



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

Meeting Notes – Joint session with Board of County Commissioners

Tuesday, June 17, 2014

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

CoA Members Present: Gary Beagle, Chuck Frayer, Patti Gray, Bob Holdridge, Lisa Rasmussen, Bill Ritchie, Kiersten Ware, Karin Woll

Absent: Scott Perlman

Board of County Commissioners: Ed Barnes, David Madore, Tom Mielke

Staff: Colete Anderson, Jacqui Kamp, Oliver Orjiako, Mary Beth O'Donnell

Community Partners: Walt Gordon, David Kelly, Sherri Dickerson

Welcome and Call to Order

- Gary Beagle called the meeting to order at 4:35pm. The meeting was broadcast live over CVTV. Gary welcomed the Board of County Commissioners, the two new commission members and announced the two returning members.
- The meeting agenda was approved. Minutes from May 20th were unanimously approved as submitted.

2014 Annual Report

- Thank you to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC) for their continued support, and ongoing support of the Community Planning director and staff. Commission members, comprised of nine community volunteers, continue to implement a master work plan with a focus on communication, advocacy and awareness in six main areas.
- Commission members reported on the focus areas, strategies completed and currently in process and major project accomplishments from the past year. A complete copy of the report can be viewed at:
http://www.clark.wa.gov/planning/aging/documents/2014_Annual_Report.pdf
- Follow-up comments:
 - Commissioner Madore: How can we as commissioners do better?
 - Commissioner Mielke: Compliments to the group on a well thought out plan and work in progress.
 - Commissioner Barnes: Regarding the weatherization program, is there an income bracket that a person has to be in to qualify? Karin: moderate income households, heated with electricity, in the designated neighborhoods qualify; she has a chart she

can share. There are other programs for low-income level residents available through CPU.

- Commissioner Barnes: What about ADA access for facilities around Clark County, such as the historic museum? Can this group get funding to help with that?
Karin: this commission does not have the funds for that but perhaps could assist with applying for grants or fundraising efforts.
- Lisa requested that the BOCC help work on the sidewalk program in the county. This is beneficial not only to seniors, but young children and families as well. Also, mental health and the lack of facilities for the whole population, not just seniors.
Commissioner Madore: Call the commissioners' office at any time with requests and we'll do all we can to fill the holes. He recommended referring people to Area Agency on Aging and Disabilities for direction and information. Lisa said AAAD has been supportive of this group from the beginning but they also have limited funds.
- Gary would like to see "timebanking" get started in the community. It takes no tax dollars to put into effect. He also asked for continued support from county staff and asked the commissioners to spread the word about the Commission on Aging when they speak in the community; refer people to the website and ask them to help by volunteering on projects or committees. The county webpage on Aging includes links to many partners in the community.
- Commissioner Mielke mentioned an area that isn't used to its full potential is senior discounts on property taxes. It can help to keep them in their homes and is based on the household income.

Public Comment

- Erika Kelly, former member of the Aging Readiness Task Force commented that she hears a lot about support for seniors when they get sick and would like more advocacy for staying healthy, where to go to exercise (sidewalks would help a lot), and transportation information to get to health clubs and stores that sell fresh foods. Don't focus so much on services when we're ill, but be better prepared physically, mentally and emotionally for when we get there.

Oliver Orjiako, Director of Community Planning said he will continue to work with the Commission on Aging and their work plan, and ask for the support from the BOCC in the budget process for 2015-16.

Treasurer Report

- A separate account was opened at Umpqua Bank by the commission with donated dollars to provide funds for programs such as the Telehealth conference, which was completely paid for from this account. These are restricted funds, earmarked for special projects, with a balance of \$2,889. Funds from this account have also been committed to Timebanking.
- Copies of the budget and expenses to date were distributed. Beginning in the biennium of 2013-14, the commission received a \$7,000 budget from the county. There is \$3,812 remaining that needs to be spent before the end of this year or it goes away.

- A motion to approve the budget was entered by Bill Ritchie, seconded by Karen Woll, unanimously approved. Motion carried, budget approved.

New Business:

- Recycled Arts Festival, June 28–29, working in conjunction with the Commission on Arts, no funds expended, will have an interactive opportunity for kids on what recycling looks like. Will also be at Clark County Fair for Senior Day, again at no expense.
- August 19th is the Commission on Aging retreat meeting. Bringing back Gary Hamm who facilitated last year.
- Election of officers:
 - Lisa nominated Bill Ritchie for chair, Bob Holdridge for vice–chair, Kiersten Ware as treasurer. Seconded by Chuck Frayer, nominees accepted, unanimously approved, motion carried, new officers appointed.

Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 5:55 pm.