

JUNEAU COMMISSION ON AGING

City & Borough of Juneau

Minutes of Regular Meeting

August 14, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

The Commission met at the Senior Center. MaryAnn VandeCastle called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. Other members present: Elizabeth Terry, Pat Watt, and new member Charles Wilson. He fills the seat previously occupied by Marie Darlin who declined to be reappointed. Mary Lou Spartz, attended the meeting briefly on her way to work. Dixie Hood is out of town and Cliff Cole is unable to attend. Also attending were Jerry Nankervis, Carol Comolli, and Tonya Muldoon.

DECLARATION OF A QUORUM

It was declared that a quorum of members was present. The agenda was adopted as presented

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for the regular meeting on June 11 were amended and approved.

REPORTS OF MEETINGS ATTENDED

MaryAnn attended a Board meeting of the Food Bank where she raised issues of responding to senior food needs and emergencies. Much work needs to be done to address these needs.

MaryAnn attend last week's meeting of the Assembly Subcommittee studying sales tax exemptions. It was very informative. This is an issue the Commission will need to educate itself about and provide input to the Assembly. Mr. Nankervis told the Commission that the Subcommittee would be meeting weekly (with a few exceptions) on Thursdays at 5pm in Room 224 of the Assembly building through the end of Septembers.

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION

Tonya Muldoon the Investigator in Southeast for the [Alaska Department of Health & Social Services, Senior and Disabilities Services, Adult Protective Services](#) branch gave a presentation on Elder Abuse. Her presentation covered what elder abuse is, how to identify it, and how to report it to Adult Protective Services. The program has 11 Investigators to cover the state, 3 grant-funded caseworkers in Anchorage, and 4 Intake Workers working from Anchorage.

Tonya's PowerPoint presentation is also attached. Tonya also showed a training movie, which is available, online at <http://vimeo.com/couchmode/user4613236/videos/sort:date/27057624>

An estimated 4 out of 5 cases of elder abuse go unreported. All reports are confidential and can be made anonymously so that the identity of the reporter can remain private.

The [Office of Elder Fraud and Assistance](#) is a program of the Office of Public Advocacy within the state Department of Administration and investigates claims regarding the financial

exploitation of Alaskans 60 and older, and seek civil remedies on behalf of elders unable to bring a complaint without assistance.

OLD BUSINESS

Food Pantries. Liz Terry did some further visits to local Food pantries, including one near Mustard Seed in Holy Trinity Church for WIC clients. Mary Ann also visited one of the pantries. Charles will follow up with Helping Hands. Pat will forward to Charles by email the Food Pantry list and the evaluation criteria. Reports of findings will be sent to Pat to compile a consolidated report.

NEW BUSINESS

Future Speakers: Suggestions were made to have someone from the Fire Marshal's Office to talk about fire safety in the home, from CCS Gatekeeper program.

Sales Tax Exemption: The Commission decided to devote the September meeting to becoming more knowledgeable about the sales tax exemption issue. Pat had a career in public finance and will ask Bob Bartholomew, the City's Finance Director, to come to the meeting and talk about the specifics on the sales tax. Pat will make a short presentation on financial structures in local government to help provide a larger context for the issue. Pat will attend the Assembly Subcommittee meetings on the topic. After the Subcommittee has finished its fact-finding it will hold meetings to get citizen input. The Commission may also solicit input from the senior community prior to making its recommendation, if any, to the Assembly.

Transportation MaryAnn reported that a new Director for Capital Transit has not yet been appointed. Also, that the state Department of Transportation has set a deadline of September 30 for the public to give comments on the Southeast Alaska Transportation Plan. The Commission should review the plan and forward its comments to the Assembly before it submits its own Comments. The draft document is available online at the following link: http://dot.alaska.gov/sereg/projects/satp/assets/SATP_2014_Draft_Final_Web.pdf.

Other: The Elder Caregiver program of the Tlingit Haida Central Council is holding a meeting on August 26 in ANB Hall at noon, 2nd floor conference room. MaryAnn will attend. This group is interested in potentially collaborating on a Senior Service Directory.

Election of Officers: The terms of Commission officers expire at the end of June each year and so an election is necessary. MaryAnn was elected Chairperson, Liz Terry Vice Chairperson, and Pat Watt as Secretary.

CONCLUSION

The next meeting will be on Thursday, September 11, at 9:30am at the Senior Center.

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 am.