

Meeting Minutes
Juneau Commission on Aging (JCOA)
September 21, 2021
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM
Via Zoom

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:45 AM. The meeting was chaired by Emily Kane and was conducted via Zoom.

Board members present: Emily Kane, Linda Kruger, Kathleen Samalon, Carol Ende, Sue Warner, Jennifer Carson, Christine Woll, Jan Beauchamp, Ann Stepetin

Board members absent: none

Others: Robyn Mesdag, Brian Holst, Anton Rieselbach, Brenda Taylor, Deborah Craig, Rosemary Hagevig, Lisa Morley

II. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with unanimous consent.

III. Approval of minutes from previous meeting

The amended June meeting minutes were approved with unanimous consent. The July meeting did not have a quorum, so the minutes did not need to be approved.

IV. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items

None.

V. Discussion Items

A) Assembly Update

The city is going to be hiring a new tourism manager. This was a recommendation from the Visitor Industry Task Force. The tourism manager will be responsible for public outreach, cruise ship schedules, planning, permitting and bringing in diverse interests from the community and cruise ship industry. The position is currently up for hire.

The city has begun the public process for developing a new city hall. Currently city employees work out of one building the city owns and the city also rents offices. The building the city owns requires a lot of work and the rentals are an additional expense.

JCOA Board Members: Carol Ende, Jennifer Carson, Janet Beauchamp, Sue Warner, Emily Kane, Linda Kruger, Kathleen Samalon, Ann Stepetin, one open seat. Assembly liaison: Christine Woll

Municipal elections are currently taking place, people should have received their ballots in the mail last week. They can be mailed back, dropped off in secure boxes around town, or dropped off at voting centers on the last day of the election.

The city voted to purchase the equipment and a warehouse on Thane to create a voting facility. This would allow for voting by mail for all future elections. The voter turnout when voting by mail has been much higher than voting in person.

The JCOA had asked how the committee could get involved in the Blueprint Downtown Area Plan to make sure it is senior friendly. The Blueprint Downtown Area Plan has been about two years in the making and they are close to a good draft of the plan. In the near future, the draft will go out for public review and comments and Christine will be sure the JOCA is notified when that happens.

B) EDA Grants

Emily asked Christine about the city's involvement in EDA grant writing and asked her to identify CBJ employees who might be able to help the JCOA with information. Christine noted that the city is considering adding a grant writing position, which would likely be a short-term position. Christine also noted that Eaglecrest, Docks and Harbors and Parks and Recreation want to put together a proposal for infrastructure needs for a Build Back Better grant. The city gave them the green light to put together a proposal. Christine suggested the JCOA contact Scott Ciambor with CBJ as a resource for a potential senior housing grant.

Lisa Morley and Rosemary Hagevig, with the Alaska Commission on Aging commented that the Center for Human Development out of Anchorage would be a good resource, as might Jim McCall. Lisa Morley also noted that the JCOA should contact Marianne Mills with Southeast Senior Services.

Anton gave a brief overview of the EDA Grants. JEDC is likely going to pursue a Good Jobs Challenge grant that the JCOA could potentially join.

Emily noted that the JCOA should continue to work in subcommittees to further grant work.

C) Update on Board Member Recruitment

The JCOA has one open board position. Deborah Craig joined the meeting to see if she had interest in applying to fill that position.

D) Next Meeting Date

October 19, 2021, 10:30-11:30 AM.

JCOA Board Members: Carol Ende, Jennifer Carson, Janet Beauchamp, Sue Warner, Emily Kane, Linda Kruger, Kathleen Samalon, Ann Stepetin, one open seat. Assembly liaison: Christine Woll

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM