

Juneau Commission on Aging (JCOA)  
Meeting Notes February 21, 2023

**I. Call to order**

The meeting was called to order by Emily Kane and conducted via ZOOM.

Board members present: Carol Ende, Emily Kane, Deborah Craig, Linda Kruger, Jennifer Garrison, Jennifer Carson,

Board members absent: Kathleen Samalon, Ann Stepetin, Susan Warner

Others: Shoshana Seligman, Michelle Hale, Assembly Liaison

**II. Approval of Agenda and minutes from previous meeting**

The agenda was approved. Minutes from the January meeting were approved as submitted.

**III. Public participation on Non-Agenda Items**

There was no public participation on non-agenda items.

**IV. Discussion Items**

1. **Election of Officers** - The slate of officers was presented as: Emily Kane, Chair, Kathleen Samalon, Vice Chair, Linda Kruger, Secretary, and Deborah Craig, Treasurer. Linda Kruger motioned for unanimous consent, Jennifer Carson seconded, and the slate of officers was elected with no dissent.
2. **Appointment of members to three main projects/subcommittees:**
  - a.) **Housing for seniors** - Kathleen Samalon, Emily Kane and Carol Ende.
  - b.) **Improving volunteer database** with Catholic Community Services and United Way - Jennifer Garrison, Jennifer Carson
  - c.) **Creating senior fitness and social opportunities** with Parks and Recreation - Linda Kruger and Emily Kane.
  - d.) **Southeast Regional Eldercare Coalition**- Deborah Craig, Linda Kruger. Emily suggested that maybe the volunteer effort could fall under SREC and Deb Craig might be able to write a grant to provide supplemental funding for the volunteer database effort.

3. **Question of the Month** - Members agreed to discontinue the Question of the Month.
4. **Juneau as an Age Friendly Community** - There are 8 domains and JCOA will coordinate with the Juneau AARP CAT to design a plan for how to proceed.
5. **Planning for May Listening Sessions** - Listening sessions will be held at the 3 public libraries. Carol will work on the Valley meeting; Linda and Deb C. will work on the Douglas meeting; and Emily will work on the Downtown meeting. Linda said that the AARP-CAT would co-sponsor the listening sessions and help out. Linda will organize a working group to plan the events. Shoshana mentioned that many people still don't come out in the community for in-person events.

- V. **Assembly Liaison Comments and Questions:** Michelle Hale mentioned the Municipal League meeting at the Baranof: Legislative priorities include defined benefits and improving childcare. Michelle asked about the status of the Juneau Senior Center. Jennifer G. mentioned that there is no site manager at Mountainview/the Juneau Senior Center. It has been hard to find staff. CCS hopes to reopen the center in May. The Senior Center could provide services and information for seniors. Michelle mentioned that the Assembly is encouraging housing development. The lack of housing blocks workers from being able to afford to live here. We need to expand our housing before we can recruit workers.

We agreed to share the information that we gather from our listening sessions with Michelle.

VI. **Adjournment**

The next meeting is scheduled for March 21 at 10:30 via ZOOM.  
Linda provided notice that she will be on an airplane and thus will miss the March meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 AM.