



Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging

Meeting Minutes – October 5, 2020

Participants: Christian Itin (Chair), John Emerson (Vice Chair), Sarah Elliott, Karin Stewart, Dave Norman, John Zabawa, Ed Leary, Jim Collins, Andrea Kuwik, Karen Brown, Jean Nofles, Kelly Osthoff, Aisha Young, Steve Child, Jayla Sanchez Warren and Tony Tapia

Not in Attendance: Hayley Gleason, Kara Harvey, Gabriel Kaplan, Claire Cruse, and Jane Barnes

Public Participants: Sharon Courtney, Ronica Rooks, Coral Cosway, Gail Meehan, Peggy Stoltenberg, Rachel Cohen, Jodi Waterhouse, Karen Ramey-Torres, Diana McFail, Bob Murphy, Bob Brocker, Lorye McLeod, Janice Blanchard, Pat Cook, and Andrea Suhaka

Action Items:

- Planning Group supports integrating the importance of data gathering into future discussions around the duties of a new office to focus on aging
- Jarett Hughes to send current draft of 2020 Action Plan to Planning Group members
- Jarett Hughes to follow-up with Nominations Committee about next steps

Meeting Notes

Welcome, Roll Call, and Approval of Minutes and Agenda

- Meeting called to order by Christian Itin at 12:07 pm
- September minutes and October agenda approved

Discussion of 2020 Recommendations

The Planning Group was presented with two new recommendations for discussion and approval. The first is related to the creation of a state office in order to take a robust perspective on aging, coordinate existing state efforts, and implement emerging directions. The second recommendation deals with revisiting Lifelong Colorado and encouraging state support for age-friendly planning. The following suggestions were made regarding the two recommendations:

- **Aging Office:** As the office idea continues to develop, the importance of consolidating data, research, and various resources should be considered an integral part of work duties. There were no direct edits to the recommendation.
- **Lifelong Colorado:** It was suggested to remove language around the initial budget request for FY19-20 and replace it with collaborative funding efforts involving the state, local funders, private sector, and community-based organizations. It was also suggested to add language regarding financial or human resource support for the Department of Local Affairs to move ahead with age-friendly training of regional managers and support outreach to communities for funding opportunities.



Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging

- All suggested edits were incorporated.

The Planning Group then moved onto discussion around the previously reviewed and edited draft recommendations. There were no specific recommendation edits provided but, there was mention around the importance of integrating the impact that COVID-19 has had on older Coloradans in the workforce. It was noted that the narrative in the 2020 Action Plan draft will highlight the impacts that COVID-19 has had on our older adult workforce.

The 2020 Action Plan recommendations were approved unanimously with a motion by John Emerson and seconded by Karen Brown.

Potential Issues/Topics for 2021 Planning – Report Out Notes

The Planning Group broke out into small groups to discuss potential focus areas for 2021. The ideas generated are captured below.

Group One: Funding; service provider capacity; a more specific blueprint for progress, implementation, and timing for recommendations; age-friendly planning and Lifelong Colorado; immediate needs versus long-term strategies; life course planning; gender/race variations and inequities; and continue to evaluate COVID-specific issues.

Group Two: Need to work on synthesizing past work efforts as it is somewhat an overwhelming body of work; need coherent messaging around aging issues; homelessness; COVID-specific issues; unpaid/volunteer workforce; age-friendly public health and health systems; future of senior centers; and rework/focus on past recommendations.

Group Three: Advance care planning, palliative care, and hospice care; emerging technologies and effectiveness; re-envisioning community building use – what will happen to buildings no longer occupied because of COVID; integrate older adult perspectives into existing state boards and commissions; identify funding opportunities and become more engaged in ballot efforts; and transportation efficiencies.

Update on Progress Feedback

Members and public participants were asked to review the Update on Progress matrix and provide feedback and additions.

Group One – Workforce Development and Health and Wellness: CWDC aging taskforce follow-up; Bell Policy and stackable credentials; Adult Protective Services follow through concerns; issues with financial exploitation and physical abuse being handled separately; data collection efforts to include.



Strategic Action Planning Group on Aging

Group Two – State Structure and Family Caregiving: Additional strategies include generating buy-in from Executive Directors around funding priorities; encourage Lifelong Colorado efforts to work with United Way; work on additional Respite Care Task Force Recommendations; explore options around adult day programs and respite for caregivers.

Group Three – Housing and Transportation: Include mobile health clinics as strategies; expand ADU section to include other cities or counties.

Nominations Committee

Bylaws require the formation of a Nominations Committee to identify a proposed slate of officers for the incoming Executive Committee. The 2020 Nominations Committee consisting of Tony Tapia (chair), Andrea Kuwik, and Aisha Young was approved by the full Planning Group.

Public Comment

Steve Child noted a recent news story highlighting Governor Polis having outside funded positions on his staff. Steve worried if that might be an issue or concern moving forward for the Governor's Aging Policy Advisor.

Meeting Adjourned 2:58 pm