



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

Meeting Notes

Tuesday, April 15, 2014

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Gary Beagle, Chuck Frayer, Patti Gray, Bob Holdridge, Kathy McLaughlin, Lisa Rasmussen, Karin Woll

Absent: Kiersten Ware

Community Partners: Walt Gordon, Sherri Dickerson

Staff: Colete Anderson, Mary Beth O'Donnell

Welcome and Call to Order

- Meeting agenda unanimously approved; meeting minutes from February 18 were unanimously approved as submitted. There was no general meeting in March.
- Chair report:
 - June 17 meeting will be a joint between the CoA and BOCC. The annual report will be presented.
 - March 26, attended community meeting at Cascade Inn assisted living center. Discussion topic was financial abuse and elder abuse, 30 attended.
 - Lisa and Karin presented to Leadership Clark County.
 - March 19, met with AADSWA, discussed partnering in the community.
 - Four vacancies on the CoA, eleven applications have been received. They will be assessed and recommendations will be sent to the BOCC for a decision. Terms begin June 1st.
 - New work plan being discussed. Four key areas: Executive Committee, advocacy, awareness/education, and project committees.
 - May 20th general meeting speaker will be Jay Bloom. Jay was the executive director of the Morrison Center, head of Columbia United Way Columbia in Portland, and now has a consulting firm that works with aging communities around the country. He'll be talking about action plans for an age friendly community. He's developed plans for the city of Portland and state of Hawaii. Copies of the two plans will be available.

Presentation:

Kevin Gillette, Executive Director, Community Housing Resource Center in Vancouver:

- Kevin has been in the mortgage banking business for 35 years, here in Vancouver for 9 years.
- CHRC is a HUD certified, non-profit, education/resource center. No loans or approvals; – they educate, counsel, advise and work closely with partners in the community to get people the help they need.
- They work with people who've had foreclosures, bankruptcy, or loss of employment; help people heal and rebound from credit crises and get their credit scores up again.
- See 1,600 people a year with a staff of six. 60% are at or below HUD median income. Number of seniors 60+ is increasing. Typical client has high consumer debt, reverse mortgage or mortgage default and are losing their homes. Affordable housing is scarce. Most are very private and don't talk about it. Need to get the message out to people that they can help.
- Work with people to get them stable, give options for rental property or help them stay in the home. They work with city of Vancouver on a rehabilitation loan program, help seniors to get repairs on their homes through low interest loans of 3% that are paid back when the home is sold or refinanced. Available help is based on income. They can help them get qualified but they have to have equity on the property to qualify. Unless there's a safety or health need, which may help them get qualified. It's harder than ever to get a mortgage loan.
- They offer home buyer classes to educate people on the responsibilities of becoming a homeowner. Services are free to Washington residents with the exception of a mortgage default, and then the person pays for the credit report (\$17/single; \$30/couple).
- Funded by private donations, United Way, county, city, and WA State Housing Finance Commission to name a few.

Open Issues

- Review of upcoming events as listed on the agenda.

Public Comment

- None

Adjournment

- Motion to adjourn was unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned 5:25 p.m.