex responded to questions as to the response to the Director's testimonies.

Semanthie commented on cross-county impacts of needs, shortfalls and gaps in resources and services, and highlighted the need for addressing issues statewide. Alex outlined impact of "silo-ing" services vs widely available services.

Lori Wengerd commented on the written testimony provided by the Advisory Council to the Ohio Senate in support of ODA's budget priorities.

SAPA discussion- Semanthie provided an overview and highlighted the need to use the SAPA to anchor our efforts to realize the goals of advancing elder justice and equality, improved health and wellbeing, and eliminating agism.

Alex discussed survey of the council members regarding the SAPA, and detailed top priorities expressed in the survey, and timeline for providing the survey summary for the council members.

***Fostering sound public policy, research, and initiatives that benefit older Ohioans.***

Semanthie discussed next steps in advancing our SAPA goals and the highest priorities from the survey. Semanthie also commented on notices of recent Rules change, and the potential need to increase involvement in the rules process as a committee.

The members agreed to move the next meeting to July 8, 2021 in order to avoid conflicts with the holiday weekend.

Having no further business before the committee, the meeting was adjourned at 1:58 PM.