

Colorado Springs Commission on Aging Minutes

January 8, 2020

3:00 – 5:00 pm

CONO, 1506 N. Hancock Ave., 80903

In attendance: Carrie Schillinger (Chair), Lorri Orwig, Lindsey Baker, Aubrey Day, Cleasther Marchman, Caedryn Carter, Claire Anderson, Connie Johnson, Mittie Pedraza, , Vanessa Obetz, David McKeown

Excused: CJ Moore

Absent:

Guests: Mikaela Burns, Max Kronstadt, Liam Reynolds, David Geislinger, Jill Gaebler

Staff: Carly Hoff

Call to Order 3:04 pm

Welcome & Introductions

Approval of minutes from 12/4/19

Lorri motions, Connie seconds

Approved unanimously

Citizen Comment

Mikaela Burns – Innovations in Aging

Things that might be valuable to the Commission on Aging

Check out ReToolCOS – review zoning classifications, multimodal transportation options, etc.

Transportation Improvement Program Open House – January 22nd, 4-6 pm at 14 S. Chestnut Street

Brainstorming Session

Discussion:

Mission:

- Provide ongoing and embedded advocacy for older adults in the municipal government of Colorado Springs;
- Advise the City Council on special issues and opportunities relating to the City's aging population;
- Make recommendations to the City Council and Mayor during the annual municipal budget process; and
- Review legislation that affects older adults and make recommendations to the City Council and Mayor on positions

Board Policy:

Advisory board as contrasted from a policy board –

Some suggestions:

Outreach to City Council

Research on aging policy

Look at City Strategic Plan and see where we fit in/policy review?

Jill and David can be conduits to thoughts

Have a presence at Senior Resource Council Expo

Create partnerships? UCCS Aging Center, Area Agency on Aging

Support IIAC/Age Friendly Plan

More representation from seniors/older adults themselves

How to we make our work the most meaningful?

Outreach in general to the community

Hold meetings/events where we naturally find seniors congregating

At December meeting, wanted to invite Pro-Housing Partnership to attend

Wanted to brainstorm in small groups

Work with other groups to amplify our voice to older adults, caregivers, families, adult children

Support the older adults by supporting the community – 8 to 80 concept

Age Friendly Colorado Springs 1.0 is ending in 2020, new five-year cycle of Age Friendly begins in 2021 and there is a great opportunity for Commission to play a role in that second plan

Encourage advocacy directly from seniors to City Council

Encourage advocacy committee to empower seniors

Outreach through CONO, SRC, YMCA, DHS, Senior Center, Caregivers, AAA, etc.

Training for how to speak to Council/how to speak in public, how to talk to government, etc.

Find a way to amplify our voice – empower people to advocate themselves

Caedryn- advocacy/outreach will be very important – older adults can be secluded and don't know what's happening in the community and what they can access/how to be empowered to advocate for themselves

AARP Bulletin – December – Great Place for All Ages

Check out Age Strong Boston campaign

ADU at Council

January 27th work session – 10 am – no public comment

February 11th is key vote and conversation – most likely heard after 1 pm

Share PHP Talking Points about ADUs

Download agenda in advance

Collaborate with Pro-Housing Partnership to support ADUs

Action:

Small Groups –

Outreach
Advocacy
Policy/Strategic Plan

Do we create subcommittees for outreach, advocacy, policy – short term such as housing, transportation, etc.?

Small Group Report Out:

Outreach-

- Move Commissioner Updates to the top of the agenda
- Do small group breakout sessions at each meeting
- Avenues for sharing information- organizations that have networks – share highlight from meeting minutes – send to list of partners within the community – that shares info and amplifies our voices – can also ask partners what they'd like us to do
- What are the 8 domains: Housing, Transportation, Outdoor Spaces and Buildings, Civic Participation and Employment, Social Participation, Respect and Social Inclusion, Communication and Information, Community Support and Health Services.
- Age Friendly Colorado Springs Plan: <http://innovationsinaging.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Age-Friendly-Colorado-Springs-FINAL-APPROVED-2016.pdf>

Advocacy-

- Who to advocate to
 - Teams of two meet with Council members
 - Work with partners to identify individuals who can be an advocate for seniors from their organization
 - How to advocate in a way that resonates for people of all ages
- What to advocate for
- Strategy for advocacy/how we can partner with outreach group

Policy-

- Our role between the outreach and advocacy committees – policy bridges the gap between what seniors want, what we want to push out to seniors – keepers(?) to get from one committee to the other
- Best practices, talking points

Commissioner Updates:

Next meeting(s):

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 5, 2020, 3:00 – 5:00 pm at City Hall, 107 N. Nevada Ave.,
Pikes Peak Conference Room on second floor**

Adjournment 5:00 pm