

Clark County Commission on Aging

1300 Franklin Street, 6th Floor

Vancouver, Washington

Work Session Notes

Tuesday, May 15, 2018 3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Members Present: Marian Anderson, Ali Caley, Chuck Frayer, Amy Gross, Pat Janik, Marjorie Ledell, Temple Lentz, and Linda O’Leary

Absent: Donna Roberge

Staff: Jenna Kay

1. **April 17 COA Work Session Notes –** No revisions were made. Work session notes were approved.
2. **Debrief of April 17 Meeting, Shawn Donaghy, C-TRAN**
   * Major findings/takeaways:
     1. Statistics on expected rate of growth by age group in Clark County (pp. 2-3 of 4/17/18 meeting notes). **ACTION ITEM: group liked the idea of conveying these stats to upcoming speakers and asking them to reiterate them in their talks.**
     2. Fixed route network service is the backbone of C-TRAN services (p. 3 of 4/17/18 meeting notes).
     3. Travel ambassadors are community advocates for C-VAN and the fixed route network on behalf of the agency. They provide very specific feedback for possible improvements (p. 3 of 4/17/18 meeting notes).
     4. Universal design of all retail development was recommended as an initiative C-Tran wants to take that would benefit the older county population and that the commission could advocate for to the county council (p. 4 of 4/17/18 meeting notes).
     5. We need to be mindful of our rural areas. Mobility on demand will be key (p. 4 of 4/17/18 meeting notes).
     6. The group wished they heard more about C-Tran’s shopping shuttle. Can we potentially promote it and/or recommend its expansion? **ACTION ITEM: can we learn more about it?**
     7. C-TRAN seems to be shopping and medically focused. Could there be other focuses, such as event shuttles? **ACTION ITEM: find out if community centers and such places have shuttles to get people to their events. This could help with socialization/addressing isolation.**
3. **Liaisons for AADSW, Public Health and AVRN**
   * Pat Janik provided a summary of what it is like being the COA liaison for AADSW.
     1. AADSW meets the day after COA meetings, the third Wednesday of the month. Meetings are in the morning. You can show-up 11:30am-12pm. Lunch is provided. The meeting takes place from 12-2pm.
     2. The meetings are typically at the AADSW offices, but not always. The group does not meet in July. In June, the meeting will be in Goldendale. The group tries to meet in different communities during the year.
     3. Pat is happy to continue attending AADSW and pass on information to Marjorie. She is also happy to take a new person to introduce them to the group. They always ask for a report about COA, and she shares what the group is doing and key events, such as the date of the summit.
     4. The group attends Senior Lobby Day in Olympia. You can attend at your own expense. This event is typically in February. The group members are excellent and creative advocates, showing legislators what they have accomplished and what’s next on their agenda.
     5. **ACTION ITEM: discuss at the June retreat if COA wants to more systematically participate in lobby day moving forward.**
   * Amy Gross provided a summary of what she does as the liaison to the Public Health Advisory Council.
     1. This group meets at 6pm on the third Tuesday of each month. That means, you need to leave COA to go over there.
     2. They serve dinner 5:30-6pm, except for visitors. We are visitors, not on the council.
     3. Meetings are held at the VA building.
     4. There isn’t much overlap with COA topics at this time. They are very focused on children, teenage health issues, etc. However, they have identified areas of overlap regarding food security and healthy communities.
     5. Amy has talked with the chair and discussed the idea of coordinating more. The group is excited to collaborate.
     6. The group discussed if attending their meetings is the best way to collaborate. Perhaps an informal monthly telephone call could be appropriate, until we find a project. Perhaps, we could align well with the healthy communities topic.
     7. **ACTION ITEM: discuss further at the June retreat.**
   * Linda O’Leary provided a summary of the Adult and Disability Resource Network (AVRN) meetings she attends.
     1. Group meets four times per year.
     2. They support disability and aging services. The group involves a lot of people on the ground who know the issues, such as nurses and social workers.
     3. Sometimes they have breakout groups. She always learns things when she attends. Good group.
     4. This year, the remaining meetings will be in September and December.
     5. **ACTION ITEM: Linda will bring meeting dates for the upcoming year to the retreat.**
     6. Could be a good thing to volunteer for when you are new to COA.
4. **Preparation for July 17 Speaker, Senior Drivers and Safety, Tom Wilson, AARP** 
   * Ask him to review stats about the growing aging population in the county.
   * What services are available, especially if you are worried about your parents? Where can you take them?
   * Strategies to ensure safety and dignity
   * Is there a self-evaluation/checklist?
   * Please discuss driver safety classes that can help with auto-insurance discounts.
   * What do you think about apps like Allstate Drivewise?
   * Please discuss features available in new cars.
   * Alternatives to driving, what are options for people?
   * Uber, etc. don’t offer discounts for seniors. Could this be a future recommendation?
   * C-Tran has a program to train people to ride the bus. Not sure word gets out that much.
   * If I ditch my car, how much money will it save me?
5. **Report to city councils update** 
   * La Center, May 9: the council was good-hearted and cared about the community. Their presentation was well-received. There were not many questions. They were especially interested in what the other cities had done. The revised presentation is quite comprehensive.
   * Vancouver, May 21
   * Ridgefield, May 24
   * Camas, July, exact date TBD
6. **Related transportation initiatives** 
   * Complete Streets Q & A
     1. Last work session, Gary gave an overview of complete streets and the ordinance under consideration by the county council. The group voted in the last meeting to send a letter of support to the county. That letter has been sent. Marjorie cited the Aging Readiness Plan and COA’s housing recommendations, which both mention complete streets.
     2. The group discussed that they would like to see complete streets applied to retrofit existing development and incorporated into new development.
     3. The group discussed a concern about trees messing up sidewalks and making them dangerous.
        1. In Chuck’s neighborhood, the trees have lifted the sidewalks up. The county was there putting in curb cuts and had the equipment there and could have fixed the sidewalks, but didn’t do a complete look at what was going on. This group could raise awareness of sidewalk issues/tie this to a recommendation.
        2. Marian had Friends of Trees plant trees in her yard. She learned that first, you need to pick the right tree. Second, you can do selective root pruning to help prevent sidewalk issues.
        3. The City of Vancouver has two openings on the Urban Forestry Commission if anyone is interested in applying.
     4. Could we recommend a grant system to help people who can’t afford to fix sidewalks, get them fixed?
     5. Question/recommendation to the county council regarding complete streets - what is your strategy of how it’s going to be implemented? How will you bring complete streets into the forefront of how business is done? And, how does that match up with the cities’ complete street strategy(ies)?
        1. Is it our goal that the county/cities complete sidewalk connectivity?
        2. Could the county target areas with lots of foot traffic? Or, routes to get to the bus?
   * Human Services Transportation plan
     1. Chuck Frayer has provided feedback at one of the outreach meetings.
     2. **ACTION ITEM: share questions/survey from HSTP public meetings.**
7. **Retreat: June 19, 2018**
   * Public Service Center, 6th Floor Training Room
   * Time: 3pm start
   * Facilitator: Marjorie and Marian met with Donna Sinclair, their volunteer facilitator.
   * The group discussed how healthy communities is the outstanding topic of the Aging Readiness Plan that the group has not covered yet.
8. **Next meeting:**  July 17, 2018 at 3:30pm.
9. **Other upcoming meetings/topics:**

* May 17, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. Clark County Planning Commission Hearing on Complete Streets Ordinance at PSC, 6th Floor Hearing Room
* May 26, 2018, Health, Wellness and Beauty Fair at Vancouver Pointe Senior Village
* June 21, 2018, 3-7 p.m., The Longest Day, Alzheimers Association Event at Esther Short Park

1. **Adjournment:** The work session adjourned at 4:05 p.m.

***The Clark County Commission on Aging provides leadership in community engagement and advocacy of Clark County's Aging Readiness Plan, especially for those 60 and over who plan to age in place.***