

**CITY OF FORT COLLINS
SENIOR ADVISORY BOARD
MINUTES: MEETING OF OCTOBER 11, 2000**

Chairperson: Erik Margolis (Tel. 416-1411)

Senior Center Staff Liaison: Barbara Schoenberger (Tel. 224-6026)

City Council Liaison: Ray Martinez, Mayor (Tel. 221-6506)

Attendance: Erik Margolis
George Kress

Absent: June Tucker
Alyce Eckley
Darren Gunn

Dorothy Kramka Miller
Kristin Glenn

Staff Attending: Barbara Schoenberger

Marjorie McTaggart
John Roberts
Florence Williams
Blanche Yakmas

- I. The official meeting was then called to order by Erik Margolis at 2:05 PM.
- II. Guests: Randy McCrillis, City of Fort Collins, Human Rights Resources & Education Office. Randy invited members of the SAB to the City's Multicultural Community Retreat in Estes Park, Nov. 17-19, 2000 (subsequently, Marjorie McTaggart was nominated to be the SAB representative to this retreat).

Man Oberoi, Human Relations Commission Liaison, City of Ft. Collins, also attended this meeting.

Next Months (Nov. 14) guest presentation will be by Karen Gerard, Funding Partners for Housing Solutions.
- III. Correspondence: Kristin Glenn who had typed up a list of "Senior Myths" following the SAB booth at the 2000 New West Fest in August, passed out copies to all SAB members. These will be recycled for use again next year.
- IV. The minutes of the previous board meeting of September 13, 2000 were approved unanimously.
- V. Old Business/Reports:
 - A. Transportation: Florence Williams reported on the Mason St. corridor project which has now been approved by the City Council the Mulberry St. corridor planning (eastward) was also discussed, as was the recent City approval for a new traffic light system, using fiber optics, for Fort Collins

with \$1 million from the City and \$1.25 million from the US Government. Between 50 to 60 of the busiest intersections in the City will be upgraded. Kay Rios reported on the upcoming Dec. 7, 2000, Dial-A-Ride open house and a planned dialogue on the future, focusing on strengths and weaknesses of the current system. A citizens group on cross-disabilities/transit tax is planning for a new ballot issue on transportation productivity and coverage for either the April 2001 or November 2001 ballot.

- B. **Housing:** Florence Williams reported that a national health care firm would build a 44 bed assisted-living center near Oakridge Business Park (SE Fort Collins). The center will set aside ½ of the rooms for low-income seniors who have 60% or less of median income. Colorado Medicaid covers as much as \$1,440 per month for those eligible. Kay Rios reported that the Housing Authority had reviewed several recent applications, including VOA (\$500,000) for Senior Housing which was approved, but Habitat and additional financial assistance to the Northern Hotel group was turned down.
- C. **Outreach:** Erik Margolis reported that the SAB will make an Outreach Presentation regarding concerns and needs on Oct. 18 to the Senior Center Council, AARP, etc. from 10:30 to 11:30 AM, SAB participants will be Erik, George Kress, John Roberts, and Blanche Yakmas.
- D. **Paint-A-Thon:** June Tucker received a letter from Brothers' Redevelopment Corporation who has run the Denver area Paint-A-Thon for several years. Brothers' would be willing to assist a local organization in the Fort Collins area for next year's planned program... a good candidate might be Neighbor to Neighbor. June will follow up.
- E. **Discounted Medications:** The recently signed (New West Fest) senior-interest petitions for affordable medications will be sent to the political parties after the 2000 general elections. Signatures continue to be collected at the Senior Center. Marge Boehner, Poudre Health District, will be invited by Flo to address the Senior Advisory Board at an upcoming meeting. From 7:00 to 8:30 PM on Oct. 26, 2000, on "Cross Currents", channel 27 will present a program "Focus on Health Care and Prescriptions". The program will be live from City Hall.
- F. **Chili Cook Off:** John Roberts reported on the SAB participation during the October 7 Chili Cook-Off at the Sundance, thanking all SAB members who assisted and/or attended. Members agreed to contribute to our entry costs. All proceeds for the Cook-Off go to the Friends of the Senior Center, and the totals for this fund-raiser were not yet available. Sadly, our SAB entry entitled Young at Heartburn Chili, even though indubitably the best chili available (thanks to Kristin's awesome natural recipe), failed to place in the top ten. We also failed by two votes to win "People's Choice" and did not place in the showmanship competition. The general consensus of the SAB generally, and the SAB coordinator for the cook-off in particular, was that we had been "screwed" so just "wait 'til next year".

- G. Senior Network Luncheon: George Kress reported on the success of the Sept. 29 luncheon at the McKee Center in Loveland. Eight SAB members had signed up to attend the event, although fewer actually attended. It was a successful event, however, and George thanked the SAB for its participation. The 2001 luncheon will be at the Senior Center in Ft. Collins, and the SAB will be coordinating.
- H. Celebration of Freedom (Veterans' Day, Nov. 11): Barbara Schoenberger reported on the Nov. 11 – planned groundbreaking at 2 PM, EST, for the WWII memorial in Washington DC. The total cost, all privately raised, is \$96 million. Veterans around the country will mark this 2:00 PM ceremony. The Senior Center will host a Pancake Breakfast and Veterans' gathering starting at 10:00 am. A Veterans' Day balloon release will take place at 12:00 noon, Fort Collins time, to match the 2:00 PM national ceremony. SAB members are urged to assist, beginning at 9:00 am on Saturday, November 11.
- I. City of Fort Collins Web-Site: June Tucker represented the SAB at focus group dealing with City's Website.
- J. Community Homecoming: The October 14 City-Wide celebration with "Bringing It Home" theme includes the Community Parade beginning at 9:00 am. The SAB participation was to include some SAB members riding in antique cars and some participating as parade judges. Unfortunately, there has been no further communication nor confirmation from the Homecoming organizers, so the SAB involvement may not occur.
- K. Other Liaison Reports:
1. Blanche reported that Jo Peddicord will provide a talk at the Senior Center at 11:00 am on October 18, with the title being "Feel Nifty after 50". She also reported that the 2000 flu shots had been delayed; that thyroid blood tests were now available for \$24.00, and that the Aspen Club was sponsoring the Oct. 30 Forum on Medicare information at the Plaza Inn, East Mulberry, from 9:30 to 11:30 am.
 2. Barbara reported that the Commission on the Status of Women had once again failed to mention senior women in their report. The SAB has asked Kristin to contact Barb Spaulding on that commission to attend the Nov. meeting of the SAB, to listen to board concerns. The Oct. 4 Women's Gathering at the Senior Center was a great success with 233 attendees. On Oct. 19, AARP will hold a Senior Safety Conference, which will deal with all issues of safety for 50+ individuals. There will be an 8:00 am registration; all seniors are invited; lunch will be provided; Ed Sardella of Channel 9 will be the guest speaker. Finally, the Senior Center's 2000 bake sale will be held on Friday and Saturday, November 24 and 25, 2000. All are welcome.
 3. Marjorie reported that the S.O.A.P. Troupe will present their 2000 holiday performance on Friday and Saturday, December 1st and 2nd. The CSU Gerontology class will host Marjorie as their token healthy senior on Thursday, Oct. 12th).

4. Florence reported that District Court might hold the State of Colorado in contempt of court over its policies and assistance programs for the mentally ill. More information on this issue will be forthcoming.
5. Kristin reported that VOA was in the midst of several staff changes. She announced that SAB now had a new access number to City Line, but that no new telephone calls had come in.
6. George reported that the Foundation on Aging had received a \$600 grant from Wells Fargo for the Foundation's emergency fund. The Foundation will sponsor a computer class for seniors at the Senior Center on Oct. 27th and 29th.
7. Kay reported that Respite Care will conduct a Nov. 11th dance at the Mulberry Inn (East Mulberry) for the benefit of Caring Hearts. All are welcome to attend.
8. Dorothy reported a significant drop in noontime Senior Center attendance for the daily Senior Nutrition Program lunches over the past ten years. There is just a \$2.00 contribution, however, transport costs have risen substantially, time to and from is problematic (requiring up to one hour each way), and there are now other VOA sites within the City, including Meals on Wheels (by PVH) and home delivery of meals by VOA.
9. Erik reported that city Boards and Commissions work plans for 2001 are due by Nov. 30th. He would like to convene a sub-committee meeting of SAB members at 9:30 am (prior to the Oct. 18th outreach presentation at the Senior Center) to draft the SAB work plan. At the next SAB meeting, Nov. 14, 2000, the entire SAB would review and approve the 2001-work plan, and establish a committee to write the 2000 Annual Report.

VI. No new business, aside from that previously reported above, was brought before the SAB.

VII. There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:07 PM. The next meeting of the Senior Advisory Board will be held at 12:30 PM on Wednesday, Nov. 8, 2000 at the Senior Center.

Respectfully Submitted,
John E. Roberts, Secretaries Pro-Tem, Ad-Hoc, Sub-Protetensis

OUTREACH MEETING

On October 18, as part of our outreach activities, four members of the Senior Advisory Board met at the Senior Center with approximately 30 seniors who use the Senior Center to: (1) explain the role our Board plays in the community, and (2) to obtain input from these seniors about the issues they want to bring to the attention of the City Council.

Following is a summary of the issues raised in that meeting along with some of the audience's suggestions for their resolution.

(1) Parking has become a major problem at the Center, especially when special events or meetings occur.

Solutions Proposed:

- Use Center's bus to pick up seniors from some other central parking location.
- Temporarily increase the number of handicapped parking spaces during periods of high useage
- Build additional parking spaces west of the Center
- Possibly provide parking stickers to identify people using the lot but who are not using the center.

(2) Dressing rooms for performers are needed near the stage in the Senior Center.

(3) The white and yellow lines in streets need to be made more visible, especially on streets where lanes widen or narrow.

(4) Motorists need to properly acknowledge the white lined cross walks since many seniors need more time crossing streets

Solutions Proposed:

- Additional education of drivers
- Post "Yield" or warning signs near such crosswalks.

(5) Bicyclists continue to be a hazard for seniors driving and walking, especially for those people with somewhat limited vision.

(6) Bus stops need to be located on the safest side of the street so seniors do not need to cross heavy traffic (1601 North College).

(7) Speaker systems need to be added to all meeting rooms at the Senior Center.

(8) Have seniors and senior issues represented on all groups/boards making decisions that could affect seniors such as the board dealing with the proposed Civic Center.

(9) Difficulty in scheduling facilities at the Senior Center because of high demand. Is there a priority system for such scheduling?

(10) Seniors needing transportation to come to the Senior Center find that eating meals is too expensive when the cost of Dial-A-Ride is figured in.

DRAFT

Fort Collins Senior Advisory Board 2001 Work Plan

OUTREACH

- Hold special meetings in the community at least quarterly with the express purpose of introducing the Board, answering questions and hearing concerns of seniors and groups/ organizations with interest in senior issues.
- Be available in the community through the use of information booths and participation in events such as:
 1. Bridging the Gap- Senior Network Luncheon.
 2. Fort Collins Senior Center Activities Fair.
 3. Annual Chili Cook-off to benefit Friends of the Senior Center
 4. New West Fest
 5. Others as appropriate.

ADVOCACY

- Support attainable senior housing by working with other appropriate entities to develop specific recommendations.
- Solicit information on existing senior programs, services and activities; provide evaluation and support as appropriate.
- Encourage expansion and enhancement of senior transportation services.
- Take an active role in seeking solutions to health care access problems particularly affordable prescription medications
- Monitor and support affordable leisure services for older adults.

COMMUNICATION

- Monitor, report, and initiate media information that impacts seniors such as:
 1. Senior Advisory Board's website
 2. Phone line for seniors on City Line
 3. Articles and news releases
- Invite a variety of speakers to be present at Senior Advisory Board meetings to keep members current on emerging issues.
- Continue to communicate effectively with city council.

COORDINATION

- Co-host the annual Bridging the Gap- Senior Network Luncheon, drawing together both public and private entities which provide services for seniors.
- Prepare and distribute participant listings from the Bridging the Gap- Senior Network Luncheon.
- Maintain existing and create new liaison positions with interested key senior agencies/ organizations.
- Collaborate with the Senior Center Council on common issues.

EDUCATION

- Hold outreach meetings at least quarterly for seniors and groups interested in senior issues.
- Provide education to dispel myths on aging and act as a resource for the community to provide information and education on the realities of aging.
- Provide input on senior issues to relevant organizations, agencies, boards and commissions.

QUALITY OF LIFE

- Monitor and support the current Elder Pet Care program provider to ensure the program meets the needs of seniors in the community.
- Monitor and work closely with private and city services to ensure our city is safe for seniors.
- Continue the task of establishing a "Paint-A-Thon" for seniors in need.

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 18, 2000

TO: John Fischbach, City Manager

FROM: Ron Phillips, Director of Transportation Services

RE: Transfort Strategic Plan Public Process – City Boards and Commissions

The Transfort Strategic Plan has been progressing over the last ten months. Although outreach to the general public and specific neighborhoods is not yet finalized, that information will be forthcoming soon. The following are the scheduled meetings with boards and commissions.

- | | |
|--|-------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality Advisory Board | October 24, 2000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Advisory Board | November 1, 2000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dial-A-Ride Advisory Board | November 2, 2000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Advisory Board | November 8, 2000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation Board | November 15, 2000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Planning & Zoning Board Study Session | December 1, 2000 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Commission On Disabilities | December 14, 2000 |

cc: Diane Jones, Deputy City Manager
Susanne Durkin, Transportation Planning & Parking Manager
Thomas L. Frazier, Transfort General Manager
Gary Diede, Transportation Operation & Projects Director
John Daggett, Senior Transportation Planner

Holiday Season. 2000

To All Members and Friends of the Fort Collins Senior Center:

The Senior Center Council is hosting their annual bake sale on November 25 and 26 as part of the Holiday Craft Fair. This fund raising activity is the only event that the Council does to provide funding for their many efforts to benefit the Senior Center program. Please sign up to contribute for this sale or consider the following:

BAKELESS BAKE SALE

You needn't light the oven
Or get out the mixing bowls.
You needn't fry the doughnuts
Or even make the hole.

We're not asking for your cookies,
Or your Apple pie or cake.
It's a Bakeless Bake Sale we're planning;
It's your "dough" that we will take.

There's many a fund raising project
That we would like to do
And it takes a lot of money,
So we need some help from you.

Put the price of your best "goodie"
In an envelope, mail it soon and you'll find
That if you do it right away
It won't have slipped your mind.

A bake sale without baking
Is such an easy task
Your \$ilver and your dollar\$
Are the only thing we ask.

Suggested Donations:

Cookies	\$ 5.00	Cake	\$15.00
Pie	\$ 10.00	Or any amount you wish	