



Clark County Commission on Aging
1300 Franklin Street, 6th Floor
Vancouver, Washington

Meeting Notes

Tuesday, June 19, 2012

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Chuck Frayer, Rancy Scheel, Patricia Gray, Kathy McLaughlin, Kiersten Ware, Bob Holdridge, Lisa Rasmussen, Karin Woll

Community Partner Attendees: Klaus Micheel

Absent: Rebecca Sigler

Staff: Oliver Orjiako, Colete Anderson, Jacqui Kamp, Mary Beth O'Donnell, Axel Swanson, Commissioner Tom Mielke

Welcome and Call to Order

- Commissioner Tom Mielke opened by welcoming new commission members and thanked them for their willingness to help improve the quality of life for senior citizens in our community.

Introductions, Opening Remarks, Approval of Agenda

- This commission will be the first to try an all-electronic, paperless type of communication. Documents will be downloaded to an FTP site for easy access; no printed documents will be distributed at meetings, etc.
- Introductions around the table of members, staff and guests.

Election of Officers

- Motion by Karin Woll to nominate Kiersten Ware as chair of the commission, seconded by Lisa Rasmussen, motioned carried. Kiersten Ware appointed as chair. Chuck Frayer nominated Lisa Rasmussen for vice-chair, Kathy McLaughlin seconded, motion carried. Lisa Rasmussen appointed as vice-chair.

Approval of Bylaws:

- By-laws were projected on a large screen and reviewed article by article as a group.
- Article 2:
 - Regarding the role of the commission and community involvement, there isn't a formal presentation to use at this time. Colete and Jacqui will most likely accompany members initially to speak on the Aging plan implementation. As members interact with other groups, they can bring information back to the commission.
 - Important to have a good presentation that is consistent so everyone is sending the same

message.

- Create a subcommittee tasked with getting a presentation up and running. A subcommittee assigned to “communication” will be important. Community partners, county or city staff can be brought in as members of subcommittees.
- As part of the Aging Readiness Task Force Plan, work began on preliminary projects to satisfy some strategies. Some are finished, some ongoing and some haven’t started yet. Implementation will require work and time from this group.
- Discuss more about strategies and subcommittees at the next meeting.

Article 3:

- There is no separate budget for this group, currently operating under the 2011–12 budget. Oliver will request something be included in the next biennium budget for 2013–14. It will impact the General Fund. Bring any ideas forward for group consensus and provide Oliver with the information for consideration within the next 6 weeks. Example: a booth at next year’s County Fair.
- **New bullet added to Article 3: Members are expected to participate in or attend public meetings related to the goals and objectives of the commission and the implementation of the Aging Readiness Plan.**

- Article 4:

- Membership: A suggested goal should be to broaden the geographic representation on the committee as we represent the entire county, not just City of Vancouver. Currently each member represents a Commissioner district.
- For the next round of appointments, this Commission can recommend to the BOCC what area of expertise is needed.
- Terms are staggered, may serve a total of four years, reapply after one year off. One third of the body turns over every year.
- Liaisons to other groups in the county are an important piece. Many efforts in the county match our strategies very well. Each member should have one or more other groups they participate in. Chuck can finalize the concept as a formal part of the bylaws. It’s buried in there now but can be reformatted to be more specific.
- Appoint one subcommittee to be “community scanners”, look out for planning efforts that are underway, look for benchmarks. Choose the most important ones and assign individuals to attend with a follow-up report back to commission to ensure accountability. This is another way to achieve involvement.
- Example: Elder Justice Center signed inter-local agreement with SWAAD which formalized how they will work together in the coming years. May be used as a guide for structure on collaborating with other groups.

- Article 6:

- Meeting attendance: Reply back to meeting notice if you can’t attend, not necessary to “reply all”.

- Article 10:

- Must be present at the meetings to cast your vote, no proxies.

- Article 14:
 - Community Planning Department is the staff support for this commission.
 - The commission is at the will of the BOCC. Marc Boldt is the representing Commissioner at this time, but all commissioners support the group.
 - The chair of this commission will have direct access to the chair of the BOCC on a quarterly basis.

Patricia motioned to approve the By-laws as amended, Chuck seconded, all approved.

Under Article 4, Oliver suggested changing the term Non-Voting Members to Non-Voting Partners. All agreed.

A roster of the membership was passed around for edits or additions.

Presentation FTP site:

- Some documents are too large to email so the decision was made to create an FTP site for posting and communication. This is a way to access documents in your own private file. Will be able to view but not make changes.
- Will contain roster, by-laws, agendas, minutes, library documents, etc. and continue to develop as time goes on.
- Jacqui went through directions on how to use the site.

Public Comment:

- Joe Levesque, citizen: Some people have needs, not wants, needs are bigger than wants, cater to the needs. Money is being wasted on building fees, so many restrictions on land. Has made proposals to other jurisdictions with affordable housing ideas but has been turned down. Is working on a modern marshal plan for the economy.
- Beverly Doty, citizen: She lives in a senior living center, has diabetes and skin cancer and is concerned about lack of proper nutrition in her facility. Menus are written off-campus by personnel who are not registered dieticians and the food being served does not meet the special dietary needs of residents. She is leading an effort to convince senior living centers they can attract more residents if they provide proper nutrition and healthy meals. She's starting a diabetic support group in her building and is using a "door hanger" on her apartment door as a means of informing residents about what's going on. She'd like to see a survey of senior facilities indicating whether or not they have registered dieticians planning their menus.

New Business:

- Bob suggested everyone go through the by-laws, check what the vital issues are to them, then come together and decide what to work on as a group; will help stay on target.
- Need to discuss benchmarks in August or shortly thereafter. Commission is charged with providing an annual report to the community and BOCC. This will help build the report as we go and avoid starting from scratch in April when it's time to write it.
- Question, can the FTP site contain general information such as when other cities are meeting and what's going on in the community? Colete can send web addresses out for the cities.

- There are many commissions in Clark County. As the strategies are being addressed and we partner with the non-voting members, we'll get a better idea of where we need to be linked up for on-going communication and meetings.
- Chuck talked about a concept for putting underutilized parks in the area to good use as community gardens. He liked the "door hanger" model shown by Beverly Doty today as a way to get information out to the neighborhoods.
- Bob reiterated the idea of a liaison attending selected community meetings to keep track of what they're doing and report back to the group, either at the meeting, or group email, or email to one of the staff members and they could post it on the FTP site for all to read.
- Lisa asked if information about the commission could be included in the department's booth at the County Fair this August. The space is shared with other departments so space is limited but we may be able to have a brochure available as a handout. The focus this year is on updating the community framework plan and asking children to locate their favorite places around the county. For next year, if the group wants to have a booth, start the discussion in February.

Action Items:

- Colete will put information on strategies and projects on the FTP site and email when it's accessible.
- At next meeting, consider a committee for ongoing partnerships with other community groups and efforts that are happening right now. Establish priorities.
- Mary Beth to send Daily Insider link to Lisa.
- Jacqui to email commission with FTP site directions and passwords.
- Colete to email web addresses for the cities in Clark County.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 PM.

Next meeting: July 17, 2012, 4:30 pm – 6:00 pm