

Bloomington Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes - April 11, 2017

1. Attendance: Sue Owens, Lauren Cowan, Courtney Stewart, Jim Shelton, Julie Hill, Denise Lessow, Gail Londergan, Jack Kahn and Lei Gong

2. Minutes: March minutes approved with corrections.

3. Liaison Report:

- i. Sue created a Google Drive (drop box) for shared resources and suggested commission members create a g-mail account if they don't currently have one, and sent a link to commissioners that need to create an account.
- ii. Sue asked if anyone would be interested in talking on the radio (Spotlight) in May for Older American's Month about the CoA and its initiatives - Courtney volunteered. Sue will let Lucy (CFRD) know that Courtney is interested.
- iii. Sue reminded the commission to complete the 2017 Assessment for Commission/Council/Coalition task Force members. Assessments are confidential.
- iv. Sue reminded the Commission to watch language when endorsing a community event. A true partnership requires a MOU with the City, otherwise should be endorsement.

4. Old Business:

a. Creative Aging Updates:

- i. Julie clarified that the CoA logo is separate from the CAI logo and that both logos would appear on the CAI brochure.
- ii. Julie recommended changing the name of the CAI Initiative from Bloom Café to something else to avoid confusion. The sub-committee has not decided on the new name yet.
- iii. Lauren announced three upcoming events in May: The Senior Expo on May 10, IU Health, Dementia Friendly Bloomington workshop on May 4th and IU Health, Bloomington's 2nd annual Geriatric Care Conference that will focus on Human Connection

b. Seniors in Poverty:

- i. Courtney reported that the Seniors in Poverty sub-committee met and discussed the role of education as well as finding resources to improve and understand poverty issues among the elderly. One resource that she mentioned was the poverty simulation which helps provide a more practical understanding about the realities of poverty. The committee will provide additional information on the next poverty simulation, scheduled for January 2018, as the date draws nearer.
- ii. Lei Gong talked about the subcommittee's work in relation to the Creative Aging Initiative and suggested further coordination among commissioners.
Lauren talked about the Affordable Living Group and handed out a questionnaire asking commission members to complete it and sent back to the Affordable Living committee. The survey may be mailed to the address listed or can be filled out via Survey Monkey. Lauren is working with Volunteers in Medicine to distribute the survey among their clients.

Julie said she would sent the questionnaire to the Commerce Group that she is working with.

- c. Communications Update:
 - i. Gail asked Courtney to write one paragraph about poverty for the May newsletter (the deadline is May 1).
 - ii. Julie suggested ways to improve communications and newsletters in the community among aging population.
 - iii. Lauren asked that the CoA bylaws be posted on the shared Google Drive so that members can review them and be ready to vote on the changes at the May meeting. Gail will send them out to the commission and Sue will post them on the Google drive.
 - iv. Senior Expo – All subcommittees should expect to prepare information for distribution at the Expo. Commissioners will be asked to help cover a shift at the CoA table at the Expo. A schedule will be developed in the upcoming weeks.
 - v. City Hall Atrium Display – CoA will have half the display in June. The CoA display will consists of information disseminated from the Dementia Friendly Bloomington event and Words of Wisdom Poetry, however, all subcommittees are encouraged to have something representative of their work in the display.

5. New Business:

- a. Draft of Comprehensive Master Plan (CMP):
 - i. Jim noted that the timeline for responding was very short, although he hoped it would be extended. He then added that the new draft had many more references to seniors in it.
 - ii. Gail provided a language usage chart to support Jim's comments; based on that, she suggested our response might focus on outcomes and indicators. She offered to prepare an outline to help with that.
 - iii. Julie suggested using the Affordable Living survey at the 55+ Expo to get information to provide to the Affordable Living Committee..
 - iv. Gail suggested a task force (members to be determined) to review surveys such as Best Cities 2017, the new Bloomington Community Survey, etc. to extract usable data to help CoA initiatives. Jim moved, Courtney seconded, motion passed.
- b. Advisory Members:
 - i. CoA voted not to pursue acquiring advisory member at this time.

6. Additional Agenda Items:

7. Adjournment: 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Ngoc Dao