

JUNEAU COMMISSION ON AGING WORKGROUP SUBCOMMITTEE MINUTES

March 11, 2025 at 3:00 PM

Zoom Webinar



<https://juneau.zoom.us/j/82442177751?pwd=Y4xxvhXb6L2fFmL2IDkWD9aTw9H1wn.1>

Or Call In: 1-253-215-8782 Meeting ID: 824 4217 7751 Passcode: 111520

Please note, this Zoom link is different from Regular JCOA meeting Zoom link

A. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Present: Deborah Craig, Linda Kruger, Diane Kyser, Chris Schapp, and Barb Murray

Absent: Ann Stepetin, Kimberly Adkison, and Jennifer Garrison

Others Present: None

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA – agenda approved as presented.

C. AGENDA TOPICS

1. Alphabet Group Recreation & Wellness - Status of Marie Drake Gym

After hearing that Parks and Rec we unable to assist with the AARP Community Challenge Grant requesting funding for recreational equipment for the MD Gym when it opened, the JCOA pivoted to a former MD Partner, JAHC, who were extremely helpful and willing to submit the grant in their name, accept the equipment purchased by the grant and donate it to the CBJ. Two conditions needed to be met – assurance that the CBJ had Liability Insurance for the facility and that the CBJ would accept the donation of the recreational equipment. Several communications occurred with the CBJ Attorney who later indicated staffing issues prevented the CBJ sending a letter of support and acceptance of the equipment for the AARP Challenge Grant.

2. AARP Community Challenge Grant Application

The grant was due March 5, and the deadline expired before any further action could be taken. Chair Craig informed all the partners in an email. Chair Craig met with CBJ Assembly Liaison Maureen Hall yesterday March 10 who encouraged the JCOA to not be discouraged by recent events as the CBJ is understaffed and may not be able to open the MD Gym as planned this summer. Linda Kruger reiterated that the grant will be available next fall and the JCOA could apply again. Kudos were offered to the JAHC for their exceptional effort in helping the JCOA.

3. Regroup on Recreation/Wellness, Planning & Housing Workgroups

- a. Senior Wellness and Recreation facility - Commission discussed alternative options. Carol Ende commented that this appears to be an ongoing and growing concern – capacity on any level for senior services whether it be recreational, housing, etc. The group recommended not abandoning the MD Complex for future use as it meets the needs identified in the previous AARP/JCOA Listening Sessions of a Recreational Facility for seniors that was more accessible to the downtown corridor, Douglas and Lemon Creek, as well as being unaffiliated with a religious group.
 - (i) Chris Schapp commented on various outdoor opportunities such as facilitating covering an outdoor space for use and signage (similar to AARP's work on Trail signs).
 - (ii) Diane Kyser commented on having attended multiple workshops related to use and expansion of the Skate Park such as indoor/outdoor pickleball, picnic areas, etc.
 - (iii) Linda Kruger commented on several other activities that are occurring to keep in mind: the Library successfully held IT Classes, BRH is embracing Age Friendly Planning concepts

and using meeting rooms and spaces for workshops, the Cooperative Extension is offering Better Bones and Balance for Arthritis at the pool on Tues and Thurs – session is closed but a new session will open next fall.

- (b) Housing: Linda Kruger applied for an AARP Grant to facilitate a better understanding of Universal Housing. The Grant is with RLMace Planners who will facilitate meetings and webinars in the summer or fall – Linda has already reached out to CBJ Planners, local architects and others interested in better understanding Universal Housing. The grant can assist with outreach.

- (i) Carol Ende suggested using the JCOA for promotion and including Age Friendly Planning in the discussion. Who else can we engage in this process.

4. Other Topics

- a. KTOO Afternoon was moved from March 6 to 20th due to Deb's travel schedule. Events to share: Library IT Sessions, Coop Ext Better Bones and Balance Tues/Thurs 5:30-6:30PM AB Pool no fee pool pass only, CCS Tai Chi Zoom Level 1&2 start up (Chris will send flyer), Widow and Widowers (Diane sent flyer), Update on Pickleball Efforts, DOT Public Safety Meetings (emphasis on Seat Belt Use in Juneau - LINDA do you have any more on this?
- b. Linda will reach out to SAIL ADRC ED regarding activities of interest and connectivity.

D. NEXT MEETING DATES - at 3pm via Zoom (check top of agenda for correct Zoom link)

March 18 – Full JCOA Regular Meeting– *Barb Murray will fill in for Secretary Kruger*

March 25 – JCOA Workgroup Meeting – Housing – *Invite Kathleen Samalon and Carol Ende as primary contributors to housing issues in the past.*

April 8 – JCOA Workgroup Meeting - AARP Age Friendly Planning – *Linda Kruger will provide an overview of age friendly planning. Deb and Linda will provide a draft overview of our plan.*

April 15 - Full JCOA Regular Meeting

April 22 – JCOA Workgroup Meeting - Content TBD

E. SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS

F. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the committee meeting adjourned at 4:02 p.m.