

Meeting Minutes
Juneau Commission on Aging (JCOA)
February 11, 2020
10:30 AM
JEDC Conference Room, 612 W. Willoughby Ave., Suite A

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM. The meeting was chaired by Emily Kane.

Board members present: Emily Kane; Justin Jones; Paul Douglas; Michelle Hale; Jennifer Carson; Linda Kruger; Kathleen Samalon

Board members absent: Carol Ende; Lisa Oberle; Sue Warner

Others: Robyn Mesdag, JEDC; Eileen Hosey, Catholic Community Services

II. Approval of Agenda

An amended agenda with an update on the Care-A-Van and review of the Open Meetings Act by Michelle Hale was approved by unanimous consent

III. Approval of minutes from previous meeting

There were no minutes as there was not a quorum at the last meeting.

IV. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items

None.

V. Discussion Items

A) Eileen Hosey, Catholic Community Services (CCS)

Eileen is a case worker in Juneau, Angoon and Haines. She is in her 11th year with CCS. The mission of Southeast Senior Services (SESS) is for seniors to stay in their homes as long as they can be safe and healthy. SESS gets referrals from many places, including SEARHC, friends, family and a gatekeeper program which they run from a grant from the City and Borough of Juneau (CBJ). The gatekeeper program is a program where people can anonymously report if they are concerned about a senior.

JCOA Board Members: Jennifer Carson, Lisa Oberle, Carol Ende, Paul Douglas, Sue Warner, Emily Kane, Linda Kruger, Justin Jones, Kathleen Samalon

Once a senior in need has been identified and they accept services are are amenable to have someone go into their home, then the case goes to case management. CCS tries to make case management easy, understandable, respectful and pertinent. They get an idea of what's going on in the senior's life, let them know how CCS can facilitate them and put together a plan of care.

Eileen believes the two most important things for seniors are to get a lunch and to have someone help them 2 – 4 hours a week with laundry, grocery shopping, etc.

B) Care-A-Van Update

Michelle Hale gave an update on the Care-A-Van. Ed Foster with CBJ oversees the Care-A-Van situation. There is a new contract in place with CCS and there will be new buses. With that comes some changes, including ADA requirements. For the ADA requirement, the person needing services must have a medical professional fill out a form and verify you have ADA needs. For example, if you live 10 minutes from the bus stop and can't walk for 10 minutes, that would qualify. Once a person has their ADA ID, there are no renewal requirements. The new program will be called Capital AKcess.

To apply, you start with the regular Care-A-Van application. You can get it from CCS. The JCOA wanted to be sure it was also posted online somewhere, such as the CBJ website. They were also concerned about information dissemination for Capital AKcess. Some ideas for this were to put it in a press release to healthcare providers, a story in "Housecalls" from Bartlett Regional Hospital, the CCS newsletter, and the radio. Michelle will follow up with Robert and see how he plans to advertise this.

C) Open Meetings Act

All meetings of public entities, such as JCOA have to be public noticed. You can't "reply all" to an email because that is essentially holding a meeting via email, communicating information to each other but not the public. Speaking to more than 3 members of the commission is a violation of the open meetings act. It could be construed as lobbying members of the commission and getting a vote to go your way and not the public way. If members meet, there must be 3 members or less at the meeting or the meeting must be public noticed. You do this by notifying Beth with CBJ and she will public notice it.

D) Election of Officers

Emily made a motion that the JCOA elect two co-chairs rather than a chair and a vice-chair. Paul seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

Paul made a motion that Carol and Emily be the co-chairs of the JCOA. Linda seconded the motion. The motion passed with unanimous consent.

The JCOA has decided not to have a secretary or treasurer.

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E) Other Business

The next meeting date will be March 17th at 10:30 AM – 11:45 AM.

F) Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM