

# DENVER COMMISSION ON AGING

Minutes – March 19, 2009

Present: Chris Wanifuchi, Erin Kruse, Fern Osborne, Phyllis Hirschfeld, Muriel Arvay, Morris Price, Sr., Zane Robertson, Juanita Rios-Johnston, Jamie Malone, Joe Halpern, Dre' Dufford, Mary Madrid, Michelle Williams, Vicki Jordan, Barb Martin-Worley, Sandi Armstrong, Cecil Bethea

Excused:

Guests: Anthony Aragon, Kelly Blair Roberts, David Deseau, Jackie Trainer and Tim Cusick

TOPIC	DISCUSSION SUMMARY	PERSON RESPONSIBLE/PLAN
<b>Minutes</b>	December minutes were approved as written. February minutes were approved as written.	
<b>Review and Approval of 2009 Committee Goals</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Chris suggested we compile goals and post them on the website. Each committee chair will condense goals and send to Phyllis.</li> <li>- Motion passed unanimously to approve goals for each committee and to approve them as the Commission goals.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Cmte. Chairs send goals to Phyllis by 3/27/09.</b></li> <li>- Phyllis will send to Loretta for posting on website.</li> </ul>
<b>Committee Reports – Committee Chairs</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>Partnership Committee – Erin Kruse:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal 1) Cmte. Members will attend County Council meetings over next two months. We will invite Anthony and Sandi to attend with us.</li> <li>Goal 2) Develop stronger relationship with Office on Aging. Phyllis and Anthony will schedule regular time to meet.</li> <li>Goal 3) Have determined next 3-4 months of service provider presentations. Once DRCOG's funding is announced for FY10 we will schedule further out.</li> <li>Goal 4) Starting with Denver Comm. on People with Disabilities and Vicki is scheduling first meeting.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Outreach Committee – Mary Madrid:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal 1) Jamie is going to schedule a quarterly meeting at another site.</li> <li>Goal 2) Zane located the banner for the Commission. Whoever has it will bring it to meetings to pass to next person with an event</li> <li>Goal 3) Jamie has started a calendar for resource fairs. Make sure to ask about the table fees.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <b>Advocacy Committee - Juanita Rios-Johnston</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Goal 1) Invited Nan Moorhead, Char Roberts and Eileen Doherty to meeting and they gave overview of current legislative action and discussed role the Commission can play. Cmte. now has better understanding of process. Critical that we are aware of legislation affecting</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

	<p>seniors and Juanita has list of sites to help track bills. Cmte. will look at legislation and take it to Exec. Cmte. for support. Then it needs to go through Office on Aging staff, Anthony then Lucia. Anthony needs recommendations by Wednesday for forwarding to Mayor's office for weekly meeting. There it is cleared for any conflict among city agencies. If there is conflict, the city lobbyist cannot be involved. If no conflict exists, city lobbyist can be involved. DCoA can either simply support a bill or pursue city support for bill.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sandi clarified that this committee is using this first year to establish a familiarity with the process, and this is just one aspect of advocacy.</li> <li>• Fern talked about need to have representation during the summer sessions addressing poverty and healthcare that will be convened by Rep. Kafaulis.</li> <li>• Jamie suggested the Commission develop a process to determine what we will support.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>HRCR Advisory Council Report – Vicki Jordan &amp; Anthony Aragon</b></p>	<p>- <b>Census Committee</b> - \$862 per person is lost for each resident not counted. In 2000 Denver was only counted at 70%, the current goal is 75%. Trying to create a niche community to capture more people through early outreach. Meets 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of month from 4-5 pm at the Gill Foundation. Volunteers are doing strictly outreach, no canvassing or calling. Juanita emphasized how critical this is because DHS was severely affected by 2000 census. Sandi moved that any outreach DCoA does include census outreach info and it was approved.</p>	
<p><b>Age Matters Report – Phyllis Hirschfeld</b></p>	<p>- Purpose: to make every city agency aware of increasing senior population, how they can address the change and how they can affectively plan now to be prepared. Focus on access to services, how seniors participate in life of city, transportation, etc.</p> <p>- Currently developing a paper to present to Mayor so he will make proclamation to agencies for their planning.</p> <p>- April 2<sup>nd</sup> conference on “Universal Design at The Urban Scale.”</p>	
<p><b>DRCOG – Joe Halpern</b></p>	<p>- DRCOG had hoped to make recommendations to ACA on 3/20. Had reviewed proposals and assigned funding but then learned \$1M had been removed from budget for FY09-10. \$2M proposed retroactive cuts for FY08-09 was defeated thanks to massive call in and write in campaign.</p> <p>- There are 16 AAAs in state and DRCOG receives 40% = 400K loss for FY09-10. There is a possibility that CO will receive \$1.6M so DRCOG will receive \$400K through stimulus package. This is designated only for nutrition services. Not clear duration of funding and when it will be available. Trying to get information about how the distribution process will work.</p> <p>- If March tax receipts are as low as February, we will possibly lose another \$1M in funding.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Contracting process will likely be pushed until at least May.</li> <li>- Application process was electronic and much easier for in previous years.</li> <li>- Older Americans Coalition is focused on communicating with all legislators as opposed to JBC to advocate for maintaining funding. Fern strongly encouraged us to contact our legislators and be the voice for our low-income seniors.</li> <li>- Info &amp; Assistance system still on track. Negotiations with vendor are under way.</li> </ul>	
<b>Discussion on Need for Policy on Use of Electronic Devices during Meetings</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Moved to next month's agenda.</li> </ul>	
<b>Director of the Office on Aging – Anthony Aragon</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- May 28<sup>th</sup> Mayor's Spring into Health, 9-1 at the Denver Zoo.</li> <li>- Resource guides: 1,700 left of 2008-2009 current guides. It is a DCoA driven document and needs to be updated by 2009-2010 over this summer.</li> <li>- May is Older Adults Month. 9 events in '09 that are free cultural, art events.</li> <li>- He will hold an Emergency Preparedness event in May with Morris in Montbello.</li> <li>- 9Health Fair volunteer</li> <li>- Nominating Committee will be getting in touch soon because there are 6 or 7 commissioners whose terms are up in August. Three vacancies in Districts 3, 4 and 5 currently.</li> </ul>	
<b>Service Provider Presentation – Seniors Inc. Jackie Trainer &amp; Tim Cusick</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Overview of Seniors Inc. programs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Care Calls - phone outreach to homebound seniors, no cost</li> <li>• Caregiver Respite – includes light housekeeping, grocery shopping, etc at no cost</li> <li>• Energy Assistance – through Xcel, money goes very quickly, accessed once annually</li> <li>• Help Line – referral service</li> <li>• Home Care Services – fee based in-home assistance, CNAs and PCPs</li> <li>• Medicare &amp; Medicaid Counseling – assistance w/ application</li> <li>• Money Management – AARP Foundation sponsored program to assist low-income people with paying bills, writing checks, developing and managing budget (SRC runs a program in Jeffco; Boulder has a program; they cover rest of metro area)</li> <li>• Prescription Drug Assistance – assist. obtaining low-cost drugs, through Kaiser</li> <li>• Senior Companion Program – Senior Corps volunteer program for low-income seniors, receive stipends, can transport clients, provide companionship</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>Announcements and Other Business</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- None</li> </ul>	

<b>Next Meeting</b>	- April 16 <sup>th</sup> , 9:30-11:30, location to be determined	
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