

Advisory Council Meeting

May 14, 2020

Minutes

<u>Members Present:</u>	Jay Adams David Born Myles Crane Kirsten Hartman Margaret Long Punkie Whitely	Crystal Bloemen Jill Couch Ferri Erickson Lisa Hays Ellen Pihlstrom Kristy Wygmans	Elaine Boni Sharon Courtney Joe Glomboski Roy Lilley Jody Shaddock-McNally Sharon Zamora
<u>Members Absent:</u>	Danita Nixon		
<u>Staff Present:</u>	Tina Corrigan-Hugo Katy Mason Heather O'Hayre	Amber Franzel Lori Metz Linda Rumney	Commissioner Kefalas Stephanie Morris
<u>Guests Present:</u>	Alex Gordon	Dixie Huff	

CALL TO ORDER

Crystal Bloemen called the meeting to order at 1:41 p.m.

CONSIDERATION OF TODAY'S AGENDA AND MINUTES OF February 13, 2020

Minutes stand as presented.

INTRODUCTIONS; ZOOM ETIQUETTE; WELLNESS CHECK

Crystal went over instructions for Zoom. Members of the Council gave an update about how they are doing during the COVID-19 Stay at Home Order.

OFFICE ON AGING UPDATE

Heather O'Hayre introduced Lori Metz. Lori has taken Lisa Silcox position as the Aging & Adult Services Division Manager.

Lori announced that the Program Manager candidate has been selected and is in the last stage of the hiring process. Lori will be able to announce the new Program Manager next week.

Amber Franzel announced that Shilo Christenson has filled the Ombudsman vacancy left by Shelbie Engelking in January. Amber reported that there was a total of four buildings that had an active outbreak of COVID-19.





LCOA RESPONSE TO COVID-19

Lori highlighted several projects related to the Office on Aging's response to COVID-19. These included:

- Work with the Partnership for Age-Friendly Communities (PAFC) to provide a food pantry in Red Feather Lakes. Because of this partnership, Heather was able to add early childhood FEMA supplies such as diapers and formula for families in the area.
- The Ombudsman program worked with Wish of a Lifetime to secure 165 tablets preloaded with video software for residents in long term care facilities. This has helped them communicate with family and the Ombudsmen. Amber stated that the tablets have been valuable for communicating with residents.
- Purchased a large order of blizzard boxes (10 meals/box) and coordinated delivery to clients with Meals on Wheels of Loveland-Berthoud, Fort Collins Meals on Wheels, Volunteers of America (VOA), and the ADRC staff. The Department of Human Services was also able to purchase a large order to give to clients associated with other Human Services programs.
- Expanded the Market Days Voucher program through the CSU Extension Office. Historically, funding has been provided in the form of vouchers for clients to get fruits and vegetables at the farmers market. This has been expanded to include delivery to older adults.

Linda Rumney stated that in the beginning of the crisis, the ADRC calls were mostly related to COVID-19. The calls are now increasing in number and focused more on regular issues of finding senior resources and options counseling. Linda reported that the ADRC has:

- Delivered blizzard boxes to clients.
- Made over 250 reassurance calls to clients.
- Process and issue new chore vouchers.
- Manage In-Home Vouchers.
- Powerful Tools for Caregivers classes has moved to a virtual platform by using Zoom.
- Redesigning Caregiver Pampering Day scheduled for the end of June.
- Continues to stay abreast of available resources in the community every day.

Katy Mason and Stephanie Morris discussed the COVID-19 relief funding and the process for allocating these funds to community partners. They reviewed the agencies that had been approved for funding.

Lori shared that there is an anticipated \$3.3 billion revenue shortfall in the state budget. She added that the Joint Budget Committee (JBC) will be discussing cuts to Human Services programs next week.



Commissioner Kefalas announced:

- Consideration for zeroing out the Senior Homestead Property Tax Exemption which would be approximately \$150 million.
- The State Board of Human Services adopted an emergency rule for the ability for clients to apply for the Low-Income Energy Assistance Program (LEAP) funding until it runs out.

Heather added:

- Clients on the food assistance program now have the ability to order food online and pay delivery fees at Amazon and Walmart.
- The state has said that no new funding will be able to be used between now and September 1. Forecasting set to occur to assess administrative funding needs through September.
- The JBC has voted to reduce the Older Coloradans' Cash Fund by approximately \$16 million.

Katy finished reporting on other projects funded with key partners in the community.

COMMITTEE & STAFF REPORTS

Executive Committee

Crystal reported that the Committee:

- Extended the application process for the Advisory Council until May 17. Applications are available at www.larimer.org/boards.
- Crystal asked for nominations for chair and vice-chair positions. If interested contact one of the Executive Committee members; Crystal, Margaret Long, Sharon Courtney, Ferri Erickson and Ellen Pihlstrom. Voting on chair and vice-chair will happen at the next Council meeting.
- Crystal thanked Elaine Boni who created a phone tree in order to check-in with Council members.

Public Policy & Education Committee

Sharon Courtney reported the Committee:

- Reviewed alternative nutrition programs because of the closure of congregate meal sites.
- Canceled the spring educational forum
- Discussed the possibility of planning a candidates forum in the fall.
- Sharon ended with an invitation to join the PP&E Committee.

Grantee Management & Evaluation Committee

Margaret Long reported the Committee:

- Reviewed the grantee unit report but did not have a chance to discuss it.
- Suggested that blizzard boxes be purchased sooner than later.
- Reviewed the COVID-19 funding and plans for distribution.



LIAISON REPORTS

Board of County Commissioners

Heather reported on behalf of Commissioner Kefalas as he had to leave early. Heather stated that Larimer County is looking into requesting a waiver from the Governor's Safer at Home Order to be more flexible with opening business in Larimer County.

Fort Collins Senior Advisory Board (SAB)

Myles Crane emailed the following report: "The SAB Chair recently wrote the Mayor, City Council, City Manager and others that the Board would like to meet on Zoom to discuss issues concerning seniors and COVID-19. Council for various reasons, is not permitting Boards to hold virtual meetings unless Council determines that the meetings are for matters of pressing City business." Myles commented that the City's website stated they will open June 1.

Loveland Senior Advisory Board (SAB)

Dixie Huff commented that the SAB has not met. Dixie announced the Library is allowing for delivery to homebound community members.

Partnership for Age-Friendly Communities (PAFC)

Katy announced that Lorye McCloud is the new Executive Director for PAFC. Alex Gordon gave an update on the Mobility & Access Priority Group.

- Worked with the Office on Aging, Larimer County Department of Health & Environment-Build Environment program, and the City of Fort Collins-FC Moves to submit an AARP Livable Communities grant for \$9,500 to partner with the City of Fort Collins to do an Open Streets event in September. This event would promote travel training on buses and bike education for older adults.

ADJOURNMENT

Crystal adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.