



Clark County Commission on Aging  
Webex Remote Meeting  
Vancouver, Washington

## Work Session Notes

Wednesday, August 18, 2021

3:30 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Members Present: Chuck Green (Chair), Franklin Johnson (Vice Chair), Nancy Dong, Cass Freedland, Amy Gross, Meghan McCarthy, Larry Smith, Tanya Stewart, Pam Wheeler

Absent:

Staff: Jacqui Kamp, Jenna Kay

### 1. Jul 21 meetings

- There were no suggested edits to the meeting notes.

### 2. 2022 Work Plan update

#### 2022 Focus

- Cass and Larry provided an update on the subcommittee's work since the last COA meeting.
- The subcommittee is interested in the AAADSW 2020-2023 survey, conducted in 2019. There was a copy of the survey in the appendix to their current strategic plan. The questions are focused on aging in place.
- The subcommittee discussed and is thinking about what kind of questions we want to ask and what kind of questions we are interested in
  - Plan to intersect with Christina Marneris at AAADSW about the survey
  - For us, we are not sure if the aging place service needs type questions would be our primary focus or if we might have a broader question around community and COVID/challenges being faced
  - We were interested in questions around volunteers and how volunteers can help build supportive service networks for aging adults. How can they help advance many of the services being provided in the community, both through education and helping?
  - We are thinking of asking if volunteer services are affiliated with an organization or neighbors/family
  - We might ask about what kinds of challenges have been faced, and, if you have not asked for support, why are you not asking for that support?
  - Ask for suggestions on how to reach those not seeking support?
  - Sharing success stories with past or current interactions with volunteers.
  - Want to reach those who live alone without much support
- Discussion/clarifying questions:
  - The survey would ideally reach volunteers who serve seniors and seniors who volunteer



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- Is the hope that the survey identifies gaps volunteers could help fill? Thinking to survey older adults to see/role volunteers possibly play in their lives and how the volunteer force could be more impactful
- The AAADSW survey seemed to focus on aging in place. Talked about doing our own survey and AAADSW can maybe transfer what we learn to their survey work next year?
- Want to bring partners in so credible/useful for community partners. Ask organizations: do you want to be a part, what questions do you want to ask? Unified approach could be more powerful when make presentation to County Council.
- Timeline for survey delivery: not determined yet, want to move quickly
- Want to connect with Christina and reach out to nonprofit network. Some of us have connections to some nonprofits, i.e. Larry could help connect us with Meals on Wheels/Suzanne Washington.
- Is there a preliminary list of nonprofits to reach out to? Not yet.
- Maybe a good idea to reach out to smaller nonprofits. May have different needs than larger ones.
- ADRN meetings: Christina manages these meetings for AAADSW. This is an obvious place where there are a lot of agencies you could reach all at once.
- Timeline: next couple of months
- Next steps:
  - **ACTION ITEM:** subcommittee to hold another meeting and invite Christina. **ACTION ITEM:** staff to schedule.
  - **ACTION ITEM:** subcommittee to establish timeline and implementation plan
  - **ACTION ITEM:** subcommittee to create draft survey
  - **ACTION ITEM:** staff to invite some nonprofits to be a part of a subcommittee meeting too.
  - Will solidify what AAADSW and local nonprofits are already doing/don't know about. Will strive to combine forces to make survey unified across groups.
  - Amy got to know organizations who do outreach with underserved communities through her Public Health Department involvement in the last couple of years. **ACTION ITEM:** Amy to reach out to her contact at Public Health to see if he can provide a list of organizations/contacts. She will share information with staff (who will relay to the subcommittee).
  - **ACTION ITEM:** Determine with subcommittee and Chair/Vice chair if want to invite Christina to September work session
  - **ACTION ITEM:** subcommittee to incorporate discussion on meeting approach/public engagement to get out into the community as part of 2022 work planning

#### Aging Readiness Plan

- If we wanted to have a substantial request next year, we need to get that submitted to Oliver Orjiako, Community Planning Director in the fall. There's a potential bandwidth issue with staff projects and we would need to make that request pretty soon.
- Do we want to reconvene the Aging Readiness Plan (ARP) subcommittee and come up with a work plan request for an ARP update/refresh? We can also propose if it becomes part of our 2022 work plan or something different? Maybe we work on developing our request over the next year. And maybe we make the request the following year.

- Could reconvene the ARP subcommittee (Nancy, Chuck, Larry) before September and go through options and see if we want to actually make a proposal or somehow dovetail it into the regular work plan/focus.
- It might be that every other work session is focused on one part of the ARP and we create refreshes that come out of that work.
- Next steps:
  - **ACTION ITEM:** staff to schedule ARP subcommittee meeting with Nancy, Chuck, and Larry
  - **ACTION ITEM:** subcommittee to review options and bring to the full commission a proposal on how we want to move forward at the September work session

### 3. Public engagement ideas

- How can we get more interpersonal engagement in our work/meetings?
- One idea: can we have a regular meeting and see if we can safely have a commission member go to a conference room, i.e. at a VHA complex or older adult-oriented facility, and older adults could participate.
- There seemed to be consensus around waiting to see what happens with the virus.
- There is interest in getting the commission out into the community, but it may need to wait
- Could we meet outdoors on a lawn and bring bottled water?
- Next step:
  - Hold off for this year. Consider revisiting for next year.
  - **ACTION ITEM:** 2022 focus subcommittee to include public engagement/meeting approach as part of their work.

### 4. Silver Citizen Award

- Review committee: Cass, Pam, Tanya, Amy
- Review committee to make recommendation to full commission at Sep meeting
- **ACTION ITEM:** Staff to share nomination form and commission members to share
- **ACTION ITEM:** staff to schedule review committee meeting

### 5. Hybrid meeting update

- Staff waiting for update on County Council hybrid meetings. Staff will continue to share updates with commission as they know more.
- Commission on Aging constituency is vulnerable. Suggestion and general consensus to be conservative with approach.
- In general, commission members fine continuing their work remotely.

6. **Next Meeting:** September 15, 2021 – 3:30pm.

7. **Adjournment:** The work session adjourned at 4:21 pm.

*The Clark County Commission on Aging provides leadership in community engagement and advocacy of Clark County's Aging Readiness Plan, especially for those 65 and over who plan to age in place.*