

Meeting Minutes
Juneau Commission on Aging (JCOA)
June 21, 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

Board members absent: Alicia Hughes-Skandijs

Others: Robyn Mesdag

II. Approval of Agenda

The agenda was approved with unanimous consent.

III. Approval of minutes from previous meeting

The March 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 are you most excited about with the Southeast Regional Eldercare Coalition?”

B) Assembly Update

None.

C) Emily Kane – JCOA report of recommendations to CBJ

Emily referred to the draft letter to CBJ. Open discussion followed, including discussion on the following points:

- Tlingit Haida is starting back up their elders programs and are starting to bring them back in person. Bi ngo is back and open to everyone. Cathy Washburn will be teaching a strengthening class to elders via zoom. Anne is not sure if this is open to the general public, she will check to find out. The second congregational lunch happened this week, the lunch program is open to everyone. Tlingit Haida is alternating delivering bags of groceries to Elders and congregational lunches.
- Two main findings of the senior survey were lack of care providers and senior housing. The lack of care providers is being addressed by the Southeast Regional Eldercare Coalition so the JCOA would like to focus recommendations to the assembly on senior housing.
- Short term rentals, as well as summer employee housing, are exacerbating the housing problem for locals. The assembly is working to gain a better understanding of these issues.
- The overall arching goal of the JCOA is to have the assembly keep seniors in the forefront when making decisions.
- Incentivizing long term rentals, as well as rentals to seniors, perhaps through a property tax break, as well as other possible incentives.
- Tiny homes and regulations that make tiny home ownership difficult, such as requiring they not be on wheels, not necessarily being able to hook into the utilities of an already existing home, and having specific electrical, roofing and plumbing requirements. It would be beneficial if the city could work with a tiny home manufacturer to create a preapproved model that people in Juneau could purchase and know was up to the city codes.
- Emily and Bobbi will work on a letter to CBJ about potential code changes for tiny homes.
- The need for more in-home care providers so seniors can stay in their own homes longer.
- An idea that there is a box to check saying something like, "I have thought about the benefits and implications/impacts for seniors with this project."

E) Update on the Southeast Regional Eldercare Coalition

Earlier in the meeting Jennifer Carson noted the Southeast Regional Eldercare Coalition is applying for a number of different grants, including one with a significant funding value.

A) Next Meeting Date

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

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 AM