

STRATEGIC ACTION PLANNING GROUP ON AGING

Minutes of the Planning Group Meeting

Monday, March 13, 2017

Members Present: Ben Moultrie, Dale Elliott, Jean Nofles, Jim Riesberg, John Barry, Karen Brown, Ky Agnew, Mindy Kemp, Sharron Williams, Susan Franklin, Tony Tapia
Members Present by Phone: Christian Itin, Doug Farmer

Jim Riesberg Called the Meeting to Order at 9:00 a.m. and Called the Roll. A quorum was present.

The Agenda for the meeting was approved without changes.

The minutes of the Planning Group meeting on February 13, 2017 were approved without changes.

John Barry was recognized and announced that he would be transitioning off the Planning Group. He acknowledged the work the Planning Group has achieved and that he was glad to have been a part of the Group, and expressed his hope that his replacement would be named before the April meeting. Jim thanked him for his service and told him he would be missed.

Two guests were recognized for public comment:

Natalie Woods, Senior Policy Analyst of the Bell Policy Center, expressed concerns that the current administration may eliminate the Department of Labor Fiduciary Rule that offered protection to investors.

Katya Mauritson, State Oral Health Director, CDPHE, spoke about some of the dental challenges faced by citizens, especially seniors, and some of the programs that state has developed to improve care and treatment.

Presentations on Legislation and Reports

Mindy Kemp presented information on the Support the At-Risk Adults Protection Act that will be introduced in the near future. It will require certain types of employers to check the Colorado Adult Protective Services (CAPS) data system when hiring a new employee working with an at-risk adult in an effort to prevent know perpetrators of abuse, neglect, or exploitation from easily moving from facility to facility and to weed out the bad actors. More details will be available when the bill is introduced.

Jim Riesberg summarized the progress of HB17-1087, The Office of Public Guardianship bill. Jim did testify in support of the bill on behalf of the Planning Group during the House Committee hearing. It was passed with amendments and sent to the Appropriations Committee where it had not yet been scheduled.

Neha Mahajan, 9to5 Colorado Director and Kathy White presented information on the Colorado Family and Medical Leave Insurance Act that will be introduced soon. The Act will enable employees in Colorado to receive partial wage replacement for up to 12 weeks per year for their own serious illness or temporary disability, to take care of an ill family member, or for the birth or adoption of a new child.

Several fact sheets were distributed and are available on their website.

There was limited discussion of the pending federal Affordable Health Care Act (AHA) and some of the serious impacts on seniors if it was to be adopted in its' current form.

Jim Riesberg presented a quick overview of recent presentations and the reaction of the audiences.

February 15 Associated Governments of Northwest Colorado
Mesa, Garfield, Rio Blanco, Moffat, Routt
Mayors, County Commissioners, AAA, County Staff

February 18 Rep. Dave Young, District 50, Town Hall Meeting

February 23 House Committee Hearing, HB17 – 1087
State Office of Public Guardianship
Party Line 7-4, 4 Amendments, sent to Appropriations

March 2 Colorado Human Service Department Aging and Adult Sub-Committee Meeting
22 Human Services Personnel from about 6 counties
Each received a copy of the Action Plan

March 3 Advanced Elder Law Institute CLE
54 in classroom, 20 on Teleconference
Each received a copy of the Action Plan

March 8 Denver Senior Coalitions Joint Coalition Meeting
80 Service providers

Susan Franklin volunteered to manage a Planning Group booth on March 15th during the Senior Lobby-Senior Day at the Capitol. Jim Riesberg will give a brief Planning Group presentation during the morning session.

Based on the discussion at the February 13th meeting and the increased interest in the Planning Group activities now that the Initial Action Plan has been published, Jim Riesberg distributed a checklist with suggestions to help members promote the Action Plan.

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Ideas to promote interest and participation in the goals and recommendations of our Action Plan that will lead to the implementation of programs, services, projects, policies and procedures in both the public and private sectors that address the challenges of the demographic shift in our state.

I review the Action Plan regularly so I can generate conversation about the goals and recommendations whenever I have the opportunity

We have a link to the Action Plan on our Agency website

We include information about the work of the Planning Group or specific recommendations in our agency newsletter

I have presented our goals and recommendations at a meeting of our agency

I have arranged a face-to-face meeting with my State Representative and State Senator to introduce myself, make sure they have seen the Action Plan, and ask for their help on specific recommendations

I have volunteered to make a presentation about the work of the Planning Group and our recommendations at one of their Town Hall Meetings

I will look for opportunities to include the private sector in discussions and education pertaining to aging issues

I will always be on the look-out for new ideas, articles, research and “best practices” and will share them with the Planning Group

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Tony Tapia suggested that the Planning Group develop a power-point presentation with some standard points to help members feel more comfortable when giving a presentation.

It was also suggested that we consider producing a video that could be distributed.

Tony Tapia emphasized the need to collect and tell stories about actual life situations to help make our points and demonstrate to need to seriously work to achieve our goals and recommendations.

Planning Group Business

There was a brief discussion of how the sub-committees should be formed and how they should operate. The Committee Operating Principles developed on November 13, 2015 were distributed as a guide to help discuss how to move forward in 2017.

Sub-Committees were formed by those present and time was set aside for them to meet in groups and discuss goals and direction.

- ***Sub-Committee on Implementation*** (executive committee plus other interested members)
Purpose is to advocate for and assist in the implementation of the nine recommendations (and numerous sub-recommendations) in 2016 Initial Action Plan. Will focus on state legislative and executive branch action as well as local and regional implementation. May also track and recommend responses to relevant national policy developments.

Mindy, Ky, Jim

- ***Sub-Committee on Technology and Innovation***
Purpose is to develop a deeper understanding of and potential recommendations around challenges and opportunities related to aging presented by changes in technology.

Ben and Karen (co-chairs), Jean, Susan, Ky

- ***Sub-Committee on Workforce Development***
Purpose is to continue the work of the 2016 committee on strategies to ensure an adequate future workforce for industries serving older Coloradans and to focus more intentionally on opportunities and strategies for seniors who want or need to stay in the paid or volunteer workforce.

Christian and Tony (co-chairs), Sharron, Karen

- ***Sub-Committee on Local and Regional Implications and Planning***
Purpose is to develop a deeper understanding of opportunities and challenges related to aging at the local and regional level, explore the different conditions and needs of rural and urban communities, encourage greater coordination and support of local planning and implementation, and develop communications strategies.

Ben, Tony, Jean, Dale, Mindy

- Note: Each sub-committee – and the planning group in general – is to pay special attention in its work to opportunities for private sector involvement and public-private partnerships as well as to issues of diversity, cultural literacy and disparities among racial and ethnic groups.

There was a brief report-out following each group meeting.

Implementation: include the County Human Services Departments, AAA's, Transportation groups like RTD and CDOT, built-environment organizations, Aging Well groups, Living in Place organizations, Planning Associations, examine the Medicaid population and LTSS costs

Local and Regional Implications and Planning: Acquire good demographic information, create a demarcation of areas, look at access to care facilities

Workforce Development: Determine what is going on and look at current needs and programs, do an analysis of the market, set priorities

Technology and Innovation: identify all the different spaces where technology exists, scan for what is out there, look at robotics (arrange field trips), develop core questions to look at the actuality of what might really happen

By this time we had lost our phone connection with those who had called in and the PA system was not functioning properly.

Executive Committee Report

We are currently in contract negotiations with a Project Administrator and Sub-Committee facilitator and believe we can have contracts signed by our next meeting.

The Project Administrator will take the lead on communications and state-wide outreach activities.

There was no other business or Public Comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.

The next meeting will be April 10th from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m. in the Independence Pass Conference Room at DRCOG, 1290 Broadway, Denver.