



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

---

## Meeting Notes

Tuesday, March 19, 2013

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Members Present: Gary Beagle, Patti Gray, Bob Holdridge, Kathy McLaughlin, Lisa Rasmussen, Randy Scheel, Kiersten Ware, Karin Woll

Absent: Chuck Frayer

Community Partners: Dave Kelly, Klaus Micheel

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

### Welcome and Call to Order

- The meeting agenda was unanimously approved with no changes. Meeting notes from 02/19/13 were unanimously approved as submitted.
- Chairperson's Report:
  - Meeting with Commissioner Madore has been rescheduled. Meeting with Commissioner Stuart is on the calendar and will be recurring on a quarterly basis.

### Work Committee Updates

- Benchmarks:
  - The committee decided the CoA report will include individual work committee updates on progress over the year, and another that combines data sources showing trends, improved progress, projects and strategies being worked on to make Clark County aging ready. Working on an "FAQ" data benchmark sheet. Goal is to finish the report in 3 months.
  - Discussion underway about providing an Aging Readiness task force update every 3, 5 or 10 years.
- Communication:
  - Lisa and Colete went to the Camas city council meeting. The council showed interest in time banking program.
  - Met with Kim, a committee member and resource librarian, formulating links with library and CoA websites; Facebook page has been approved.
  - Meetings will now be every 3–4 months.
  - Speaker's bureau is up and running. Lisa has a date to speak at a Kiwanis meeting and a few, small neighborhood meetings.
  - Committee will take control of the monthly event calendar.

- Community Engagement:
  - Kathy attended a volunteer management workshop put on by the non-profit network. She heard lots of positive feedback and genuine interest in the time banking program.
  - In April Kathy will attend a volunteer orientation session for a time banking program operating in the Seattle area. They can provide information and be helpful in getting the program started here. She will invite someone from the organization to come down and speak at the stakeholders meeting May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6-8:00pm, at the library. All the community is invited.
  - Applied for an intern from PSU to help pull program together.
  - Next committee meeting this Thursday, 3:30-5:00 pm at Human Services Council.
- Healthy Communities:
  - Clark PUD finishing up weatherization audits in target area. Money has been allocated.
  - Working on neighborhood meeting/ice cream social for April 9, 7:00-9:00 pm at Marrion School. Purpose to share information and opportunities with the target area on Universal Green Design (UGD), community gardens, transportation, etc. Will report on outcome at the next meeting.
- Housing:
  - Working on details of the shared housing project and meeting with organization in Portland.
  - Committee discussed the Emerald House, a UGD building project in Clark County. They're interested in finding out how more of these can be built. This is the first of its kind here.
  - Bob cited an article in the local newspaper today on the Council for Homeless initiating an additional case management referral service. He's feels this may be an area where the commission can offer support. The growing senior population of the future may find need for the agency's assistance.
- Supportive Services:
  - Randy read the vision statement developed by the committee regarding the Telehealth project. The purpose is to be catalysts for the program in the community, get the right people together that understand the benefits of Telehealth and can get it implemented to improve the health and well-being of the citizens.
  - Telehealth is hitting a tipping point and has been gaining awareness. The FCC has allocated increased bandwidth to help expand the capacity for Telehealth to go into homes and residential settings. The concept is receiving support from the Journal of AMA and the American Heart Journal, both reporting on studies that show success using the system.
  - Gary Beagle has accepted the Chair position for this committee.
- Transportation:
  - The Chair has been out on sick leave so there is nothing to report. Group will meet Thursday.

### Open Issues

- Website: Jacqui gave a tour of the updated CoA website.
  - Additional information on each committee, their projects and the Speaker's bureau.

- Commission members are listed with contact information matching their business cards.
- Send Jacqui an email with any changes.
- CVTV:
  - Still working on getting them to attend the meetings. Earliest date is June for the report back to the community. Would like to have all 3 commissioners attend as well.

### Presentation

- Kim McNally and Jennifer Studebaker from Ft. Vancouver Regional Library gave a presentation on their new website and services offered.
  - Serves Clark, Skamania, Klickitat and part of Cowlitz counties with 13 branches and 3 express locations. They have reciprocity with Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties in Oregon and access to Peace Health (consumer collection) and Camas libraries.
  - New downtown location has free Wi-Fi for all wireless devices, meeting rooms and study areas, 69 internet computers, coffee bar, and outdoor terrace on the top floor.
  - Award winning early childhood learning center (one of the top 10 in the USA) by Liveability.com, offering story times and children's programming every day, and a summer reading program.
  - Reference desk on 4<sup>th</sup> floor, also available via chat, email, text or phone. Meeting rooms available for a fee by prior reservation on a first come first served basis.
  - Features include a reading room with fireplace and an outdoor rooftop terrace.
  - Electronic resources: Ed2Go offers 6 week online classes for free; auto repair site; newspapers; films and documentaries; audio books and Ebooks.
  - Computer classes available: word processing, internet search, introduction to Facebook, photo editing and a job lab which runs 2 hours each day. Staff will help with resumes and job searches.
  - Offer lifestyle and cultural programs and adult story time at lunch hour; AARP tax help 3 days a week; hobby and craft groups; English language learning conversation circles twice a week.
  - First floor teen room with games, events, and internet stations.
  - Focus for 50+ programming series will debut this week, developed as a result of hearing about the Commission on Aging which opened the opportunity to provide relevant programs to the community. First program Tuesday, 03/26, on fraud and identity theft; in April, Mike Selig from Planet Clark will talk about green building, aging in place and home modification in Clark County. Every month will be a different topic.
  - Senior section on website divided by areas of interest, programs and services; links to library social presences like Facebook, Flickr, Pintrest, comment form to offer feedback and links to resources.
  - Rotating calendar of library events
  - Library catalog is available online – searchable by title, author, reference number, or key word. You can create a list of books you want to read and keep track of what you've read.
  - Books by mail are still available but must fill out an application form. Service has been reduced due to budget cuts.

- Google Translate is available to non-English speaking patrons. Translates text, not graphics. Staff is available for Spanish and Chinese languages.
- Foundation Center is available to search for grants, foundations, non-profit resources. This function is only available when in the library. Books also available on these topics.

#### New Business

- Clark County Community Planning received a national award of excellence for the Aging Readiness Plan from the American Planning Association in the special focus planning initiative, senior livability category. In April Colete will attend the national conference in Chicago to receive the award.

#### Public Comment

- Klaus Micheel, along with 10 members of the advisory council for Area Agency on Aging and Disabilities of SW Washington, attended Senior Lobby Day in Olympia on February 21<sup>st</sup>. They talked with 14 legislators to share the council's priorities and ask that funding is maintained for senior services. They've been promoting the Aging Readiness Plan and spoke about it again that day. The House has now passed Bill 1631 which basically says there will be a legislative, executive joint committee that will look at aging readiness throughout the state to determine if the state is ready for the aging population – what's in place, what needs to happen, where are the gaps, what kind of strategic plan needs to be developed and how does it need to be implemented. That report will be due in 1-1/2 years. One of the co-sponsors of the bill is Representative Harris from the 17<sup>th</sup> District. Representative Moeller from the 49<sup>th</sup> District made sure it reached the floor of the House and it sailed right through.
- Charlie Mitchell, NW Justice Project, commented on the new referral service at the Council on Homeless. For the last 20+ years they've had an emergency, one-stop overnight shelter. The new service offers not only overnight shelter but assistance with transitional housing, rapid rehousing, and supported housing. One place is aware of what's available and the criteria for getting into each of those services instead of making people call all over. They can make a decision about eligibility and route people to the appropriate service. He thinks they're taking into account the needs of all ages of the population, but will check into it and make sure they're considering that.
- Lisa attended a town hall meeting for the CRC last weekend. CVTV will broadcast the meeting and she encourages people to watch it.
- Bob had a suggestion based on Klaus's report that all counties across the state develop an aging plan similar to Clark County and present the effort to the legislature next year. He is willing to offer input from his experience as a Task Force member during the aging plan development.

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm.