

**Meeting Minutes**  
**Juneau Commission on Aging (JCOA)**  
**Tuesday, March 20, 2018**  
**12:00PM**  
**JEDC Conference Room, 612 West Willoughby Ave., Suite A**

I. Call to Order

Board members present: Eileen Hosey, Tisket Seslar, Joann Flora, Carol Trebian, Emily Kane, and Sue Warner

Board members absent: Katrina Lee, Paul Douglas, and Andy Hughes

Others: Marie Darlin, Sue Nielsen, Loren Jones, Denise Daniello, Brian Holst, and Eva Bornstein

Call to order at: 12:01PM

II. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.

III. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items

Sue Nielsen presented the Commission with a copy of a *Juneau Community Resource List* maintained by Juneau Job Center. She will track down who the contact is to make a connection. (Note: An older version of this list is posted on the internet at <http://tlcalaska.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/02/Community-Resources-JNU-2017.pdf>)

Discussion focused on putting a list like this on the web and who would maintain it.

- The Commission learned from Loren Jones that the JCOA has a website maintained by the city clerk's office. The website has agendas and minutes of meetings. If they talk to the city clerk they can get a better link to this website. Right now it is buried among the CBJ's web pages. The Commission can work through the Clerk's office to post content on the JCOA website. They can put anything appropriate in their advisory role to the Assembly on their website such as links to documents and reports.
- The Commission learned that there are several resource lists on the web. These include the Juneau Suicide Prevention Coalition (<http://juneausuicideprevention.org/juneau-community-resources/>), 211 (<http://www.alaska211.org/>) and SAIL's Aging and Disability Resource Center (<https://www.sailinc.org/aging-and-disability-resource-center>).
- The Commission decided to form a subcommittee on this topic. No members were named.

Denise Daniello, Alaska Commission Aging, presented two requests to the Commission. She informed the Commission that May is Older Americans Month in Alaska. This is a national and state recognition for seniors. Every year, there is a theme. This year, the theme is "engage at every age." In Alaska, the Governor signs an Executive Proclamation that launches a month of activities honoring older Alaskans. The Anchorage and Fairbanks Senior Advisory Commissions hold a special event to honor their seniors. This year, the ACoA is recognizing Alaskan

Centenarians, as part of Older Americans Month in Alaska. Using PFD data, we have identified 61 Centenarians of whom 5 live in Juneau. We would like the Juneau Commission on Aging to be our partner and recognize Juneau Centenarians.

Second, the ACoA develops the four-year Alaska State Plan for Senior Services. This State Senior Plan satisfies a federal funding requirement of states to have a plan in place in order to receive federal funding for a variety of senior programs including home- and community based services; family caregiver supports; health promotion, disease prevention activities; elder safety; the Senior Voice, and other services. In preparation for developing the State Senior Plan, the ACoA conducts needs assessment activities that include a senior survey, provider survey, and Elder-Senior Listening Sessions. They are planning to do an Elder-Senior Listening Session, a community forum that takes 2-3 hours, in Juneau soon and would like the JCoA to consider partnering for updating the senior survey and promoting and attending the listening session.

Discussion focused on what to do for Older Americans Month. The Commission agreed that they would like to hold a tea and cookies event for them. Loren was asked if there is money available from the clerk's office and responded that grants for \$250-\$300 are available. The venue suggested was the Pioneer Home. Loren was asked to represent the assembly, and they want to get the Mayor involved.

Discussion then focused on the Alaska State Plan for Senior Services elder-senior listening session. This will be held in April or May. A member of the Commission suggested that more than one session be held at various locations both downtown and in the valley.

A motion was presented by Tisket Seslar to honor centenarians on Sunday, May 20 at the Pioneer Home. Motion was seconded by Emily Kane and passed unanimously.

A motion was presented by Sue Warner to support the Elder-senior listening session in name and presence. Motion was seconded by Joann Flora and passed unanimously.

#### IV. Approval of minutes from previous meeting, February 20, 2018

A correction to the minutes was requested by Eileen Hosey. Her comment on background checks was clarified that they are only required when you have state funding. Sue Warner would like her name corrected. The minutes were unanimously approved with corrections.

#### V. Discussion Items

##### A. Juneau Economic Development Plan topics – discussion on further refining the issues and work around:

##### i. Housing and especially assisted living

Emily Kane reported that CBJ has an incentive grant available to home owners to add an accessory apartment. The grant is for up to \$6000. Sue Warner and Emily Kane offered to research the "Village to Village Network," a model for allowing elders to remain in their own homes through volunteer support and discounted medical and home care providers. One exists in Bellingham and there are a number around the U.S.

##### ii. Healthcare and medical facilities

Joann Flora reported on her conversation with Chuck Bell, CEO of Bartlett Regional Hospital. BRH is aware and addressing the need for certain specialty practitioners, including those that serve an aging population. Principal concerns are for Cardiology, Ophthalmology and Neurology. One challenge to finding new specialists to relocate to Juneau or travel monthly is resistance from general practitioners who are not supporting the search for specialists. They are reviewing the products and services at BRH. Evaluation is expected to be complete by June. BRH board may implement a plan for future products and services based on the review. CEO asked if the JCOA might be willing to engage in some of the conversations on how BRH adapts to provide services to older individuals.

iii. Cost of living and financial concerns

Postponed to next meeting.

B. Discussion on writing a "My Turn" for the Empire – each person writes one per year

Emily Kane offered to write a My Turn newspaper article. It was suggested to write about May older American month. Loren advised the Commission that CBJ does a My Turn every two weeks and they could use this to publish an article, rather than submit an independent article. He suggested that they first decide what to do to honor elders in May and set a date for the listening session so they could put this information into the My Turn article. He suggested they have already coordinated with state commission as to what day is the listening session and put that into the article. Also, they should highlight the provider survey. Guidelines for the CBJ My Turn is that it must be a city topic and informational - not pushing a specific agenda. They should go through CBJ staff to publish the article after they get dates firmed up with the state commission. They should also introduce the JCOA in the article.

C. Discussion on writing articles for "Senior Voice"

Discussion focused on putting the same specifics into an article for Senior Voice.

D. Discussion on addressing the issues around seniors, similar to how CBJ addressed the issues around the homeless

Postponed to next meeting.

E. Discussion on scheduling a work retreat

Postponed to next meeting

F. Schedule a presentation for an update on the assisted living facility

Tabled to May or June.

G. Planning for the next 10-year Senior Survey

Tabled to June.

Marie Darling explained that the survey is done every 10 years. Some questions are kept the same so can compare to prior surveys, but new questions are added to it. Commission gets to

decide questions. The Commission would like to invite Marie and others who organized the previous survey to talk to board about process from last time. The commission will be scheduling work sessions on questions.

VI. Other Business

None.

VII. Adjournment

Meeting was adjourned at 1:30PM.