

Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging

Monday September 11, 2017 - Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Jim Riesberg (chair), Karen Brown (vice chair), John Zabawa, Wade Buchanan, Jean Nofles, Christian Marcel Itin, Sharron Williams, Donna Baros, John Barry, Dale Elliot, Josh Laipply, Ben Moultrie, Mindy Kemp. **On Phone:** Karin Stewart, Dave Norman, Steve Child. **Sinergie Project Staff:** Gene Rose, Andrea Wilkins, **Planning Group Intern:** Jarett Hughes

Meeting called to Order

Chair Jim Riesberg called meeting to order at 12:02 and took roll; participating members constituted a quorum.

Approval of Agenda and August Meeting Minutes

Correct the spelling of participant Phil Cernanec. Minutes accepted as amended.

Public Comment

AARP Announcement - Jean Noffles

Annual volunteer celebration on Oct. 11 from 4:00 - 7:00 pm at Botanic Gardens. Jean sent RSVP information sent by email for those who would like to attend.

CDOT Presentation Q&A

Josh Laipply, CDOT

Follow up questions and discussion following August 14 presentation:

Of all the things CDOT deals with what does CDOT see as the top two or three issues related to the aging population to the year 2030? What solutions does CDOT offer or envision? What potential actions should SAPGA be taking to address these issues?

Does CDOT see public private partnerships as a solution for some aging issues? If so, what might they entail?

Is CDOT aware of transportation legislation being rolled out in 2018 - if yes, may there be opportunities to address transportation issues for the aging population as a part of that legislation

- Mobility, in general, was stated as a major goal with DRCOG assisting the CDOT on transportation planning.
- Interstate expansion, public transit investment and improving accessibility were noted as CDOT intentions.
- CDOT intends to continue its partnerships with the private sector
 - Partnerships with fiber optics companies that allow a certain a degree of government use are already in place along the I-25 corridor.
 - Goals for fiber optics partnerships include expanding the network, incorporating more information systems and improving accessibility.

- No concrete details on new legislation dealing with transportation for the upcoming legislative session
 - HB17-1242 (did not pass) had a definition of transit that appealed to many groups. Provided flexibility as to how dollars could be spent and included senior-specific transportation issues.
 - Some talk of Denver Chamber heading up legislation, ballot initiative. DRCOG is already engaged in conversations with Denver Chamber. It is important for Planning Group to weigh in on this process and ensure their concerns and priorities are understood. Subcommittee on Implementation should discuss this issue further.
- DRCOG Area Agency on Aging and the Metropolitan Planning Organization - Transportation Improvement Program
 - Human Services Transportation, not age restrictive which allows for use by those with a disability.
 - Received a \$1 million per year for four years block grant.
 - Intent is to expand service area, number of rides and to put more vehicles on the road.
- CDOT hopes to continue partnering with private businesses.
- Will require further examination of how they do this in smaller cities and towns with smaller markets where investment is less likely.

Elder Abuse and Fraud Prevention Panel

Maro Caparian, Denver District Attorneys Office/Consumer Protection and Elder Abuse Outreach, Karen Bliss, Colorado Attorney General's Office, and Cary Johnson, Jefferson County District Attorneys Office

Denver and Jefferson County District Attorneys Office

- Denver District Attorney's Office partnering with Denver Police Department on issues of elder abuse and mandatory reporting. Denver Forensic Collaborative is multi-disciplinary collaborative that meets monthly to provide safety net services.
- Mandatory reporting bill passed in 2013 (SB13-111 defines list of mandatory reporters of suspected incidents of elder abuse or exploitation) and legislation passed in 2014 (SB 14-098) expanded the definition of elder abuse.
- Roughly 70% of financial abuse occurs by someone who knows the older adult and often times leads to physical abuse.
- Working with University of Denver to assess effectiveness of multidisciplinary team, conduct outreach regarding new legislation that may be needed. Looking for ways to collaborative across departments/agencies to maximize impact and efficiency.
- 2002 grant from Office of Justice dealt with a crime prevention information program.
 - Goal was to increase older adults' knowledge on various forms of elder abuse, how to report abuse or fraud and how to improve awareness and decrease vulnerability for older adults.
 - Pre-test/post-test found significant increase in awareness about elder abuse relevant domains.
- Tracking data on housing exploitation began last year
 - What interventions are needed between a neglected/abused older adult and their caregiver? Concerns also exist around occupancy agreement violations (bringing adult child or caregiver into home to provide assistance) that can

result in eviction. This is an area where more supports are needed to help older adults age in place.

- Education and information delivery systems are needed to advise older adults on issues of elder abuse, fraud, (medical) power of attorney issues, guardianships/conservatorships, etc.
- Victimization has been correlated to worse health outcomes, including death
- Lack of training for mandatory reporters is a problem in many agencies. Cross-agency collaboration is one way to increase training opportunities for mandatory reporters.

Colorado Attorney Generals Office

- Office has jurisdiction over specifically enumerated crimes, so efforts are more focused. (No specific elder abuse office.)
- Various fraud prevention units within Office: consumer credit, consumer protection, insurance fraud, Medicaid fraud (generally focused on investigating fraud by providers), securities fraud, special prosecutions unit. Attorney Generals Office is primarily focused on prevention, education, outreach, data collection and assistance.
- Financial fraud and abuse can happen to anyone but it becomes more egregious when they are targeting senior population because their ability to recover is much more limited.
- Stopfraudcolorado.gov and the AARP ElderWatch Program are useful resources.
- Financial advisors/broker dealers are the subject of new law that went into effect July 1, 2017. New mandatory reporting requirement. These people are empowered to stop transaction if they see/suspect fraud occurring (HB 17-1253).
- Major barriers include victim resistance and cognitive impairment
 - Victims maybe uncooperative because of personal relationships and caregiver dynamics.
 - Prosecutors are permitted to take steps to preserve testimony of older adults.
- Volunteer education can be expensive and labor intensive
 - DHS has online mandatory reporting education programs.
 - Hope is to begin regional in-person training soon.

Committee, Subcommittee, and Administrative Reports and Action Items

Executive Committee Report

- Executive Committee is focused on agenda development for Planning Group and Regional Group meetings.
- There is at least one membership opening on the Planning Group as of Aug. 31, 2017.
- Discussions on fundraising strategies are ongoing.
- Other significant activities include subcommittee oversight and facilitating connections to larger group.

Legislative Caucus Updates

Members assigned 4-5 legislators to contact. Contacts have been made but members report problems connecting. Karen Brown reports that Rep. Sias will attend the Denver Regional Meeting. Jim Riesberg suggests that members send out meeting flyers to legislators.

Reimbursement Procedures

Reimbursements cover mileage. New rules require submission within 30 days.

Regional Meeting Updates

Five planning group members attended Grand Junction meeting. The Group is thankful to Dave Norman for being responsible for convention center expenses and to members who attended meeting and assisted with facilitation. There were 60+ people in attendance. Attendees reported being grateful for opportunity to share their perspectives. A summary report will be provided once all the meetings are complete.

Changes that will take place for future meetings: listening stations will be eliminated and more time will be provided for breakout groups.

Media coverage for the event was good. Karen Brown had a television interview and radio interview that aired on 5 different channels. Gene Rose with the Sinergie Project did a radio interview.

Steve Child urges planning group members to attend at least one meeting. Found the experience to be very educational. Information will be helpful in helping Planning Group determine what actions we should be taking.

Karen Brown notes that Planning Group has not defined urban vs rural. But this issue is apparent. We need to pay more attention to this. Jayla Sanchez-Warren notes variation even within rural communities. Areas with declining populations pose specific challenges to ensuring there are adequate services.

Dave Norman notes that many comments were received asking Planning Group to come back and/or follow up in a meaningful way. We need to communicate Planning Group's accomplishments to local communities. Wade Buchanan notes we need to think about how to structure this. Possibly a statewide summit?

Frisco meeting will take place on Wednesday Sept. 13. Denver meeting still needs a location. We expect 150-200 for this meeting so we need space to accommodate.

Fundraising Updates

- Finalizing Case for Support.
- Meeting with Next 50 will take place on Thursday September 14.
- Private-Sector Donor list compiled. Outreach to top tier targets planned.
 - Jayla Sanchez-Warren has connection at Xcel. Also has a connection with someone at the Rose Community Foundation.
 - Other organizations suggested by Planning Group include Grantmakers in Aging, Mission Investors, Daniels Fund and various hospital systems.

Subcommittee Reports

- Subcommittee on Implementation discussion revolved around the office of public guardianship pilot program - HB17-1087 - program cannot begin until funding needs have been met
 - Colorado Bar Committee actively searching for funding
- Subcommittee on Local and Regional Implications and Planning
 - Review of AARP livable community programs - currently in Pitkin and Eagle counties
 - Potentially in Glenwood Springs-Carbondale area
 - AARP continues to work on national surveys for livability
 - Rural areas seem to want age friendly communities, community safety and walkability
 - Josh Laipply notes that walkable communities in rural areas are a big area of contention for CDOT. Communities often say CDOT should build roads - not sidewalks. It would be helpful for SAPGA to illustrate why walkability is important. CDOT participates in Safe Routes to Schools. Need an older generation version of this program.
 - Do counties want to be identified as “age friendly”? Example was that Weld does not. Why?
- Subcommittee on Technology and Innovation
 - Panasonic discussion involved autonomous driving and other potential innovative technology available in 2030
 - Focus on basic infrastructure and transportation
 - Recommendations in January
 - Denver Start-Up Week will include Aging 2.0, AARP and the Next 50
 - \$7.6 trillion market
- Subcommittee on Workforce Development
 - Metropolitan State University of Denver has Healthcare Management and Integrative Health undergraduate degrees - they offer an aging services minor and a Masters in Health Administration
 - Career planning before college is important
 - Department of Regulatory Agencies presentation on streamlining processes for older adults moving into “encore” careers
 - Mention of pharmacy technicians and NHA licensing up for review
 - K-12 development for careers in aging

Priorities Breakout Groups, Other Comments

(Group discussion of priorities 11 (tie) and 14)

- Effects of repealing DACA on caregivers?
 - Estimated repeal could result in 30% reduction in workforce.
- How will changes in minimum wage law affect home health care and caregiving, in general?
- Would nurse contracts that allow for out-of-state license transfers be helpful?
 - Would the Colorado Nursing Association support this?
- How do we develop new service delivery models that are useful?
- How do communities assist family caregivers?
 - Need to fully fund the respite care task force (HB15-1233).

Public Comment -

Phil Cernanec - Family caregivers need more support. How can we provide more community supports for both caregivers and those that are being cared for? Dementia-friendly public establishments, etc, are one option.

Sharron Williams notes that there will be a panel presentation about seniors in the workforce and senior entrepreneurship on Friday Sept. 15 from 10:00 -12:00 at the Botanic Gardens.

Adjourn - 3:00 pm

Next meeting Oct. 9, 2017.