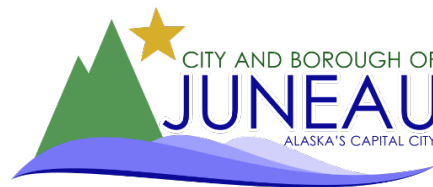


JUNEAU COMMISSION ON AGING MINUTES - FINAL



August 19, 2025 at 3:00 PM

Zoom Webinar

<https://juneau.zoom.us/j/81491760970?pwd=bkFwWk42Mllmazl0aFdMS3ArTG5qZz09>

Or Call In: 1-253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 814 9176 0970 Passcode: 858248

A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL– Chair Craig called the JCOA meeting to order at 3PM via Zoom

Present: Chair Deborah Craig, Secretary Chris Schapp, AARP Liaison and CAT Team Leader Linda Kruger, Carol Ende, Barb Murray, and Anne Stepetin.

Absent: Diane Kyser, Jennifer Garrison (family emergency), Kimberly Adkinson (resigned).

Others Present: JCOA Assembly Liaison Maureen Hall, prospective new member Laura Revels.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – agenda approved as presented.

C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – minutes approved as presented.

1. April 15, 2025, JCOA Meeting Minutes

D. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS - None

E. AGENDA TOPICS

Standing JCOA Agenda Topics - CBJ Update/Main Projects/Subcommittee Updates

1. OTHER INFORMATION

Chair Craig reported Kimberly Atkison has issued her early resignation (term ends 12/25).

Anne Stepetin also resigned from the JCOA as she takes on a new position at T&H focusing on programs serving elders. Anne was present at our meeting to say farewell, thank the Commission and comment on how much she enjoyed being a part of all the wonderful things the JCOA accomplished over the years. She also offered to come back to meetings on occasion to share her knowledge and expertise. She wished us well and we offered a fond goodbye to a long-time member.

Prospective new member Laura Revels has submitted her application to the Assembly to represent CCTHITA on the JCOA. Laura was present, introduced herself and comes with a long history of program development, grant writing and advocacy, and expressed her excitement to be part of the Commission. Committee members present also introduced themselves and welcomed Laura.

Members are also encouraged to listen to the JCOA's KTOO Juneau Afternoon interview from August 7th – click on the following link and then go to the 40-minute mark. Linda Kruger has been a regular contributor with Chair Craig in announcing both JCOA and AARP Activities. JCOA will continue to participate in KTOO's Juneau Afternoon – every month on the first Thursday at 3PM. This is an opportunity to share info and all members are encouraged to send info to Chair Craig and Linda Kruger regarding activities to be announced AND all are welcome to join in the interview monthly!

<https://www.ktoo.org/2025/08/07/kitty-eddys-journey-to-recovery-after-suffering-two-strokes-plus-a-preview-of-opera-alaska-and-events-from-the-juneau-commission-on-aging/>

2. Housing Priority

Chair Craig reminded everyone about next week's **Universal Design Zoom meeting taking place on August 26th at 9:00 AM**. You must register on the link on the JCOA website at the top of the page to get an invite for the zoom webinar. At the event CBJ Planning Commission as well as others will present topics on universal design, senior living and senior affordability for the future. Chair Craig again asked

everyone to spread the word about the event including radio spots on KTOO and Linda Kruger has done an exemplary job reaching out to over 70 participants and putting up posters around town. Carol Ende commented on appreciation for the progress that has been made with the housing priority.

3. **Age-Friendly Community Planning**

Chair Craig gave an update from meeting with Minta Montabo, CBJ Senior Planner for the CBJ Comprehensive Plan - her email response reads:

Thanks for reaching out. I appreciated the information you provided during our last meeting and have shared the Juneau Age Friendly Community Action Plan with the rest of the project management team.

*As we discussed in our meeting, we are still in the initial phase of gathering public input, including formal reports/plans such as yours. We won't start writing anything for several months, but we have started drafting the Guiding Principles, and I'm already seeing areas of alignment, **such as the creation of a Senior Community Center that could support multi-generation interactions**, and ensuring Juneau has "housing for all" that is appropriate to different needs, including seniors.*

I have added my colleague, Forrest Courtney, to this email. Unfortunately, we are fully booked this week preparing for a series of meetings and work sessions next week and will not have capacity for individual meetings.

As we talked about when we last met, you are most welcome to attend the public meeting we are hosting on August 25, related to North and West Douglas issues. The meeting will be focused on transportation/roads, housing/infrastructure, and tourism/recreation in North and West Douglas, so it would be a good venue to offer perspective on age-friendly considerations from your Action Plan, such as senior activities at Eaglecrest or improved/extended public transit to the area.

Chair Craig hopes to be able to present the Age Friendly Community Plan formally to the CBJ Assembly at the next reporting period for the JCOA.

4. **Recreation and Wellness -**

For those not at the last working group meeting, we reiterated the exciting news of Marie Drake, Mount Jumbo Gym and Floyd Dryden opening for senior participation in activities including pickleball open gym yoga walking – this all relies on Parks and Recreation hiring 10 individuals to staff the facilities – JCOA has tried to bump the recruitment on KTOO Juneau Afternoon and outreach to the MAAST Program, AKDOL, CCS and T&H. Lauren Verelli (acting P&R Acting Director) expressed email appreciation for JCOA's assistance with recruitment so that all facilities can be fully staffed and seniors can enjoy the facilities starting this fall. The gyms are anticipated to be open September through April.

Floyd Dryden and Mt. Jumbo Gym are scheduled to open after Labor Day/September.

Marie Drake will hopefully open in early October on Monday Wednesdays and Fridays for pickleball and open Senior gyms on Tuesday and Thursday.

Conversations will continue to facilitate a more robust Senior Community Center. Carol Ende commented on the importance working effectively with the CCS Senior Center at Mountainview and Chris Schapp indicated that CCS is now trying to hire a new CCS Senior Center Manager – when that position is in place, the new Manager could present to the JCOA. The Commission discussed strategies and mechanisms for using these venues that are in close proximity, ADA compliant and offer different space options: Marie Drake (large and conducive to big activities) and the Senior Center (smaller and more conducive to workshops, training, etc).

5. **CBJ Liaison update from Maureen Hall:**

Maureen gave an update on CBJ Assembly issues including the hiring of a new airport manager, flooding aftermath and cleaning help continued and that at last night's Assembly meeting, the disorderly conduct ordinance that was tabled, there is an upcoming bid period for the warming shelter

for this winter and that ranked choice voting was included public testimony. Ms. Hall also reported on the school district, and that all is going well after the third day of school. Chair Craig thanked Ms. Hall for her commitment to seniors and her assistance via the Assembly.

- F.** At our upcoming Meetings (below) we would like us to review the Age Friendly Plan and Linda Kruger commented that this would be great preparation for the assembly report later this year.

G. NEXT MEETING DATES –

August 26 – Universal Housing Zoom meeting 9am (see link on our website, must register in advance)

September 9 – JCOA Workgroup TBD

September 16 – Next regular JCOA monthly meeting at 3pm

- H. ADJOURNMENT** There being no further business coming before the commission, meeting adjourned at 4:03pm.