



Assistance. Advocacy. Answers on Aging.



AAC members = 20
Quorum = 11

To deliver, fund, and advocate for services that promote well-being, independence, and dignity for older adults, people living with disabilities, family and informal caregivers, and veterans in Boulder County.

BOULDER COUNTY AREA AGENCY ON AGING ADVISORY COUNCIL (AAC)

MINUTES: April 1, 2022
Virtual Meeting

AAC Members Present: Sara Beery, Lisa Bondi, Dena Boutwell, Cindy Brekke, Pamela Christensen, Reed Cobb, Harriet Edelstein, Charles Erdrich, Jeffrey “Jeff” Foster, Amelia Groves, Rose Marie Miller, Emelita Gagne, Diana Mapes, Christina O’Toole, Jeanine Tarrant, Ellen Taxman, Erin Watson, Carren Williams, Hope Yasbin Engel, Arlene Zortman

Staff Present: Carol Cross, Candice Long, Lindsay Neville, Carlene Okiyama, Erica Corson

Excused: Karla Garcia-Velez, Dave Pinkow

Guests: Joycelyn Fankhouser

Welcome and Comments from the Co-Chair – Arlene Zortman:

Arlene discussed sitting on Longmont Housing Authority advisory board which has gone through a restructuring over the last few years including going from a solo entity to a partnership with the City of Longmont.

The Housing Authority has introduced “Coffee Conversations” at each of the facilities once a month to listen the people and their concerns. Arlene attends many of the coffee conversations and has found very similar concerns across the board.

Public Comments and Correspondence:

Lindsay posted an anonymous survey about next month’s meeting on May 6 and if the council would like to meet:

- A) In person - 11 out of 18 members voted for in-person
- B) Zoom - 7 out of 18 members voted for Zoom

Lindsay and co-chairs will meet next week to discuss poll results and tentatively come up with hybrid plan for next month’s meeting.

Dena can provide transportation by Via transport services for those who need a ride to the May meeting. Anyone who rides with Dena will have to follow DOT guidelines which means wearing a mask and windows will be cracked to allow constant airflow.

For the members meeting in person next month will be provided with any PPE they may need, will be socially distanced and extra air purifiers may be available as well.

Vaccinations are not required to meet in person. If not vaccinated, highly encouraged to wear a mask.

Lindsay discussed Older Americans Month which is May of each year, with this year's theme being "Age My Way". Date is not set yet but aiming for May 10 for proclamation with Commissioners to discuss contributions and issues regarding older adults in the community.

There will presentations throughout May including: The impact of climate change on older adults who are trying to age their way, AAA staff will be speaking about the services they provide, aging in place and home fit types of presentations.

Lindsay sent out an email for people to register in the Colorado Center for Aging presentations for Older Coloradans Month.

Additions to the Agenda:

None.

Approve January Minutes:

Arlene prompted for a motion to approve the March minutes. Rose motioned to approve the March minutes; Ellen seconded the motion. The AAC motion passed unanimously.

Strategic and Area Plan Overview – Lindsay Neville and Carol Cross

Overview of Area vs Strategic Plans

What's the same?

- Built from community engagement
- Uses data to inform goals
- Future thinking

What's different?

Area Plan (Carol)

- Mandated by the state
 - Uniform with other CO AAA's
 - Rolls into state plan
- Answering questions
- Combines data and planning
- A bit more internal

Strategic Plan (Lindsay)

- Visionary
 - It's whatever we want, really.
 - Connected to age-friendly work

- Grouped by domains - 8 main domains:
 - Housing
 - Outdoor spaces and buildings
 - Transportation
 - Communication and information
 - Civic participation and employment
 - Respect and inclusion
 - Health services and community supports
 - Social participation
- Larger data report is sperate
- A bit more external

Components, Process, & How to Get Involved

- Community Assessment Survey for Older Adults (CASOA): If you receive a CASOA survey in the mail or know someone who does, please complete the survey, it's anonymous and important!
- Community Conversations:
 - Use data from CASOA to engage in community conversations. Community conversations are facilitated conversations that anyone can patriciate in and will happen July-August
- Key Informant Survey:
 - Engages service providers across BC to see what the community is asking for. What are older adults and caregivers asking for.
 - Are demands being met or are there gaps in services
- Data Report – Past, Present, Future (PPF)
 - Comprised of data from CASOA, Community conversations and Key informant survey
 - Was called PPF (name may change) and last report was 43 pages and built around domains
- Service Provider and Leadership Engagement
 - Final step to get strategic plan(s) actualized
- PLANS!

Area Plan Components – Government report, straightforward

- Executive Summary
- Public Input Process
- Demographic shifts and impacts
- CASOA
- Volunteers
- COVID-19 Response
- Equity
- Questions
 - Core services
 - LTCO and legal assistance
 - Other services
 - Targeting and outreach
 - Innovation and expansion of services

- Forms
 - Direct Service Waiver Request
 - Nutrition Services
 - Community Advisory Council Membership
 - Regional Advisory Council Membership

Strategic Plan: Taking Shape

- Larger, separate data report
- Organization
 - Previously shaped by quadrants:
 - Started moving into domains in 2018
- Define issues within the domains
- Point to impacts in the community
- Share how we (BCAAA) helps address the defines issues now and going forward
- Municipal-level data

Policy Updates

Lindsay reviewed the following policy updates and will follow-up with an email:

2022 State Legislative Session

- HB22-1018: Electric and Gas Utility Customer Protections
- HB22-1035: Modernization of the Older Coloradans' Act
 - Has been signed and passed
- HB22-1137: Homeowners' ASSOCIATION Board Accountability and Transparency
- HB22-1271: Rights of Person Protect by Legal Guardian
- SB22-079: Dementia Training Requirements CDPHE/HCPF Rules
- SB22-086: Homestead Exemption and Customer Debt Protection
- SB22-154: Increasing Safety in Assisted Living Residences

Emergency Preparedness by Joycelyn Fankhouser

Joycelyn with Disaster Management has worked in human services for 27 years and oversees sheltering, volunteer engagement, donations management, disaster assistance centers, community assistance centers after a mass fatality event, and preparedness.

- AAA helps to assess access functional needs when people need to evacuate
- Evacuation center or place/point is NOT the same as a shelter!
 - Evacuation place/point is where people meet
 - Shelter is a place where people sleep
- Red Cross supports sheltering in BC in partnership with city of Boulder & BC employees who come together to help with disaster management
- Red Cross supports every house fire in Colorado
 - Hotel voucher for a couple of nights
 - Gift card to buy necessities

- County provides resource list
- Evacuations: Warning vs Order
 - Warning: Gives person time to gather items and prepare for evacuation order, should go to safe place when in evacuation warning. Can go to shelter during a warning, do not have to wait for order.
 - Order: Get Out Now!!!

Boulder Office of Emergency Website: <https://www.boulderoem.com/>

- First hours of disaster event are very chaotic.
 - Primary focus is life safety, then property safety/management
- Alert warning systems: vary by city, county and type of event
 - If you plug your landline in even if you don't have power or a working phone line you can still call 911.
 - Cellphones: need to sign up for emergency alerts
 - Link for signing up for Everbridge alert system: <https://member.everbridge.net/453003085612231/login>
 - Alert is for where you live, not where you are physically with your cellphone. Acknowledging alert is only saying "I received this alert"
 - WEA: Cellphone tower-based Emergency Alert System – can send alert that put a circle around where you're physically at. Good for visitors and if you're out hiking and still have cell service
 - Situational awareness is important! If fire burns cell-tower then no WEA alert!
 - Some communities have sirens, and some don't. You must be outside to hear it!
- Know how to open garage door when there is no power! Garage door opener does not work, need to know how to open manually.
- Weather radio alert system through weather radio
- Neighbor-to-neighbor communications and support is extremely important. More effective than any other communication means.
- Have a list of items you need to take and the people you need to call.
 - Put somewhere easily accessible
 - Don't worry about important docs, i.e. birth cert. because they are easy to replace.
 - Think about your meds and animals' meds, pics, etc. and label them
- Prepare for being in your home. i.e. shelter in place. Do you have back-up power, food to last for a week, extra oxygen, solar battery packs that you can use for multiple days?
 - Goal Zero: Solar batteries that range for cellphones or up to battery pack that can keep your refrigerator going.
 - Solar battery packs don't need fuel like generators which can be dangerous and deadly if used indoors. Need to keep outside or in garage with door closed and extension cord running into house.

- Fire safety prevention tip: vents at top of house – finest mesh possible to allow airflow but not an ember.
- Insurance Preparedness:
 - make sure you have adequate insurance
 - Review policy annually: You are not insuring home for its value, its price per sq. foot it costs to rebuild it!
 - Need debris removal writer
 - Living expenses: Paying rent other living expenses when not in home. Can purchase any amount of time recommend 2year policy!
 - Non-profit insurance information and advocacy: <https://uphelp.org/>

Technical Review Committee (TRC) Overview – Carlene Okiyama

TRC is subcommittee of AAC with currently 3 members: Ellen, Cindy and Jeff

Area Agencies on Aging utilize and distribute state and federal funds:

- Administration for Community Living (ACL)
- State Units on Aging (SUA)
- Area Agencies on Aging (AAA's)
- Local Service Providers & Direct Services

Role of AAC:

- As it relates to TRC: Review proposals, award funds contracts review fiscal budget for upcoming fiscal year (July-June)
- Present annual budget to AAC, and AAC reviews budget, votes on it and recommends to commissioners.

Role of the TRC

- Funding recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners (BOCC)
- Facilitate AAC funding priorities
- Ongoing monitoring and evaluation/annual onsite reviews
- No conflict of interest
- 2022 tentative dates:
 - Mid-April: Review Grant Renewal
 - May: Review and recommend FY23 budget
 - June: Present FY Budget to the AAC
 - October: Attend Provider On-sites (in person)

Older Americans Act (Federal Funds):

- Title III
 - Part B: Supportive Services
 - Part C1: Congregate Meals
 - Part C2: Home Delivered Meals
 - Part D: Preventative Health
 - Part E: Caregiver
- Title VII
 - Ombudsman
 - Elder Abuse Prevention

State Funds for Senior Services (SFSS)

- Revenue derived primarily from state income and sales taxes used for on-going operating needs.
- Sfy22 OAA & SFSS Funding \$2,360,038

BCAAA Internal Programs

- Administration & Coordination – Salaries
- Homemaker & Personal Care
- Caregiver Respite
- Financial Assistance
- Elder Rights
- Long term Care Ombudsman
- Nutrition Services

BCAAA Provider/External Programs

- Chores - Cultivate
- Congregate Meals & Home Delivered Meals -
 - Louisville Senior Services
 - Nederland Area Senior
- Counseling - MHP
- Education, Assistive Technology, and Screening for older adults who are visually impaired or blind –
 - Audio Information Network
- Center for People with Disabilities
 - Ensign Skills Center
- Legal Assistance –
 - Boulder County Legal Services
 - Bridge to Justice
 - Rocky Mountain Legal Center
- Transportation –
 - Via Mobility Services
 - Cultivate (VetsGo)

Closing Summary:

Arlene prompted for a motion to adjourn. Cindy motioned to adjourn, Kris seconded the motion.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 AM.

Submitted by Candice Long

Next meeting of AAC:
 Friday, May 6, 2022
 9 a.m. – noon
 Location: Hybrid