

Older Adult Alliance
October 14, 2008
3:00 – 4:30 p.m.

Meeting Notes

Attendees: Pamala White, Laurel Alkire, Judy Morris, Julie Ramsour, Becky Funke, Judy Finnell, Colleen Parker, Conni Mansaw, Joan Flynn, Mary Corrigan, Annette Graham

Review minutes/notes from September 9 meeting

- Minutes/notes approved

Update of members' and community activities/issues/announcements

- Regional Institute on Aging's 'Aging on the Plains' conference took place. Eye-opening to see what truly rural and frontier communities face in reference to livable communities (access, walkable, etc.) concept. Lots of demographic information, some of which supports our work. Physical activity lifted out as key to length of one's quality life. Obesity doesn't correlate to shorter life as much as shorter mobile/quality life. Plan is for this to be an annual conference. About 100 attended, with a national audience. Unique in its focus on rural plains communities.
- Last Friday hosted the Magic of Humor to coincide with national depression screening day. Had 65 attend a "laugh specialist" and held 5-6 screenings afterward.
- Nov. 14 an all-day workshop on sexuality and aging at Newman University, 9-4. 6 hours of CEUs available. Including Jane Fowler from Lawrence whose work has focused on HIV-pos senior adults. Everyone is invited.
- Nov. 5, presentation at the 2nd annual Caregiver Conference in Overland Park, Kan.
- Senior Expo was a couple weeks ago. A huge event! More than 3,000 people, including 400 at the fashion show. Was back at Cowtown this year. Transportation and parking are issues to consider next year. Theme was "Give Our Regards to Broadway." Health screenings went over well; added varicose vein and osteoporosis screenings.

What's been done since last meeting? (other than summit)

In meeting 10/13 viewed booths and presentations on sustainability. Ron Holt was discussing the arena and mentioned that there are plans to meet with the design work group. Annette & Laurel will find these materials for when the call comes.

Livable communities summit discussion

- Joan and Annette were part of a committee meeting and conversation about next steps. Reviewed a budget from the mentoring conference. This was streamlined, but there is still a need for money. Believe it's time for a meeting with the "big players" who have been on our list. Will have a white paper ready, demonstrating

how this ties into Visioneering and Mayor Brewer's vision for downtown development and other efforts. If that results in commitment, this project can succeed. If not, we need to reconsider what we can accomplish as a strategic alliance. We recognize that the work can't stay only with social service agencies. Suzie and Diane have put together an initial short list of community leaders, elected officials and builders.

- It would be nice to include someone(s) with a direct line to the Mayor in this meeting.
- How and when do we bring into the conversation about the development in outlying areas? Not everyone is working downtown.
- Should we include people from surrounding towns? For example, Goddard has a new city planner.
- Rep from the Hugo Wall school? Mark Glaser.
- Ask Brad to e-mail draft of white paper, at least to the committee. Please provide feedback back by e-mail. Then create list of phone calls to make and people who have a relationship with the people we wish to invite. Diane will start a database; as committee and alliance members think of names, e-mail them to Diane.
- Maybe connect to Greensburg architects? Mary will reach out to these folks if appropriate.
- Be sure to connect these efforts to hold a "sales meeting" to the Visioneering brand. Also remember that we can define aging in whatever way makes most sense – for instance, we want to "attract and retain people from age 50 and up."

- MAPC invitation On hold
- WSU urban planning invitation On hold

What do we need to do to move forward?

Next steps and commitments See highlights.

Other items

When shall we revisit and finish the logic model? Use the first 30 minutes of November 18 for this. Hold off on whether or not we meet in December based on state of summit plans.

Leadership team invitation

- Next Meeting Date: November 18, 2008 (moved from Nov. 11)