AURORA COMMISSION FOR OLDER ADULTS (ACFOA)

Monday, August 7, 2023
1:00 p.m.
Aurora Center for Active Adults
30 Del Mar Circle, Aurora, CO 80011

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: By Lori Sanchez at 1:03 PM

ACFOA MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeannie Davis, Chair; Derrick Vaughns, Vice-chair; Juanita Audre, Fran Dollard, Karen Jorgensen, Caroline Kim, and George Bain, Commissioners.

ACFOA MEMBERS ABSENT: Barbara Schneller, Commissioner.

OTHERS PRESENT: Lori Sanchez, Interim Facility Program Supervisor ACAA, ACFOA Liaison; Beth Yacono, Recreation Superintendent; Officer James Seneca; Nicole Ankeney, Manager of PROS Planning, Design and Construction; Michelle Teller, Planner Senior; Curt Bish, Planning Supervisor; Adriana Valles Morales, Admin Specialist and Secretary for ACFOA. Volunteers: Victoria Vaughns and Frances Lofton. Guests: Jean Bogar and Celeste Harris.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Upon motion, second, and unanimous vote, the July 10th meeting minutes were approved.

SPEAKER: Shirley Proppe is the outreach coordinator with Audio Information Network of Colorado (AINC). AINC was founded in 1990 with the first broadcast in October 1991. Currently, they have 10 staff members and over 100 volunteers. A normal visual acuity (20/20 vision) is when the clarity and sharpness of vision is measured at 20 feet. A person who is legally blind (20/200 vision), needs to be 20 feet from an object where a person with 20/20 vision can see at 200 feet. Vision impairment can’t be corrected by glasses, contact lenses, medication, or surgery. Severe vision is not a normal part of aging, even though many do experience a decline in sight. There are many contributing factors to vision loss including family history, smoking, sun exposure, overweight, heavy alcohol use, cataracts, stroke. AINC services include reading and recording content in both English and Spanish, live broadcasts 24 hours a
day 7 days a week. AINC can be accessed via their website, toll-free telephone system, digital receiver antenna (RMPBS broadcast signal only), Apple Play and Spotify. AINC survey results show that 90% think AINC supports listener independence, 90% think AINC helps connect the listener to the community, 75% believe a human voice is important, and 91% would recommend AINC. To start a new listener process, complete the application on the website (aincolorado.org) or call (303.786.777) to sign up. There is no qualification process, only expressing a need. Amazon Echo Dots or receivers are provided to registered listeners in the state of Colorado upon request. An appointment is set up for an in-home visit for those who live within the delivery area. The client is then trained to use the equipment not only for AINC services but also setting up alarms for medication reminders, etc. Original content provided through AINC includes, After Sight with Penn Street, Blind Sight, Topic of the Month with Kim Wardlow, and Blind Level Tech. Podcast categories include, local newspapers, audio books, sports news, food articles, religion and spirituality, and science. Questions were asked and answered during the presentation. Commissioners appreciated the wealth of information provided by Shirley.

**NEEDS ASSESSMENT UPDATE:** *Michelle Teller, PROS Staff*

- As of Friday, August 4th three proposals have been received. Michelle let Commissioners know that they will be receiving an email from the PROS Department Purchasing Agent. The Commissioners will receive a redacted version of the proposals where the name of agency and names of staff members are removed. The titles of staff members and the experience of the firm will be visible to the Commissioners. Michelle gave each Commissioner a copy of the Memo about the Proposal Review, Scope of Services, and the Reviewer Scoring Form. The Memo explains what Commissioners will be reviewing for, such as experience, project approach and the use of sub-consultants. In the selection committee there will be a total of six people that represent different departments. Commissioner reviews will be due by the end of day Friday, August 11th. Once the firm is selected, it takes about a month to finish the process and Michelle will return to the September meeting with details regarding the kick-off for the project.

**TRANSPORTATION ALTERNATIVE UPDATE** – *Nicole Ankeney, Curt Bish, PROS Staff*

- Micro-transit is a public or privately operated and technology enabled transit service. Vehicles are smaller than full-sized buses. This transit service often serves a smaller geographic area. The Multimodal Transportation Master Plan is a project lead by the Planning and Development Services (PDS) since 2019. The PDS department will be looking at the transportation system overall, including micro-transit, light rail, personal vehicles, etc. Curt will ask PDS if it’s possible a representative from the Commission participate in a committee for the Multimodal Transportation Master Plan. Arapahoe County is working on a study named Transit and Micro-
mobility Study Countywide. Their focus is in the urban area within Arapahoe County, the barriers of the first and last mile, and the complete trip. The City of Aurora is a participant in this study.

- The Denver Connector is a service run by the City and County of Denver. The areas serviced are Montbello, Gateway, Globeville and Elyria-Swansea (GES). The service hours are Monday through Friday from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. with a response time of an average of 30 minutes. This is done through internal staff, meaning Denver is no longer contracting, but has purchased their own vehicles and have their own staff. The Denver Connector has 7 vehicles and operates in English and Spanish. More data needs to be collected on how the program is funded. Adams County has the Community Transit/A-Lift program, which is a joint project between Adams County, cities of Arvada, Commerce City, Federal Heights, Thorton, Northglenn, and Westminster. This program is for residents who are 60 years or older, and individuals who have a physical disability, regardless of age, who are not served by the Regional Transportation District (RTD). The city of Thornton has transportation from A-Lift, Access-A-Ride, Via Mobility, and the Denver Regional Mobility & Access Council (DRMAC). DRMAC put together their Getting There Guide for transit options. This is not a transportation program but an interactive tool and resource to help find specialized transportation.

- The city of Westminster is currently towards the end of their year-long pilot program. The city of Westminster did a one-year, sole-source contract with Via Mobility Services for $166,400. The funds are a 50/50 DRCOG Human Services Transportation (HST) grant and city of Westminster funding. The program is for residents 60 years and older or residents experiencing short- or long-term disabilities. They can register for free rides within 15 miles of their homes. The transportation service provides door-through-door service for older adults and disabled (temporary or permanent) residents, grocery and prescription pick-up and delivery. The hours of operation are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Residents schedule rides through Via Mobility’s call center or through online services.

- Nicole Ankeney will research data to answer questions brought forth by the Commission about the different programs provided in her presentation. The transportation program in the city of Golden is a partnership between the city of Golden and the Colorado School of Mines. More details will be provided to the Commission in the future. There was a lot of discussion on details regarding the Scope of Work for the city of Aurora pilot program. The discussion will continue in the meeting of August 17th. A draft of the Request for Proposal (RFP) is aimed for September.

**NOTE:** Commissioners agreed to schedule a special meeting on August 17th to finish the transportation discussion and resume their August 10th meeting agenda.
NEXT MEETING

Date: September 11, 2023
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Location: Aurora Center for Active Adults and virtually through WebEx.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion, a second, and consensus of the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 3:04 PM.

Jeannie Davis, Chairperson
Aurora Commission for Older Adults

___________________________  Date ________________________

Adriana Valles Morales,
Administrative Specialist and Secretary

___________________________  Date ________________________

ADOPTED_____________