



Clark County Commission on Aging  
1300 Franklin Street, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Vancouver, Washington

## Work Session Notes

Wednesday, March 20, 2019

3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Members Present: Amy Gross, Donna Roberge, and Larry Smith

Absent: Marian Anderson, Ali Caley, Chuck Green, Marjorie Ledell, Linda O'Leary

Staff: Jenna Kay, Jacqui Kamp

### 1. January 15 COA work session notes

Due to low attendance, this discussion was delayed until the April work session.

### 2. Debrief January 15 joint COA/County Council meeting

Due to low attendance, this discussion was delayed until the April work session.

### 3. Debrief February 21 Transportation Summit

- Nice venue, good location, good parking
- Well-organized
- Larry heard from some people who would have liked to attend and were not invited, such as neighborhood leadership. Group can revisit this at the July retreat.
- Networking went better than year before
- Having some trouble applying the Denmark example to Clark County.
- **ACTION ITEM: Staff received comment forms and can share with COA.**
- Speakers were excellent.
- Playing catch-up now from lack of investment.
- Liked idea of combining technology systems between companies, so that the systems for companies like Uber and Lyft mesh with the systems for public transit, etc.

### 4. By-laws update

Due to low attendance, this discussion was delayed until the April work session.

### 5. Report to city councils update

- Development and Engineering Advisory Board (DEAB)– street lighting and safety was biggest topic of discussion. Street lights are required in the cities, but not in unincorporated Clark County, however, most large new developments are including street lights.
- La Center – the Council listened well and seemed grateful we came out. One councilor had attended the summit. The council requested that annual reports be provided to the La Center Planning Commission. Last year, a planning commissioner had asked



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COA staff to provide information about cottage housing. We learned they are now working on a cottage housing ordinance.

- Donna noted that it seems good COA is serving as ambassadors to the cities and seems good to go back to the same place more than one year in a row.

#### **6. Update on 2019 speakers**

- Staff provided an updated on where we're at for confirming speakers for the 2019 healthy communities presentations. A few of the topics may have a few presenters who speak briefly, and then they will all be available to answer questions.
- April 17 topic: access to parks and recreation. There will be 3-4 speakers. They'll each give a brief presentation and then all field questions. Marie Bouvier, with the Ridgefield Parks Commission, will share how Ridgefield is approaching parks. David Cohen and/or Dr. Phil Wu, with the Intertwine Alliance, will talk about the health benefits of nature and getting outside. Angela Brosius, with the Firstenburg Center, will talk about senior recreation programs.
- Additional discussion/suggestions regarding other upcoming topics:
  - Pet care benefits, safety and support: Stacy Graham with the Humane Society is working on a program to place therapy animals at senior centers
  - Economic opportunity: Elders in Action in Portland has a senior-friendly business program that both recognizes businesses that have age-friendly business policies or are adjusting their business practices to better serve the senior community. We might be able to have one of their members come talk to COA. Donna wondered if they could share more about their other activities at the summer COA retreat.
  - Urban forestry: interest in getting an update from City of Camas on their new tree ordinance, we also have a speaker lined up from the Vancouver Urban Forestry department (they're the only city with a forestry department).
  - Emergency preparedness/neighborhood disaster response: suggested as an additional topic, or part of one of the existing topics. The Red Cross Map My Neighborhood program and CERT would have speakers. The Fairway Village model sounds similar to the Map My Neighborhood program. Topic could address helping seniors, seniors helping seniors, etc. Linda Cohen with Meals on Wheels recently published a book on people taking care of people.
- The group also briefly discussed if there were any ideas on increasing public turn-out at meetings.

#### **7. Commission appointment process update**

Jacqui has received many phone calls about the vacancies. 6-7 applications have received so far.

#### **8. July 16 retreat planning**

Due to room availability at the Public Service Center, the retreat is being scheduled for July instead of June this year.

**9. Next Meeting:** April 17, 2019 - access to recreation and open space.

**10. Adjournment:** The work session adjourned at 4:20 pm.

*The Clark County Commission on Aging provides leadership in community engagement and advocacy of Clark County's Aging Readiness Plan, especially for those 65 and over who plan to age in place.*