

Work Session Notes

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

3:30 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Members Present: Nancy Dong, Amy Gross, Franklin Johnson, Linda O’Leary, Marjorie Ledell, Megan McCarthy, Larry Smith, Pam Wheeler

Absent: Chuck Green

Staff: Jacqui Kamp, Jenna Kay

1. October 16 COA meetings

- The work session notes were approved.
- Takeaways from October 16 regular meeting: no additions to notes

2. Healthy communities findings and recommendations – final draft review

- The group discussed the draft findings and recommendations to provide additional recommendations.
- Suggestions will be incorporated into the final version and include:
 - Overall: call out which recommendations are for the County Council, which are for all local governments, etc. Baby boomers and millennials having the same values and lifestyles. Talk about children/school curriculum on being around and interacting with older citizens. So different here compared to Japan where reverence for elders. May need to do some cultural things. What about the homeless? They age too. Seismic issues and strategies for evacuating people from multiple storied structures. Attention to how we are building things; not dependent on elevators.
 - Introduction: Add citation regarding the social isolation statistic compared to smoking 15 cigarettes per day. Make this stat more clear that is about risk of death not just risk to health.
 - Complete neighborhoods: include parks as part of the description of a complete neighborhood. Specify benches with backs where mention providing benches. Make sure quote from speaker Elizabeth Decker regarding complete streets and complete neighborhoods connection is included in report. Describe how we are looking to decentralize opportunities in a more deliberate way, for instance, we may need things like a grocery store truck in areas where no grocery stores are locating.
 - Parks and recreation: move universally designed parks recommendation to top of the list. Keep recommendation to consider evaluating concept of recreating Clark-Vancouver metropolitan park district. **Add that we need to think about**



different concepts about parks and how to plan for them in the future. Regarding the community center suggestion, clarify that does not have to be a brick and mortar location, could be staffing and programming. The main point is to provide accessible programming throughout the county.

- Food access and health: for grocery store recommendation, clarify that it is access to fresh fruits and vegetables and doesn't have to be traditional brick and mortar store. Make sure a food truck with fresh food, like a food cart, would be permitted. Recognize and encourage people to grow food in their yards. Recognize grocery providers who provide senior discounts. Consider rotating farmers' market locations or community/park space that has rotating services such as farmers' market, pet clinic, etc. on different days.
- Urban forestry: add note about reimbursement for planting certain trees, like some of the other jurisdictions do.
- Value of engaging older adults: make clear in findings that older adults and millennials having lots of crossover in needs and wants, and the more overlap the better when implementing recommendations.
- Advance care planning: confirm if advanced or advance. May want to look at strategies to have more people specialized in geriatric care; not enough people specializing in geriatric care. [note from Jenna: worth checking with CREDC and worksource?] Alternatives to more geriatric doctors could include training other medical professionals like paramedics.

3. Summit update

- Staff provided an update on the summit.
- The Washington Secretary of Health has been confirmed as the keynote speaker.
- The date has been confirmed for the afternoon of Thursday, April 9.
- The event will take place roughly in the 3-6pm timeframe.
- The event agenda will include:
 - Networking/resource fair/COA open house
 - Approximately 1.5 hours with speakers and Q&A.
- Location is still TBD
- Plan to open the event to the public in addition to list of attendees invited in the past.
- Need to come up with a summit tagline and log.

4. Award

- Council Chair and County Manager supported the idea of the COA presenting an award at the state of the county.
- Award subcommittee – staff to convene this group once have more details about the event and how a nomination process would work.
- COA to consider naming the award.
- Award would be open for nominations countywide.

5. 2020 Community engagement and advocacy update

- Staff presented a revised proposal for the 2020 COA work plan, to host a joint meeting with each of the city councils, one per month (like the joint county council meeting) where the COA would present their findings and recommendations, take public comment, and discuss areas of interest with each city.
- This approach would merge the city presentations and monthly meetings.
- Instead of a summit, the COA could host a town hall in November as the culminating event.

- For scheduling, there are two options. One is to find time to meet with each city council during their regularly schedule workshop time. The other is to request a special meeting with each city council on a Wednesday afternoon.
- The group was supportive of the overarching idea and supportive of trying to meet with the city council during their regularly scheduled workshop time.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Staff to start outreach to cities and development of schedule.

6. Prep for January 15 joint County Council/CoA annual meeting

- The group was interested in each presenting one slide of the presentation.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Staff to email group to prepare for the presentation. Staff to draft initial script/presentation outline. COA members to let staff know what topic(s) most interested in presenting on.
- The January COA work session, there will be time to ask and discuss any final questions before the presentation.

7. Announcements/Updates

- AARP is hosting an event in December if anyone is interested in attending, they can follow the RSVP directions in the handout.
- No December COA meetings
- Next meeting will be joint with the County Council on January 15.

8. Next Meeting: January 15, 2019 - 3:30pm.

9. Adjournment: The work session adjourned at 4:20pm.

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.