

JCOA PLANNING WORKGROUP SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

May 21, 2024 at 3:00 PM

Zoom Webinar



<https://juneau.zoom.us/j/81491760970?pwd=bkFwWk42Mllmazl0aFdMS3ArTG5qZz09>

Or Call In: 1-253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 814 9176 0970 Passcode: 858248

A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Chair Craig called the Juneau Commission on Aging meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Present: Deborah Craig, Linda Kruger, Jennifer Garrison, Carol Ende

Others Present: none

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda approved as presented

C. AGENDA TOPICS

- JCOA Proposal Concept Discussion** - Without a quorum no decisions were made. The four members discussed scheduling ZOOM sessions with other groups to present the proposal for creation of a CBJ Office of Aging and a Senior Recreation and Wellness Center to be co-located at Marie Drake along with other organizations that serve the community. Chair Craig had an opportunity to discuss the JCOA proposal with Amy Skilbred, Juneau Community Foundation Exec. Director, Board President John Pugh, and Reed Stoops, one of the founders. They were all supportive of the Office of Aging and the Community Center, including a Senior Wellness and Recreation Center. They suggested obtaining an assessment of operational costs and Chair Craig sent a request for this information to CBJ City Manager Katie Koester. They also suggested requesting a grace period to allow time to solicit grants and donations to help cover costs. The efforts are part of an effort to keep seniors in Juneau. The group recommended applying to the Alaska Mental Health Trust and MACP for funding support. The Alzheimer's Association and AARP might be able to offer programming. Deb has successfully worked with MACP and wrote the grant that they funded for the SREC program. Since they have shown an interest in Juneau this seems like a good opportunity for us.

We discussed CBJ finance concerns and the need to keep costs down, including a hesitance to create new FTE positions. We may propose for CBJ Planning to take on the Age-Friendly Planning process with existing staff. Different community groups could take on/adopt implementation of various components of the Age-Friendly Plan that fit within their program of work/interest. The process should be an effort to bring the community together. We discussed existing not-for-profit groups that might be able to provide a non-profit umbrella for receiving donations and grants for the project(s). Linda has been talking with folks at Bartlett Regional Hospital. The proposal fits nicely with the health and wellness continuum that includes Home Care and Hospice and Wildflower Court. We also discussed United Way, CCS, SAIL/ADRC, and others. All groups we have reached out to, while supportive, are overcommitted (and many are understaffed) with what they are already trying to accomplish. They will be great partners but are not available to play a leadership role.

SEARHC reached out to JCOA to show support of services for seniors. They are interested in staying in touch and coordinating activities. Both SEARHC and Bartlett have expressed interest in supporting programs that keep seniors active and healthy. Linda mentioned that keeping people healthy rather than waiting to treat them when they are sick is referred to as "working upstream" and is a cost effective and ethically solid approach to wellness.

We discussed the importance of changing the narrative on Aging. We can do this through/in conjunction with the Age-Friendly Planning process. AARP has many resources to help us with this effort.

We identified the following priorities: Reframe Aging, complete the Age-Friendly Plan (due in December), and pursue the Community Center at Marie Drake and an Office of Aging.

Based on the strong recommendation from the Juneau Community Foundation Chair Craig will contact MACP to inform them of the JCOA proposal and see what options they might offer.

D. NEXT MEETING DATE

Regular JCOA Workgroup– June 11, 2024 @ 3pm via Zoom

JCOA Regular Meeting - June 18, 2024 @ 3pm via Zoom

JCOA Workgroup – June 25, 2024 @ 3pm via Zoom

E. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS - CBJ Draft Proposal May 14, 2024 was attached and distributed with the Agenda

F. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the commission, meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.