

DENVER COMMISSION ON AGING

Minutes – February 19, 2009

Present: Chris Wanifuchi, Cecil Bethea, Morris Price, Jamie Malone, Juanita Rios-Johnston, Muriel Arvay, Dre' Dufford, Zane Robertson, Phyllis Hirschfeld, Mary Madrid, Michelle Williams, Vicki Jordan, Sandi Armstrong, Joe Halpern

Excused: Barb Martin-Worley

Guests: Dodie Erickson, Denver Parks and Recreation, Anthony Aragon

TOPIC	DISCUSSION SUMMARY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE/PLAN
Minutes	- This meeting is a continuation of the DCoA retreat from January. No approval or review of previous minutes.	
DCoA Executive Committee Report: Phyllis, Zane	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Executive Cmte consists of Phyllis, Zane (Treasurer), Sandi (Vice-Chair), Erin (Secretary), Vicki (DRCOG Rep), Michelle (At-large) - Met for 1st time last week and modified the committee structure from retreat. <p>Acknowledged that we are not a problem solving entity. As such, created Outreach Cmte in place of Education. Outreach is focused on increasing visibility and listening to issues in public. Advocacy is taking that information to make sure it is heard by people in power. Partnership will provide liaison function with other organizations that solve problems and address issues.</p>	
Retreat Ad Hoc Committee Reports	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Erin: Reviewed Commission Structure Cmte results, including responsibilities of Cmte chairs and co-chairs. - Juanita: Goal was to increase DCoA participation in the community and support community outreach activities for seniors. Commissioners attend 2 community events/year. - Muriel: Goal to identify the various aspects of Advocacy, and how each might apply to the role of DCoA. Focused on collaboration and policy/legislative channels. - Vicki suggested having Chaer Roberts and chair of Commission on People with Disabilities come and speak to our group about their efforts. 	- Develop annual calendar for Commissioners, volunteers and website
2009 DCoA Committee Assignments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Outreach Cmte: Mary is Chair, Chris is Co-Chair. Using the goals and objectives already established by Juanita's group. Considering rotating meetings to other locations. Will publicize meetings at local rec. centers and libraries. Looking into whether or not we have a banner; if not, they would like to purchase one. Is there money available? Each cmte member will find out about City Council meetings. Committed to Salute to Seniors and Spring into Health. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Meetings: 1st Thursday of the month at 1:00 beginning in April. - Advocacy Cmte: Juanita is Chair and Dre' is Co-Chair. Also Sandi and Muriel; possibly Fern and Barb. Goal: to identify and increase advocacy activities for DCoA on senior 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jamie will start to work on a calendar. - Type and send Phyllis notes for each cmte by February 26.

	<p>issues. Develop an annual advocacy plan; identify state and local agencies to partner and advocate with for seniors. Get word out about issues that adversely affect seniors and positive events that assist seniors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Meetings: in March, TBD - Partnership: Vicki is chair and Phyllis is co-chair. Goal is to establish working relationships with Service Providers, other County Councils on Aging, other City and County of Denver Commissions and Office on Aging. - Meetings: Monday, March 16th at 1:00 via conference call 	
<p>Presentation – Denver Parks & Rec / Recreation Center Task Force, Dodie Erickson</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Charged with getting community feedback and collaborating more effectively. Task Force solicited feedback as to what public valued – 600 people attended. People wanted more hours of operation, increased programs and improved amenities. Result was a tiering of rec. centers to create centers with more amenities that would attract people from wider geographic areas, then two smaller tiers to attract local people. Big concern for seniors has been closing of some senior centers and moving services to another center. - Cost neutral project. Looking at partnering with other organizations to help offset shifting of services, such as Boys and Girls Clubs. - Next steps – community process to determine which groups/service providers will move into Highland and Platt Park centers. Unsure of how Community Advisory Boards will be developed at this point in time but she hopes to have a clearer picture of next steps soon. She will communicate that with us. <p>-dodie.erickson@denvergov.org – email her with concerns or questions</p>	-
<p>Announcements and Other Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Next Wednesday, Feb. 25th is Colorado Senior Day at the Capitol. Starts at 8:00 am outside Senate room 356. 9:30 moves to Old Supreme Court Chambers. 	
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Thursday, March 19, 2009 at Volunteers of America, 2660 Larimer Street. 	