



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

## Meeting Notes

Tuesday, March 15, 2015

4:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

**Members Present:** Bill Ritchie, Chuck Frayer, Bob Holdridge, Pat Janik, Marjorie Ledell, Herb Maxey, Karin Woll, Ali Caley,

**Absent:**

**Staff:** Colete Anderson, Jacqueline Kamp, Kathy Schroader

### Welcome and Call to Order

- Chair Bill Ritchie opened the meeting. Motion to approve the agenda and minutes from February 16<sup>th</sup>. It was seconded and was unanimously approved.

### Reports

- Vice-Chair report – Bob – At the February meeting several members of the audience presented policy type comments regarding housing issues, they were recorded in our minutes of the meeting. Three of the issues caught my attention; the first one was configuring lot sizes to be wider than deeper. The second was the elevator license requirement for stair chair lifts, and finally lot sizes again, 10 houses per acre rather than 6 houses per acre. Although the COA bylaws do not specifically charge the commission to present policy recommendation to the BOCC the bylaws do indicate responsibilities for general advocacy including, advising, reviewing, and reporting to the Board of County Councilors upon issues relating to county aging community. Therefore it is appropriate for the commission to study and prepare policy recommendations to the Councilors on issues related to the county Aging Readiness Plan. As an aside, it makes sense to me that the Commission form a government affairs committee; we don't have such a body now. That committee would monitor government at the county, city, state and report the findings, suggest policy proposals for consideration by the commission, executive committee and subsequently the nine member commission. If the commission votes to advocate policies, the commission would present those recommendations to the County Manager for his review and if he chooses submits the recommendations on to the Councilors. Discussion: **Marjorie**– Good work , I think these policies recommendations that you distilled from our February meeting will probably be picking up some from our March/April and all the rest of our meetings thru the rest of year. **Chuck** – when you get into the size of lots that gets into code we can make recommendations for looking into certain code changes, that's what the housing committee could take up. **Bill** – I think all three of the ones you distilled are things that we should be talking about immediately because one of them has to do with single story

houses and what that mean especially for people who age. The thing with the stair chair lift is a huge issue for people who are going to remain in their homes. The idea of 10 homes per acre opens up the idea of tiny houses.

- Communication – Marjorie –Each of you have the summary highlights to date from the January and February speakers. I would like each of you to email what you think are the most important highlights from the speaker and the members of the public following the meeting here tonight.
- Treasure report – Chuck – we have \$889.33 and holding.
- hOur IMPACT – Karin – Our membership is now 100 plus. All Clark County residents are eligible to join. A time bank is a program whereby if you become a member you post the needs that you have and in turn you are obligated to look at the needs that others have posted. The currency of the time bank is time. If someone spends two hours doing something for you must spend two hours providing a service to other members of the time bank.
- Public Health Advisory Committee – Ali– I met with the Public Health advisory council and they are very interested in building a partnership with us on initiatives as we did on the sodium reduction grant that we wrote a letter for. I plan to touch base with them on a monthly basis after our meetings. It went very well.
- Universal Green Design Update – Chuck – The only thing I'd like to say is wow to the audience we have today. As Bill said, every month we have a speaker coming in to talk on a different issue. This whole housing thing is a very complicated issue, especially when we are looking at aging in place, and what all of that takes in our community today.
- Council for the Homeless – Bill – We will be having an update on this shortly, with a speaker coming in – Andy Silver.

### Presentation

Aging-in-place is living in the home and community of your choice as you get older – Patrick Roden, RN, Ph.D.

- Aging in Place: The Ability to Live in One's Own Home and Community Safely, Independently, and Comfortably, Regardless of Age, Income, or Ability Level. –CDC
- Aging in Place PARADOX
- Our Environments Presume Youth
- We Can Now Safely Say That the Basic Concept of Brain Changes in Response to Environment Hold True for a Wide Variety of Animals and Humans
- Environmental Press:
  - Forces in the Environment that Together with Individual Need, Evoke a Response
- Many of the things we blame on aging, have nothing to do with getting older

### New Business

We sent the Sodium Reduction Community Grant support letter

### Public Comment

Announcements:

Andy Silver will be our speaker on April 19<sup>th</sup>– What housing options would best serve young and old alike?

The Commission on Aging will have 2 open positions starting June 1. Look for an announcement mid–March.

Chuck – Motion to develop an exploratory group to look into 501C3 for our group and or a foundation. Motion seconded and passed

Meeting adjourned at 6:00pm

The next open, general meeting will be April 19<sup>th</sup>.

***The Clark County Commission on Aging provides leadership and creates community engagement in addressing the needs and opportunities of aging.***