

DENVER COMMISSION ON AGING

Minutes – May 21, 2009

Present: Sandi Armstrong, Muriel Arvay, Cecil Bethea, Joe Halpern, Phyllis Hirschfeld, Mary Madrid, Jamie Malone, Fern Osborne, Zane Robertson, Chris Wanifuchi, Michelle Williams

Excused: Dre’ Dufford, Erin Kruse, Barbara Martin-Worley, Morris Price, Sr., Juanita Rios-Johnston

Guests: Anthony Aragon; Jean Hall & David Deacan, Seniors Helping Seniors; Margaret Rendon, First Ride; Alice Osner, RTD; and Interns: Judith Houlding, CU, and Anita Simon, Regis.

TOPIC	DISCUSSION SUMMARY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE/PLAN
Minutes	April minutes were approved as written.	
DCoA Executive Committee Report: Phyllis	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Still need to fill some positions on Commission. Phyllis will reconstitute the Nominating Committee, which may need some additional members. Phyllis, Chris and Juanita are the current members. Committee will work closely with Anthony to recruit and screen applicants. - Juanita would like the Commission to consider if a representative from Human Services is necessary. If so, she wonders if it would be possible to rotate attendance among the three division heads in Adult Services. This would release some of the pressure she feels in having to attend on behalf of Human Services. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Joe commented that there are other models the Commission may want to consider. In Arapahoe County, providers are invited to attend but are not members of the County Council on Aging. This keeps the council aware of what their agencies do without having taking up voting space on the council. - Others commented that it did not work well to have rotating representation and they wanted Juanita to stay. - Zane offered to send recruitment info about the Commission to his Data Base with his monthly newsletter. - Anthony suggested that we needed to develop a plan to disseminate information on items such as this and asked what we do with the info he sends out to all of us. Mary said she posts anything that would be of interest or use to her senior population. 	<p>Phyllis – reconstitute Nominating Comm. and talk with Juanita.</p> <p>Zane – will send out recruitment info when developed.</p>

<p>Committee Reports</p>	<p>-Partnership: Joe: Attended Arapahoe County Council on aging meeting. Goal for committee as a whole is to complete visits to other DRCOG County Councils on Aging by August and share results with the entire Commission.</p> <p>- Outreach: Mary: Working on a double sided business card with phone, web site info, vision/function, mission, and city logo on one side and 3 committee goals on the other. Jamie still working on running calendar of events that are senior oriented.</p> <p>- Advocacy: Muriel: Governor issued a proclamation on eliminating Elder Abuse. (Would like to have speaker on Elder abuse including financial abuse. Joe mentioned the DA from Arapahoe County talked at their meeting. Anthony said he would also issue a proclamation. Will invite a speaker for June meeting on Elder Abuse. The priority issues for the summer – committee will continue to track and report what is needed by the Commission, but Funding still a major issue. According to Fern, the interim legislative committee issues to track are: 1) Funding for domestic abuse and legal help. This was to provide health care for non-eligible Seniors on Medicaid; 2) A task force to end poverty issues. This includes money for nursing homes to do more activities; and 3)A task force on health care. This includes fiscal stability, hospice care, home care, and Old Age Pension funds. This was passed, but not funded.</p> <p>- Phyllis asked each committee to honor their commitment to meet monthly to accomplish their goals and objectives. She reminded committee members that the work of the Commission was accomplished only through the work of its committees.</p>	<p>- Outreach Committee will develop annual calendar for Commissioners, volunteers and website</p>
<p>Director on Aging – Anthony</p>	<p>May is Older American’s month. Anthony showed us a calendar of the 9 special events for the month.</p> <p>Senior Census- Where are Seniors living? Anthony will be getting statistics on where the highest concentration of seniors are living.</p> <p>Aging Matters – Will have an update in July</p> <p>Coalition to address end of life decision making has begun. They hope to open up the process to make it simpler and more available to everyone, no matter what their living and family situations. Many forms are difficult for people to use and do not work well for all relationships. Sandy moved, Cecil seconded, and the Commission voted in favor of partnering with the coalition to help address end of life decisions-making issues.</p> <p>Anthony found funds to pay the facilitators’ bill for the retreat. It was not as much as originally thought.</p>	<p>- Jamie will start to work on a calendar.</p> <p>- Type and send Phyllis notes for each cmte by the 26th.</p>

<p>Presentation – 1st Ride Margaret Randin</p>	<p>First Transit now being managed by DRCOG so hopefully will work better. This provider is for Seniors 60+ for medical or nutritional transportation. Service is door-to-door with a 1 hour window to be picked up both at the start of trip and return. This vendor is smaller than other transportation groups in existence, so more personal. Currently have 9 buses. Must make reservation 3 days ahead of time. Can only be used for medical or nutrition, but can sometimes do related trips if not busy.</p>	<p>-</p>
<p>Announcements and Other Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sandy voiced her concern that commissioners were not assuming responsibility for making sure that the committees met monthly to accomplish their goals and objectives. Joe also expressed his concern. Outreach committee in particular said they would try to do better. - Jamie reiterated the fact that she needs us to get information to her so she can keep a running calendar of events of interest to the senior population. - Spring into Health – Michelle bringing group of seniors; Sandy, Joe Chris, Jamie and Cecil will help with Commission table. Zane has a table for Active Minds in the Resource Fair. Anthony working the Resource Fair. Mary doing Registration and Parks & Recreation table. - Would someone be willing to do a column for Prime Time for Seniors or Senior Market Place? 	
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p>Thursday, June 18, 2009, 9:30 a.m. at Volunteers of America, 2660 Larimer Street.</p>	