

Work Session Notes

Wednesday, August 17, 2022

3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Members Present: Cass Freedland (Chair), Sue Cameron, Chuck Green, Amy Gross, Mel Sanchez, Larry Smith, Tanya Stewart, and Meghan McCarthy

Absent: Amy Gross, Franklin Johnson (Vice Chair)

Staff: Susan Ellinger and Jenna Kay, Community Planning

1. Hybrid meeting reminders

Chair Cass Freedland reviewed logistical reminders for hybrid meetings.

2. Review of July 20, 2022 work session and regular meeting notes

Chuck Green asked to have the meeting notes amended to add recognition for C-Tran as the 2022 North American Transit System of the Year by the American Public Transportation Association.

3. Silver Citizen Award – request for nomination review subcommittee

Jenna Kay outlined that nominations can be submitted through August 26, 2022 at 5 pm. She also asked for volunteers for the nomination committee. Cass Freedland, Mel Sanchez and Larry Smith volunteered.

4. Webpage Updates

Susan Ellinger outlined some of the changes made to the Commission on Aging webpages. If anyone has suggestions for additional changes, please email her. Chuck Green asked if headshots could be added to the bios for the Commissioners. **ACTION ITEM:** Susan confirmed that was possible and asked members to send the headshots if they wanted them added.

A graphic of the topical areas of the Aging Readiness Plan (ARP) was added to the overview page. Cass Freedland noted that with the addition of a new chapter to the Aging Readiness Plan, the graphic may need an update. **ACTION ITEM:** Staff agreed to contact the county's graphic designer about this issue.

Mel Sanchez noted that the mission statement of the Commission should be highlighted on the overview page. **ACTION ITEM:** Susan agreed to make that change.

5. Updates on Aging Readiness Plan Update and 2023 Work Plan

- The contract for the consultant for the ARP update project and the Public Participation Plan (PPP) went to County Council on August 16, 2022. Both the contract and the PPP were approved. Susan reviewed a high-level timeline for the project.
- Cass Freedland commented that the councilors had positive comments on the PPP.
- Chuck Green noted that Councilor Rylander had good questions regarding the limited funds for the project and how we will reach all key constituents. Chuck suggested that a wide range



of stakeholders should be included in a list for discussion at the kick-off at the work session with the consultant in September.

- Cass Freedland also noted that some of the survey results can inform with the modes of outreach that are used for the project. Learning from the most recent fireside chats including last month's with faith communities and new ways to reach out is also a good idea.
- Jenna Kay discussed the 2023 Work Plan and the focus on community engagement.
- She summarized that there are two major projects for the year, the update to the Aging Readiness Plan, and a fireside chat speaker series, where the end goal is to have recommendations from the Commission aimed at improving how different entities within Clark County interact with older adults.
- Jenna showed a potential schedule to implement these two projects. Early in the year will be dedicated to the ARP update project meetings and the joint meeting with County Council. Fireside chats would begin in May.
- Meeting locations may vary for the fireside chats.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Chuck Green mentioned that the joint meeting with County Council is an opportunity to update them on the ARP update project. He also asked if the review of the ARP draft in June/July could impact the agendas for the June retreat or July meeting. Staff noted they would consider this for the ARP update project.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Larry Smith also identified that three new county commissioners will begin in January. There should be a plan to get them information about the Commission. Chuck asked if one-on-ones could be held with each new councilor. Larry noted this would help get them up to speed before the joint meeting.
- Cass Freedland asked if the fireside chats later in the year should be thematically tied to the ARP update topics that are discovered through the input that is received earlier in the year.
- Chuck Green suggested asking the consultant if they see a way to provide topics for the fireside chats that relate to the chapters of the ARP that need updating. He also noted that it will be important to balance the ARP update and the community engagement topic.
- Jenna Kay confirmed that staff and the consultant can explore a connection between the ARP update and community engagement topics. She noted that some of the fireside chats will occur toward the end of or after the adoption of the plan but could build off of the ARP update work.
- Chuck Green noted that the community engagement topic was derived from the survey responses and the desire to reestablish in-person communication. The fireside chats could be geared toward how best to do that and may dovetail into some of the work of the consultant is doing.
- Cass Freedland noted that due to the breadth of experience of the consultant, they can suggest new ideas and new contacts for the Commission.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Jenna Kay agreed that staff would look at the survey results, discuss with the consultants, and generate ideas that the Commission can use to inform the topics for the fireside chats.
- **ACTION ITEM:** Chuck Green noted that having this conversation with the consultants in the room would be good. The consultant can work that into the communications plan and overall project plan. Giving them a summary of this discussion before next month's meeting would be helpful.

6. Public comment debrief

No written comments to the commission have been received since the last meeting. **ACTION ITEM:** One phone call regarding jury duty responsibilities for residents over a certain age was received and staff referred them to court administration staff for more information. The caller reported back that some exemptions do apply. Commissioners asked staff to follow up with the details of any exemptions relating to age.

7. Other Updates

- Cass Freedland thanked Mel Sanchez for offering to be an alternate for the Accessible Transportation Coalition (ACTI).
- Chuck Green outlined Franklin Johnson's suggestion to thank the County Council for approving the contract and Public Participation Plan for the Aging Readiness Plan update project. Members agreed to bring that up at the regular meeting.
- Larry Smith outlined that the City of Vancouver has been recognized as a veteran-friendly city by Stars and Stripes, a military related news organization. The award was presented on August 26 at 9:30 am at City Hall.
- Cass Freedland described her attendance at a roundtable discussion with Senator Patty Murray regarding prescription drug pricing. Additional information is available here: <https://www.murray.senate.gov/senator-murray-hosts-roundtable-on-historic-measures-to-lower-drug-prices/>

9. Upcoming meetings/topics:

The next commission meeting is scheduled to take place on September 21, 2022 and will be focused on volunteer coordinators.

8. Adjournment

The work session adjourned at 4:05 pm.

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 the place of their choosing.