

**ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON AGING
MEETING SUMMARY
August 18, 2017**

Members Present

Anne Gross	Arapahoe County
Barbara Boyer	Arapahoe County
Bob Lanky	Jefferson County
Carolyn Scharf	City of Federal Heights
Cary Johnson	Jefferson County
Cathy Noon	Arapahoe County
Donna Mullins	Jefferson County
Joyce Gallagher	Guest for Adams County,
Houston "Tex" Elam	At Large
Karie Erickson	Douglas County
Maureen Spiegleman	Denver County on Aging
Nermina Mujkanović	Congresswoman DeGette's Office
Phil Cernanec	DRCOG Board (City of Littleton)
Sharon Perea	Gilpin County

Guests Present

Perla Gheiler – Denver Office on Aging, Alicia Haywood – CDPHE/CU Boulder, and Valerie Robson – Douglas County Adult Services, Paulette St. James – Colorado Commission on Aging,

Others Present

Jayla Sanchez-Warren, AJ Diamontopoulos, Sharon Day, Kelly Roberts, Amy Pulley, Mindy Patton, Lauren Bell, Brandon Davis, Kiko Ivanov, Jill Eelkema, Shannon Gimbel, Kirsti Klaverkamp, Rachel Kobelt, Jean Anhault, Alma Avelar, Sara Beth Ford, and Brandon Davis

Call to Order and Introductions

Phil Cernanec, ACA Chair called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m.

Public Comment

No public comment

Approval of the June 16, 2017 Meeting Summary

- A motion was made by Cathy Noon to accept the summaries, they were seconded by Barbara Boyer, meeting summary was approved.

Director's Report – Jayla Sanchez-Warren

- Work with Rich to develop a budget request to the governor for a 4 million dollar increase to the State Funds for Senior services.
 - Had meetings with JBC Staffer, Kevin Neiman, and Lieutenant Governor.
 - You never know if the Governor will approve all or part of the request.

- If the request is not fully implemented, we have to get a sponsor to run a Bill for us to get the rest of the funds.
- That is the intention for the year we are in need of the money for the metro area as well as the rest of the state.
- The rule for Colorado is if one AAA cannot spend the money it is allotted to those that can, or the state can keep the funds which is what happened this year.
- Develop federal legislative agenda, materials and strategy for a trip to Washington D.C in September the goal is to educate those in DC with aging issues.
 - The group going will consist of Jayla, Doug Rex, with Mickey Farrell our Federal Lobbyist, Bob Roth the DRCOG Board Chair, Herb Atchison – Board Member and the Mayor of Westminster.
 - Because Health Reform didn't pass the administrative staff are going through line by line making changes to the reform keeping it out of the public's interest.
 - We want to make sure that the congressional staff understand the value of the Older Americans Act and the Reauthorization which is up again for vote next year.
 - Phil asked about the "Hold Harmless Provision" of the act. Jayla said it is not very popular.
 - They did a short-term fix which Senators Bennet and Gardner were involved with helping but we still have a shortage due to the funding formula.
 - Jayla is on the national work group for the Reauthorization, there doesn't seem to be much of a concern with other AAAs in the nation.
 - Working on a national map to show the new allocations.
- Jayla, and Amy Pulley, Heather Kamper met with Congressman Coffman's staff to advocate for the Veteran's Directed Home and Community Based Services program.
 - Met with his Chief of Staff
 - The VA is 2 billion over spent affecting the regional VA hospital putting the brakes on their spending which tumbles down to our veteran's program.
 - We are currently serving 60 veterans which are not affect by this except for 3 that cannot get additional funds as their needs increase.
 - A few veterans are trickling through but have seen a slowdown in referrals.
 - Coffman and group knew a lot but had questions we need to research and provide answers.
- Met with Steve Grund and ACA member Bob Brocker about how the AAA and Senior Lobby can work together more effectively.
 - Trying to get our advocacy group more connected with the legislative issues as we move forward.
 - Hope to get them onboard for the \$4 million funding talked about earlier.
- ADRC staff and I are working to help 24 people impacted by a fire with 1 death at Heather Gardens, our Board Chair Bob Roth got the AAA involved.
 - These people have not been able to live in their homes for more than a year
 - Have had several systems fail them at various levels.
 - There are many that are frail and have been exploited

- Home owner association mismanagement.
- We have had several meetings to gain information and find support for them.
 - Staff conducted interviews and found that there have been many more doctor visits and hospital stays since the incident.
- Mayor Noon added that these people own their homes and live independently.
- Very large case, have got the District Attorney's office involved
 - They don't have the resources to investigate
 - AAA is helping by getting the background information, writing letters and advocating for them.
- Cary asked if there was both civil and criminal issues
 - Jayla thought that there was financial exploitation from contractors that were hired by Heather Gardens who have been intimidating and asked some people for money ahead of time then didn't deliver
 - Adult protection and the insurance commission have been involved because there are so many people affected they are overwhelmed by the enormity and lack of resources for enforcement.
- Great news, we have successfully advocated for TIP set aside funds for "Human Services Transportation".
 - Through a lot of meetings and advocacy, our work group has been approved for 1 million dollars per year for 4 years for senior and human service transportation.
 - These funds do not have the same restrictions as the Older Americans Act funds
 - These are different funds from federal transportation and not coming out of senior funds
 - Will be able to provide 50,000 more rides and 30 more vehicles for the region
 - Hope to go from survive transportation to thrive transportation
 - Will be starting the voucher meetings with Centennial and Douglas County
 - Mayor Noon expressed a need keep the group informed of funding so that they can get onboard with using the funds and making sure there is no double-dipping with some of the contractors that will be involved.
- Attended several meetings regarding the AAA HIPAA audit and a State financial audit
 - Working on the recommendations.
 - Were happy with how our staff are protecting information inside and outside of the office
 - Their concern is with the healthcare data that we have gathered and will be getting in the future.
 - Will be putting new protection within the DRCOG system.
 - Trying to do this without spending a lot of AAA funds
 - The financial audit was for all AAAs in the state, there were no findings for our AAA
- Conducted the first VTCLI stakeholders meeting (Veterans transportation grant)
 - Haven't gotten the funds from CDOT even though the grant started last November.
 - We are finding that our AAA requirements are vastly different than CDOTs, we have far more checks and balances

- Paulette St. James from the Colorado Commission on Aging, complimented DRCOG on their presentation to the Colorado Commission on Aging of the Boomer Bond and how influential and well it was received it was. Many of the communities in attendance were not aware of the issues presented. The commission will be doing a better collaboration in the future to convey this information.
 - We have 25 communities involved in Boomer Bond and Kelly said that the team is working on next steps for those who have implemented their plans and will update us in the future.
- Perla gave an overview of the Denver Boomer Bond and how it was resurrected

Compliance and Finance Report – Sharon Day

- Started the new fiscal year and close out the previous year
- Were successful in using leftover funds
- Started the new fiscal year with new contractors from the RFP and executed all the new contracts
- Had a kick-off meeting with contractors in June and will be having another contractor meeting on August 22nd.
- AAA budget is state funded currently with anticipation of an option letter and carryover funds the second week of September
 - Will then meet with the Funding Subcommittee to go over these funds
- Had the provider transportation meeting
- Trip numbers are up, SRC has 31 routes running with a quality pool of drivers and have purchased more vehicles
 - Will be monitoring transportation more closely to be sure there is a better use of funds.
- The financial audit was non-eventful as discussed previously, the report should be coming out soon
 - SUA will be having another audit coming up the last 2 weeks of October they will be auditing nutrition, transportation, homemaker personal care, vision/hearing programs and visual impairment.
- There is a new contractor group that will be meeting on the same day as the quarterly meeting for them to discuss best practices and share experiences and information.

Information & Assistance – Jill Eelkema

- Jill's presentation provided an overview of her department and that the group would be able to use them as a resource (please see the attached presentation).
- Jill introduced her staff that were present
- Slide 4 addressed each program, Jill gave an overview of each program
 - Information and Assistance
 - Entry point for the AAA
 - Triage to all other AAA programs
 - Assist people to find out what they need and who can help them
 - Responsible for outreach materials and Network of Care

- Options Counseling
 - Help create a plan, coordinating care
 - Provide home visits
 - Act as a bridge between Case Management if something needs immediate attention
 - Have 8 to 12 active cases at a time
- Elder Refugee Program
 - Sara Beth Ford coordinates this program, she does options counseling, works with the Aurora Center to provide activities to promote socialization within the refugee community
- ADRC Volunteer Program
 - Have one volunteer
 - She helps us with phones and workflow processes
- State Health Insurance Assistance Program (SHIP)
 - Provide Medicare counseling and advocacy, Medicare fraud prevention
 - Currently serve Arapahoe, Douglas and Jefferson counties
 - Working on outreach to these communities
- Network of Care
 - Currently have 1,104 listings
 - Will do demonstrations
- Slide 6 shows the breakdown of the number of calls
- Slide 7 specifies incoming and unduplicated calls
- Slide 8 displays the many resources that the ADRC team must be familiar with and refer or work with to get assistance for clients
- Slide 9 listed the community events that the ADRC group attend
- Slide 10 shows the groups ADRC belong to, attend and facilitate.
- The last slide provides the following:
 - There are 9 ADRC team members
 - Consisting of 6 programs
 - Serve 30 communities
 - Staff attend 29 community events
 - Answered 12,347 calls to date
 - Assisted 3,866 unduplicated clients
 - Oversee 1,404 listing on the DRCOG Network of Care

Advocacy Report – Kelly Roberts

- Still working on an advocacy pipeline at the local level

- Have a Rich Mauro, Kelly and an advocacy team member meet with each of the counties
- At these meetings pitch the need for local support, write letters and make phone calls
- Jayla, Rich and our lobbyist will let the team know what issues we will need advocacy on
- Created a schedule of all the monthly meetings which can be accessed on Network of Care
- At the Council on Aging forum in March it was suggested that it be held annually Kelly will be looking for ideas for the next forum

Resource Development – AJ Diamontopoulos

- Accountable Health Communities Grant
 - AJ announced that Kirsti Klaverkamp will be working with him on the team of 2
 - AJ is working with the healthcare partners
- Resource development
 - Working on UC Health opportunity, currently waiting for UC Health to let them know the people we will be serving
 - Met with Burst IQ to discuss new technology using bit coin to pay for community database transfer

Vote for New Chair – Phil Cernanec

- Cathy nominated Phil to continue the role as Chair it was seconded
Phil was confirmed to continue as Chair
- Phil nominated Cary Johnson to continue as Vice Chair, it was seconded
Cary was confirmed to continue as Vice Chair

Chair Report – Phil Cernanec

- Phil mentioned the No Co Pay radio show and there was conversation about several of the members who have been interviewed on the show
- Announced that Jayla will be receiving the Mayors Award for Diversity and Inclusiveness for 2017. Denver Commission on Aging, our own Maureen Spiegleman nominated Jayla for the award.
- Phil attended SAPGA
 - SAPGA will be going around the state having regional meetings the Denver meeting will be November 2nd.
- September 2nd AARP is having a Denver area meeting for senior mobility and housing.
- Colorado Municipal League and CCI to see who is on their policy committee to see if we can get in front of their group.

Information Sharing

- Barbara Boyer announced the Visually Impaired Fair on September 13th.
- Sharon Perea reminded the group that the Gilpin County Fair will be on the 19th.

- Mayor Noon showed on their website the “Time is Now Caregiver checklist”. See link below.
<http://www.centennialco.gov/uploads/files/Government/Boards%20%26%20Commissions/Senior%20Commission/1%20Centennial%20Caregiving%20Booklet.pdf>
- She also mentioned their Senior Car Show and Concert on September 9th
- Phil mentioned the draft housing report located on the Littleton website.
- Phil mentioned the Washington Post article “Hunger receded after the recession but not for older Americans, U.S. figures show”. (attached)

Adjournment

Adjourned 2:17 p.m.