



AURORA COMMISSION FOR OLDER ADULTS (ACFOA)

Monday, February 5, 2024

1:00 p.m.

Aurora Center For Active Adults
30 Del Mar Circle Aurora, CO 80011

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: By Chair at 1:02 PM

ACFOA MEMBERS PRESENT: Commissioners Jeannie Davis, Karen Jorgensen, Barbara Schneller, Derrick Vaughns.

ACFOA MEMBERS ABSENT: Commissioners Caroline Kim, Fran Dollard.

OTHERS PRESENT: Lori Sanchez, Facility Program Supervisor ACAA and ACFOA Liaison; Beth Yacono, Recreation Superintendent; Officer Jim Seneca, APD; Nicole Ankeney, Manager of Planning, Design, and Construction (PD&C); Erick del Angel, Planner; Laura Gerard, Project Manager at JSI; Therese Ellery, Subject Matter Expert and Contractor, Deepika Kandasamy, Research Lead and Project Manager. Frances Lofton and Victoria Vaughns, volunteers; Dolly Curto and Neta Sanders, guests.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Upon motion, second, and vote, the January meeting minutes were approved.

SPEAKER: Developmental Pathways (DP)

Rachel Walker, Community Partnerships Manager and Ashley Schirmer, Community Engagement Program Administrator

Developmental Pathways offers free additional support and services for people with disabilities in Arapahoe, Douglas, and Elbert counties. Programs are state and federally funded. Case management is the main element for DP.



In the past there were 42 entities providing services to people with disabilities statewide. To simplify this, the state of Colorado has narrowed it down to just 20 case management agencies. With the Case Management Redesign (CMRD), DP has expanded the population they serve.

Programs offered at DP include, Early Intervention, Community Outreach, Family Support, HCBS Waivers, and more. One of the waivers offered is the Elderly Blind and Disabled (EBD) Waiver. DP is a case management agency where people can speak to a case manager, who in turn will help locate available programs in their area.

AURORA POLICE DEPARTMENT – *Officer James Seneca, Community Relations*

Heather Morris is the new Interim Chief of Police. Sargeant Marciano is the new sergeant in the Special Victims Unit (SVU). Officer Seneca is still indirectly involved with SVU and is currently a Senior Resource Officer in the Community Relations section where 210 events were organized in 2023. The department is down about 115 officers overall.

NEEDS ASSESSMENT UPDATE – No update.

TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVES UPDATE – *Nicole Ankeney, Erick del Angel (PROS Staff)*

Nicole provided a recap of discussions held during the 2023 summer meetings. The next step is to finalize the RFP solicitation process for the Microtransit Pilot Program. The goal is to have the program operative sometime this summer. Nicole and Erick have a spreadsheet summarizing programs that will be sent to Jeannie to distribute to the Commission.

The chosen vendor is required to work with the city to evaluate and finalize program attributes including days and hours of operation. Nicole’s team recommends this be Monday – Thursday 7:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Friday 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. (*holidays excluded*). The vendor will be asked to provide data to help in making the decision of whether to include Sunday service.

Nicole presented three scenarios of service areas to be evaluated. She also provided the Commission with a comparison chart of areas served by existing programs. Additionally, two infographics were presented to show the percentage of at-risk populations being served in scenarios 1 and 2. A third infographic was shown to view the overall at-risk population in Aurora.

Questions were asked and comments were shared throughout the presentation. Jeannie, on



behalf of the Commission, thanked Nicole and Erick for the time, effort, and extent of their research for this project.

BUDGET REPORT: No update.

LIAISON REPORTS:

Aurora Center for Active Adults (ACAA) – Lori Sanchez, ACFOA Liaison

Tuesday, February 13th is the Valentine’s Day Social, “Donut Go Breaking My Heart.” It’ll be held from 10-11:30 a.m.

Arapahoe County Council on Aging (ACCoA) – Barb Schneller, Commissioner

Barb brought information fliers for Commissioners to look through. ACCoA will begin to meet every other month. There will be at least two community service projects completed this year.

Aurora Health Alliance – Jeannie Davis, Commissioner

The next meeting will be in April.

Ward Meetings – All Commissioners

Karen Jorgensen attended the Ward IV meeting which was well attended and had great information. Karen also joined the Ward I meeting and was intrigued by the format it was presented in. One of the speakers was a historian whom Karen will invite to speak at a future ACFOA monthly meeting. Jeannie plans to attend the Ward III meeting on February 13th.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Legislative – Karen Jorgensen, Commissioner

Karen summarized and passed out information regarding four Senate Bills that were of interest.

- ***SB24-040 State Funding for Senior Services.*** This bill requires the general assembly to annually adjust for inflation the general fund appropriation to state funded senior services. For the 2024-25 state fiscal year, the bill allocates \$5 million from the general fund to the Department of Human Services. *The bill is under consideration.*
- ***HB24-1115 Prescription Drug Label Accessibility.*** This bill would allow for individuals who



have difficulty seeing or reading standard labels on prescription drug containers to ask for a prescription drug reader at no cost to them and/or a label in braille or large print, providing the individual with a method recommended by the United States Access Board. *The bill is under consideration.*

- **HB24-1142 Reduce Income Tax Social Security Benefits.** The bill expands the current income tax subtraction for social security benefits starting at age 55 rather than 65. *The bill is under consideration.*
- **HB24-1075 Analysis of Universal Healthcare Payment System.** The bill requires the Colorado School of Public Health to analyze draft model legislation for implementing a single-payer, nonprofit, publicly financed, and privately delivered universal healthcare payment system for Colorado that directly compensates providers. *There hasn't been a general hearing on this bill yet.*

Karen will continue to update the Commission on these and any other bills that would benefit the older adult communities. Derrick asked Karen to look for the bill about Medicaid coverage. The bill consists of helping individuals that live in assisted living facilities continue living there with supplemental coverage.

Transportation Solutions – Jeannie Davis, Commissioner

RTD Commissioner Tisdale provided his report about ridership and advised that the lower fares are being well received.

Public Relations – Barb Schneller, Commissioner

Victoria volunteered to help Barb with the display table that will be set up at the Valentine's Day Social.

Intergenerational Support – Jeannie Davis, Commissioner

Jeannie, Juanita, Caroline, and the representative at Mission Viejo Library met to discuss activities for the year 2024. There were various ideas that came out of the meeting with some popular ones returning for this year. Jeannie received a year-end report from Juanita to include in the 2023 Annual Report.

Elder Fraud and Abuse Prevention – Vacant

Karen believes this committee should continue. She reached out to a broker dealer and an email



protection services company (NeoCertified) to request additional information about this issue. Karen plans on having updates at the next meeting.

Housing – Derrick Vaughns, Commissioner

Derrick reminded the Commission that migrants living in Denver shelters will soon be pushed out if they have been there for two weeks or longer. Many migrants are older adults and Derrick is concerned about the housing situation for them.

OLD BUSINESS:

2024 Speaker Topics – Jeannie Davis, Commissioner

Jeannie reached out to various people to set up dates for speakers on topics the Commission is interested in learning more about.

Visit Aurora – Jeannie Davis, Commissioner

Bruce Dalton will provide Jeannie with an update on national organizations that host conventions and conferences focused on the older adult population.

JSI Meeting – Jeannie Davis, Commissioner

The Commission is excited to continue receiving updates on the Needs Assessment progress.

2023 Annual Report – Jeannie Davis, Commissioner

Jeannie reminded Commissioners to provide their individual achievements and goals for inclusion in the annual report. A first draft of the report will be sent to Commissioners.

Older Aurorans Month Proclamation – Jeannie Davis, Commissioner

Jeannie prepared and submitted the proposed proclamation to Lori. The proclamation will be declared at the City Council meeting on May 20th.

Walk N' Roll Event – Jeannie Davis, Commissioner

Jeannie submitted a list of anticipated needs for this event to the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Department.

NEW BUSINESS:

Aurora City Council Meeting – Jeannie Davis, Commissioner

Jeannie attended the January 22nd meeting. A young woman spoke about the deprivation of



resources and recreation facilities and/or programs. Jeannie obtained her contact info to invite her to talk to the Commission about these concerns.

ACFOA Minimum Age Discussion – Jeannie Davis, Commissioner

Tabled until March meeting.

Homeowner Association (HOA) Fees – Fran Dollard, Commissioner

Tabled until March meeting.

ACFOA Vacancies – Jeannie Davis, Commissioner

Lori will make sure the updated application is being used for new applicants. A press release was sent out showing all vacancies for boards and commissions within the city. There have been at least two posts on the city’s social media pages.

NEXT MEETING:

Date: March 4, 2024

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Aurora Center for Active Adults and virtually through WebEx.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion, a second, and consensus of the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 3:03 p.m.

Jeannie Davis, Chairperson
Aurora Commission for Older Adults

Date 3-4-24

Lori Sanchez,
Facility Program Supervisor ACAA and ACFOA Liaison

Date 3-4-24

ADOPTED _____