Clark County Commission on Aging
1300 Franklin Street, 6th Floor
Vancouver, Washington

Work Session Notes

Wednesday, October 16, 2019
3:00 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Members Present: Chuck Green, Amy Gross, Linda O'Leary , Marjorie Ledell, Megan McCarthy, Larry Smith, Pam Wheeler

Absent: Nancy Dong, Franklin Johnson

Staff: Jacqui Kamp, Jenna Kay

1. **September 18 COA meetings**
   - The work session notes were approved.
     - Healthcare Decision Day – COA could help get the word out
       - Could promote along with tax day, i.e. there are two things in life we don't want to do: taxes and think about our death plan
       - Lots of assistance on taxes available. Maybe synergy between tax and healthcare decision day?
       - May is Older Americans month. Could we combine the two into one resolution? **ACTION – staff to investigate combo resolution.**
       - Could do a social media campaign in April re: taxes and healthcare decision day. Involve county social media staff. **ACTION – staff to research.**
   - Takeaways from September 18 regular meeting:
     - Complete neighborhoods – additional request for local jurisdictions to implement in addition to complete streets.
     - Liked quote from Elizabeth Decker on you can have complete street without a complete neighborhood, but not the other way around.

2. **Summit update**
   - Secretary of Health, John Wiesman, seems like he is interested if the scheduling works. Staff are working to confirm details.
   - Older Adult Community Impact Award – suggestion to shift the award from a summit award to a State of the County award, for posterity and streamlined logistics. The group reviewed draft qualification criteria, communication strategy and timelines.
     - Feedback: change medicine to healthcare; add multiple nominations/letters of support will be given some weight; the First Citizen award could be looked at as an example for nomination criteria and how the nomination process works
     - Award Subcommittee will review the nomination form and review nominations once received

1. Subcommittee: Amy, Megan, Linda
2. **ACTION – staff to follow-up with subcommittee to schedule first meeting**

3. **Healthy Communities findings and recommendations – 1st draft review**
   - The group reviewed the first draft of the annual findings and recommendations
   - Feedback:
     - Expand the findings for each topic. They need a some more info, ie at least two findings per topic.
     - For advance care planning – the recommendation to increase POLST conversation training for doctors in the region. Change doctors to healthcare providers. **ACTION – staff to check if doctors are the only ones allowed to have a POLST conversation**
   - Reading committee once have complete draft
   - Do something to call out what councilors have authority over, ie consider using different color text

4. **Prep for November meeting speakers – Older adults and pets**
   - The group brainstormed questions and topics they would like to hear from the speaker:
   - Pluses and minuses of having pet(s) as you age, i.e. mobility challenges
   - Share research on how having a pet enhances your life
   - Discuss therapeutic animals
   - Discuss the impact of animals in your life, even if you don't own one
   - Criteria for matching people and pets
   - What to do if you or someone you know becomes blind, has a mobility challenge, etc.

5. **Announcements/Updates**
   - Town hall meetings – Chair Smith will meet with Councilor Quiring and raise this topic with her.
   - Caring.com – Interesting to have someone talk about the criteria used in the caring.com ranking as a presentation next year. Consider inviting the reporter, Patty Hastings, to discuss the article and why they thought it would be interesting to the community. Recommendation to look at the livability index tool and how the area gets rated on that. **ACTION ITEM - staff to send Livability Index link to COA.**
   - Vancouver Men's SHED program is starting in Vancouver.
   - Senior Messenger – great resource for all types of services and information for older adults.

6. **Next Meeting:** November 20, 2019 – 3:30pm.

7. **Adjournment:** The work session adjourned at 4:10pm.

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.