

Work Session Notes

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Members Present: Cass Freedland, (Chair), Franklin Johnson (Vice Chair), Chuck Green, Amy Gross, Meghan McCarthy, Mel Sanchez and Larry Smith

Absent: Sue Cameron and Tanya Stewart

Staff: Susan Ellinger and Jenna Kay, Community Planning

1. Hybrid meeting reminders

Chair Cass Freedland opened the meeting and reviewed logistical reminders for hybrid meetings.

2. Review of October 19, 2022 work session and regular meeting notes

There were no suggested changes to the meeting notes.

3. Annual Report

- Jenna Kay outlined that the draft findings and recommendations were sent out to members for the October meeting. Those have now been revised for this meeting to include the discussion items from the work session last month, add information from the October fireside chat and an introduction from Chair Freedland. Jenna requested comments and feedback from members.
- Staff also explained that the Chair will ask members if they have any additions for the annual report in the regular meeting. Jenna outlined that if members have findings or recommendations from the fireside chat today, to please include those in the meeting discussion.
- Jenna Kay also requested three members to assist in the editing of the annual report in December. Franklin Johnson, Cass Freedland and Amy Gross all volunteered.
- Franklin Johnson asked if Rob Milano attended a meeting in 2022 and therefore should be listed in the annual report. Staff agreed to look into this question, and Mr. Milano attended in 2021, so staff did not add his name to the 2022 annual report.
- Jenna outlined that the goal is to have the annual report finalized for the report to the Clark County Council at the Commission on Aging (COA) meeting on February 15, 2023. The report will be shared with the council prior to the meeting. **Action Item:** Staff will coordinate with the Chair and Vice-Chair on the approach for the February meeting.
- Chuck Green asked about the annual COA and Council Chair meeting. **Action Item:** Staff explained that the meeting will be scheduled once a Council Chair is selected in January. He also asked about a possible meeting with new council members once they begin their work in January. **Action Item:** Staff agreed to look into possible options for an introduction between COA and the new council members.

4. Aging Readiness Plan (ARP) Update



For other formats, contact the Clark County ADA Office

Voice 360.397.2322 Relay 711 or 800.833.6388

Fax 360.397.6165

Email ADA@clark.wa.gov



- Susan Ellinger outlined activities that have happened in the last month including the reviewing of strategies from the plan with the consultant and community partners, the creation of a jurisdictional survey to assess implementation measures by the cities and the county, and the holding of six focus group meetings. The focus group meetings were recorded and will be posted on the website. Upcoming work will include planning for the workshops that will begin in 2023.
- Chuck Green asked about the logistics for the public workshops. He asked where they will be held. Susan responded that those details will be discussed in upcoming meetings with the consultant and will be discussed in the December subcommittee meeting.
- Cass Freedland mentioned that she attended the Community Engagement and Supportive Services focus group meetings. There is an opportunity for the ARP update to broadly communicate all of the important work that is going on in the community.
- Chuck Green commented on the engaging nature of the conversation in the Transportation focus group.
- Franklin Johnson attended the Community Engagement and Emergency Services focus groups and commented that he is very excited to work on the new chapter and excited about the participation, ideas presented and engaging conversation in both groups.
- Larry Smith mentioned that in listening in on the conversation and talking to people, there is not a complete understanding of what the Commission on Aging work involves. Getting the word out can be a part of the ARP Update project.

5. 2023 Work Plan & Schedule

- Cass Freedland began the discussion by explaining that by the middle of 2023, the Aging Readiness Plan update project will be nearly complete, and COA will have five months of the year to launch the new plan, refresh people's minds on what COA does and how the plan can be effectively and strategically moved forward.
- Jenna Kay gave a brief status update. One of the things that staff identified that would be helpful would be identifying priorities during the ARP update. Jenna reviewed the draft 2023 work plan schedule. ARP update workshops will be held in January, March and April. A joint session with County Council is planned for February. The ARP Subcommittee requested to have work sessions during the months that the ARP workshops occur.
- By May, a draft of the updated plan is expected. For that month, there will be a standard work session with the meeting time dedicated to a review and discussion of the draft plan. This will also be the last meeting for outgoing commission members. June will be the first meeting for new members and is traditionally a retreat format.
- July to November is the opportunity to address the updated plan and possibly focus on some of the strategies.
- Cass Freedland noted that there is a short time between when the plan will be in draft form and when the last five sessions of the year will begin.
- Chuck Green commented that at least two new members could be joining the commission due to two existing members terming out. **Action Item:** The new members will have a high learning curve and Chuck suggested meeting with the new members regarding the Aging Readiness Update prior to their first meeting. **Action Item:** He also recommended presenting the updated plan to NACCC. **Action Item:** Finally, he asked if there was an opportunity to present the draft of the new plan and/or seek input from the city councils during those presentations.
- **Action Item:** Larry Smith suggested that the commission should discuss the skills that are needed for new members as the selection process moves forward. The volunteers with the skills that will complement the needs to accomplish the duties of COA members is important.
- Cass echoed Chuck's comments regarding the presentations to the city councils and neighborhood associations and including outreach to set the stage for the fall.

- Jenna Kay outlined that the presentation to County Council is the kick-off for the outreach to cities. **Action Item:** Once that occurs, staff will request presentation times with the cities. The presentations to the cities are normally a shortened version of the presentation to County Council.
- Larry Smith commented that having letters of support, endorsements and commitments to implement the plan update from non-profits and service providers would be very powerful.
- Mel Sanchez asked what organizations would be considered a service provider. Larry suggested that any of the service providers that have presented to COA would be a great example of those to ask for endorsements.
- **Action Item:** Chuck Green concurred with Larry's comments and added requesting that service providers testify to County Council as well.
- Cass Freedland commented that incorporating comments from service providers and keeping in touch with them as the project progresses is important.
- Franklin Johnson echoed the importance of presenting to the cities and neighborhood associations.
- **Action Item:** Chuck also recommended presenting to the Vancouver Neighborhood Alliance.
- **Action Item:** Mel Sanchez noted that matching specific strategies to specific service providers focused on each organization's niche would be useful. Chuck suggested that CoA members could review the focus group stakeholder list and identify outreach strategies for each group.
- Franklin Johnson mentioned that a skill that is needed for new members is the ability to go out and give presentations to the community like those that were being discussed.

6. Public comment debrief

No public comments were received this month.

7. Other updates

- Liaison reports
 - Amy Gross reported that the Public Health Advisory Council meets every other month, and the recent discussion has been focused on the budget.
- Chuck requested that the commission create letters of recognition for outgoing County Council members.
- Larry Smith commented on his experience at Springwood Retirement Center in the last two months since he moved in. He is considering forming a political action committee because one does not exist currently. He is concerned about the resentment that some residents feel and their concern for their safety when going out in the community to walk and interact. He also endeavors to keep the residents aware of the good things going on in the community and possibly host a Commission on Aging presentation there.
- Chuck Green announced a tour he is organizing of the Tenny Creek Assisted Living facility on Nov. 30 in Hazel Dell. Interested commission members can contact Chuck for more information.

7. Adjournment

The work session adjourned at 4:14 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.