

Beaverton Committee on Aging
Summary of Monthly Meeting
Tuesday, April 12, 2016

Welcome and introductions – Chair Sky Johnson called the meeting to order at 2:32 PM

Approval of March Minutes – A motion for minutes to be approved was seconded and unanimously approved.

Guests: Rich Carson - Community Member - retired TVF&R
Lydia Corran – Media Representative with Ride Connection – Invited Speaker
Michele Fiasca –Owner: Let’s Share Housing– Invited Speaker

Guest Comment Period: Community member Rich Carson requested that BCOA consider potentially integrating with “Council on Aging Inc.” Carson believes that the two entities have similar focus and could benefit from collaboration. His group has become less active over the years, and currently has 15 members. Carson stated that 50% of funding goes to Beaverton residents, and that Dr. Carol Carter writes grants his group. BCOA member Jeff Menzel requested that Carson provide BCOA with more information to be reviewed at a future meeting.

Update on name change: *Beaverton Committee on Aging* – will replace *Beaverton Council on Aging* as the official name of the group going forward. Council Woman Cate Arnold gave a brief synopsis of the Beaverton City Council decision to rename the group. With a 3-1 vote of the Beaverton City Council the Beaverton Council on Aging was changed to Beaverton Committee on Aging.

Chair Sky Johnson asked for discussion from the group. Regina Ford stated a dislike for the name, and feels that there could be a negative association with the term “committee.” After a roundtable discussion in which Chair Johnson suggested that the word committee might be more approachable, Jeff Menzel suggested that the group put the discussion to bed. Liaison Jim Brooks stated his belief that the chance of changing the name with the City Council is probably an uphill battle. No vote was taken on whether to formally accept the change.

Guest Speakers:

1. Lydia Corran with *Ride Connection* presented on the non-profit organization’s resources and how the service helps seniors and disabled residents to continue to be independent. Ride Connection provides door-to-door transportation services. Riders must request services four days in advance and there is no guarantee of service, and there is no charge to riders. Fifty percent of the rides are provided by volunteers. Ride Connection receives both state and federal funding and they utilize a different eligibility assessment

than Tri-met. Potential users are able to qualify over the telephone. Ride Connection operates in Multnomah and Washington County and is a free option for Beaverton seniors to schedule transportation to doctor's appointments, senior center activities shopping and more. The service provided about half a million rides last year. The organization is seeking to increase their services and boost the number of volunteers.

2. Michele Fiasca gave an introductory presentation on *Lets Share Housing* and the services provided by the company. Lets Share Housing seeks to connect seniors who would like to share housing in an effort to stretch limited personal resources. The vision is to grow a community of seniors and provide a straightforward and easy-to-use tool for people to find each other. Seniors can meet prospective house sharing partners through organized meet-ups twice a month. The median age is 50-70. No background checks are provided but that may be an option in the future. Profiles are developed by seekers to facilitate finding someone who shares common interests. A fee is assessed at the placement. Currently there are more people seeking places than homeowners seeking roommates.

Liaison Jim Brooks wondered shared some apprehension around liability, the coordination of the expectations of the individuals, the facilitation of communication between roommates and potential compatibility issues.

Visioning Action Plan and Committee Alignment: Chair Sky Johnson proposed forming subcommittees that would align with the action plan. She suggested Housing, Social/Community and Transportation subcommittees and asked that BCOA members sign-up for their area of highest interest. Regina Ford printed copies of the Washington County Housing Market Analysis & Needs Assessment and the 2016 Action Plan for Washington County and Cities of Beaverton and Hillsboro and stated her interest in the Housing subcommittee.

Jeff Menzel would like to see the committee develop a metric guide for seniors around transportation. Liaison Jim Brooks stated that a separate site could not be administered by the BCOA but that links could be incorporated on the resource section of the Beaverton City Website. The BCOA reviewed the format of the website. The committee may submit suggested resources to have links on the Beaverton City Website.

Visioning Action Committee Meeting Attendees: The BCOA will send two representatives, Jo Anne Baumann and Suzanne Vanslyke to the meeting April 14, 2016 at the Beaverton City Library.

Resource Guide/ Speakers - Shannon Wiseman will submit a transportation article for May and Suzanne Vanslyke will write an article on shared housing for the June edition.

Jo Anne Baumann has a *Wapato Shores* representative scheduled as a guest speaker for May, 2016 BCOA meeting.

Liaison Report – Jim Brooks: No city voters pamphlet will be coming out due to the slate of candidates being uncontested.

Meeting Adjourned: 4:05 pm.

Members in Attendance: Sky Johnson, Beverly Sali, Suzanne Vanslyke, Cathy Doyle, Peggy Gordon, Jeff Menzel, Pam Rinehart, Shannon Wiseman, Regina Ford, Jo Anne Baumann, Sally Furman (Alternate)

Staff Liaison - Jim Brooks

Beaverton City Council Liaison - Cate Arnold

Members not in Attendance: Will Anderson, Laurel Reilly, Susan Nystrom