Loveland Senior Advisory Board

Loveland Public Library, Gertrude Scott Room

Minutes of July 6, 2016

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Board Members Present: Anne Brown, Elaine Brush, Carmen Cisneros, Donita Fogle, Kim Ferro, Phoebe Hawley, Dixie Huff, Leah Johnson, Marigail Jury, Sherri Stinnett and Richard Zlamany

Excused: Debby Ahrens, Linda Aron and Marlene Quattrocchi

Absent: Julie Demaree

Guests: Christopher Barnes and Jamie Felton, CSU intern

Meeting called to order at 10:33 a.m.

Minutes of June 1, 2016 accepted as written.

Christopher Barnes, Interim Transit Manager for COLT was our guest presenter today. He started by providing us with a handout of an agenda that will be presented before a city council meeting on July 26. The last time COLT went before council was in 2010.

A fixed route has been added to Centerra. There are currently three bus loops which are one hour in frequency, which is too long for many people. Currently services are used for more social than for commuter purposes. Bus line services and schedules can be accessed by brochure, website and copies at the library.

Paratransit is the only mandated service and is in operation 12 hours per day. This includes services for seniors. The goal is to enhance community services to include services west of Wilson Avenue. Question has been raised to merge with Fort Collins and/or Greeley and may depend on funding and regionalization. FTA may redo boundaries if more funding is provided and services are merged.

Bustang is a regional service run by CDOT and is well utilized. Fixed routes are mainly utilized by students and seniors and low income individuals. In 2015, 33% of ridership were students. How does council see transit? Mobility is a huge issue, particularly curbs, sidewalks, etc. Christopher did state that all buses are lift and ramp enabled.

Leah Johnson stated that expanding assess to sidewalks on 57th is a current concern.

-1-

Construction is to be completed at the Berthoud exit and Loveland exchange by 2017.

What are some of the obstacles? Fear, one-hour turn around, understanding schedules and inability to read maps are some. Travel training service has been popular. Can more resources be used to connect to Highway 34? Feedback is huge; what do client want and need? Please continue to voice your concerns and needs to city council. SAB should continue to be proactive with COLT. How can systems work together and what can be learned from Fort Collins? Align for potential expansion and be prepared. Kaiser facility in Johnstown is impacting need for more services.

Leah stated that she did not attend last night’s meeting. Big news is that Steve Adams is filling Bill Cahill’s position as city manager. During the July 5 council meeting the Youth Advisory Committee (YAC) presented a proposal which will outlaw vapor smoking in city public areas. Study session on July 12 will discuss affordable housing issues. Study session on July 26will discuss transit issues.

Should SAB support YAC’s proposal to restrict electronic smoking devices? A motion to write a letter to outlaw e-cigarettes in public areas was discussed and voted on by SAB to proceed. A draft letter will be written and submitted by email for review by Donita Fogle.

Marigail Jury reported on PFAC meeting. One of the subgroups is a writers team. Authors are still committed to this cause, and although articles are no longer published in the Fort Collins Coloradoan, there is a website blog on the Foundation on Aging website. This group will continue to meet twice per year; next meeting late August.

Foundation on Aging and Partnership for Age Friendly Committees is merging into one 5013c committee. AARP is continuing its 3 to 5 year effort to look at living options.

Dixie Huff reported on Office on Aging. Budget for next year (beginning July 1) has been presented. Ruth Long from the Colorado Commission on Aging reported their efforts in trying to change the Hold Harmless Act were unsuccessful. Senior Networking met with State House Representative Joann Ginal and several recent bills were discussed.

No walkability report this month.

Phoebe reported that Bridging the Gap continues to move forward with the event being held on September 21 at the Hilton in Fort Collins. Invites will be sent soon. Discussed having SAB members attend and having their fees covered. Soap Troup will be the presenter.

Elaine reported that herself, Phoebe and Leah interviewed Sherri and Carmen. Both have excellent assets and would be valuable team members. Support to add both to the board with a motion to add and approve their nominations accepted.

-2-

Doug East will leave his appointment on the Chilson Senior Center Board to pursue new endeavors. His position on this board will need to be reappointed.

Goals for the SAB were discussed and updated, to include the following:

Participate in PAFC is ongoing and reported as “green”

Travel training is continuing and on target and reported as “green”

Comprehensive Plan with Create Loveland reported as “yellow” with more information and recent email from Carl Barton to follow

Partnership with CanDo and the walkability group is “green”

Bridging the Gap is active and “green”

Regularly attend other Board and Commission meetings reported as “yellow” with more action to take place

Link to Fort Collins SAB and partnership with BTG in progress and “green”

Cultivate partnerships with other agencies reported as “green”

SAB goals for this year are in good shape.

Member comments included Senior Law Day to be held on Saturday, August 6, and more information may be obtained through Elder Care Network at [www.eldercarenet.org](http://www.eldercarenet.org) or by calling 970.495.3442.

Dixie updated us on happenings at the library and summer events.

Kim reported that Senate has suggested elimination of the SHIP program that offers Medicare counseling to seniors and disabled individuals. This proposal will go to the House and ultimately be voted on by Congress. Funding is in place through 4/1/17. Letters of support to continue this valuable service may be needed with more information to come.

Meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Ferro, Recording Secretary

-3-