

Meeting Minutes
Juneau Commission on Aging (JCOA)
March 15, 2022
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM
Via Zoom

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 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, Bobbi Epperly Alicia Hughes-Skandijs

Board members absent: None

Others: Robyn Mesdag

II. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with unanimous consent.

III. Approval of minutes from previous meeting

The February 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, "Of the three initiatives the JCOA is currently actively working on, the Southeast Regional Eldercare Coalition, Livable community designation through AARP, and the AARP Senior Playground Equipment Grant, which one excites you the most?"

B) Assembly Update

Emily noted that she has requested that the JCOA get on the assembly's agenda to discuss the AARP Livable Community Designation. Alicia replied that she was the correct contact for that and will work to be sure this happens. There is discretion from the committee chair, and sometimes the agendas get rearranged it takes a little longer to get in front of the assembly. She also noted that if people want to get in front of the assembly, they can also contact the clerk's office.

The assembly and met and the long-range waterfront plan was amended, regarding the sub port dock. This does not mean for certain that there will be a dock, but it opens up the path to do that and moves the process into the next step of the public process. The assembly members that voted for it are open for opening up the process and not necessarily set on the dock itself.

Emily asked if the city can make grants conditional, such as needing to build in senior friendly portions to the development. Alicia noted that yes, the city can make grants conditional. Usually, they are more about parking lots or building size, but it is possible to make them conditional.

The HR committee met and there was a resolution regarding Ukraine, that called for suspension of Juneau's sister city in Russian, but it was delayed and did not move forward.

C) AARP 2022 Community Challenge Grant

Emily thanked the JCOA members who have reviewed and helped with the grant. Currently she is looking at applying for a double glider such as this one. meeting with Parks and Rec. They are onboard, and now be worked out. JCOA members commented that the especially nice because the two people could go at Additionally, it is good for days when it is slippery to walk can improve hip flexibility. Sand is corrosive to the may be rubber pads or concrete put down underneath.



Emily has a the details need to double glider was different speeds. the trails and it equipment, there Exactly where and

how the piece of equipment is going to be installed needs to be finalized with Parks and Recreation. Emily is planning to place the equipment in near proximity to the children's play equipment to facilitate intergenerational connections, as well as in a manner that will allow for expansion with more senior friendly equipment. Emily has also met with Trail Mix, they will not be applying for an AARP Community Challenge Grant this year. There was discussion on having a celebration when the piece of equipment is installed. Carol noted they have 10 letters of support, and Ann will help facilitate an additional letter of support from Tlingit Haida. Emily asked that each JCOA member go into the grant application and look at the deliverables and provide her with feedback. The grant is due on March 22, 2022.

D) Livable Community Designation

Linda reported that she had a meeting with Teresa Holt, the director of AARP Alaska with several other representatives. Anchorage is applying for the same designation as Juneau, and is a couple steps ahead, so hopefully Juneau can follow their lead. Linda is working on a Power Point presentation to use around Juneau to get support before taking it to the assembly and moving it forward. Linda invited any JCOA members who are interested to please contact her for more information.

E) Update on the Southeast Regional Eldercare Coalition

Jennifer reported that a grant was submitted to the Mental Health Trust this morning, to request interim funding for a program coordinator to help the Coalition along. The Coaliton has

come so far from the time when it was just Jennifer and Anne meeting, and it's been great to watch it blossom. Jennifer also appreciates that the Coalition is looking regionally. She noted that at each Coalition meeting we look at best practices in communities and see how we can move some of those practices into other communities, and that Linda has been pivotal in helping with the Best Practices aspect of each Coalition meeting. Legislatively this year, the Coalition is supporting AgeNET and AARP in their efforts. Deb and Linda are partnering on a next stage grant to the Murdoch Trust that would specifically fund staffing for an executive director.

A) Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for April 19, 2022 at 10:30 AM via zoom.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM