

Meeting Minutes  
Juneau Commission on Aging (JCOA)  
October 26, 2021  
9:00 AM – 10:00 AM  
Via Zoom

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:01 AM. The meeting was chaired by Emily Kane and was conducted via Zoom.

**Board members present:** Emily Kane, Linda Kruger, Kathleen Samalon, Carol Ende, Jennifer Carson, Jan Beauchamp, Ann Stepetin

**Board members absent:** Christine Woll

**Others:** Robyn Mesdag, James Cheng, Deborah Craig

II. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with unanimous consent.

III. Approval of minutes from previous meeting

The August meeting minutes were approved with unanimous consent.

IV. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items

None.

V. Discussion Items

A) Question of the Month

The question of the month was, “what motivates you to get through the Juneau winters?”

B) AARP Age Friendly Designation for Juneau

Linda presented information on how Juneau can be designated an Age-Friendly Community. The JCOA would like to apply to have Juneau receive this designation. Emily will take the lead on the application. Linda also shared information about a workshop on livable communities held online the 26, 27 & 28<sup>th</sup> of October. Application for the designation: <https://www.aarp.org/livable-communities/community-challenge/> Information on where Juneau is currently on the livability index:

<https://livabilityindex.aarp.org/search#Juneau+AK+USA>

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JCOA Board Members: Carol Ende, Jennifer Carson, Janet Beauchamp, Emily Kane, Linda Kruger, Kathleen Samalon, Ann Stepetin, two open seats. Assembly liaison: Alicia Hughes-Skandijs

C) AARP 2022 Community Challenge Grant

Linda presented on the AARP 2022 Community Challenge Grant. Linda was on the review board for last year's applications. There was discussion on JCOA partnering with Parks and Recreation and adding physical fitness equipment to existing parks. Adding musical equipment was also discussed. There was discussion on cleaning up and adding fitness equipment to the trail near Dimond Park. Partners besides Parks and Recreation could potentially be project playground and Trail Mix. The JCOA would like to submit a grant this year and Linda will take the lead on this grant.

D) Discussion on Federal Build Back Better dollars towards our senior projects.

There was discussion on how the JCOA can fit into the Good Jobs Challenge Grant that JEDC is writing. At a minimum, a letter of support would be helpful. Ann and Jennifer's subcommittee has been active in helping create framework for the Good Jobs Challenge. A coalition of interested parties to address the workforce needs in Juneau is being formed. Any JCOA members interested in joining the coalition should contact Robyn.

E) Recruitment of a new Commissioner

There are currently two open seats on the JCOA. One of those needs to be filled by a person who is 65 or older.

F) Next Meeting Date

November 23, 2021, 9:00 – 10:00 AM.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 AM

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