



PARTNERSHIP FOR A GREATER SALT LAKE - AGING

May 11, 2016

Present - Mayor Tom Dolan, Andree Walker, Ellen Silver, Traci Lee, Alan Ormsby, Jan Donchess, Patrice Dickson, Sam Sedivec, Steve Kroes, Keith Diaz-Moore, Ryan Taylor, Dennis Kelsch, Nathan Peterson, Janice Kimball, Robin Chalhoub, Chris Otto, Paul Leggett

Mayor Dolan – Demographics in Sandy are changing, dynamic change. In less than 20 yrs. there will be more over 60's than elementary school age children. What can we do to have seniors stay in their homes? – Aging in place. Aging in place leads to cost savings as well as an increase in quality of life. There are new challenges and new opportunities to face and address. Those over the age of 85 are the largest growing segment of the population. There are some unique challenges that aging populations have to face.

– Welcome and thank you. The mayor has identified areas to focus on – aging is one of them. We don't have a roadmap of where we went to head to. We need to look ahead to the challenges of the next twenty years. We may look at programming, we may look at policy. We will look at where we want to go and ways to get us there. Overview of binder materials.

There are additional Partnership for a Greater Salt Lake work – Criminal Justice, Early Education and Regional Development.

Before we get to solutions we need to determine where we are. We need to put aside our individual agendas and adopt a common agenda. This is the process and you will be driving the ship. Let's begin this discussion today:

- Who else needs to be here
- What is our schedule for meetings

Paul Leggett – Aging & Adult Services (AAS) overview

Karen – We need to think beyond AAS – what about hospitals, the city, AARP, Age Friendly Communities initiative.

How do we better utilize our resources? Open to group for comments:

Ellen – transportation is a big issue, it is a challenge to get around, Trax and public transit are tough for many. Mental health is another issue, many families are learning to deal with cognitive decline and their needs are great. We need more programming for caregivers. Unique ways to deal with care recipient. Jewish Family Services (JFS) got on the map being a service provider, helping those to age in place. To age in place you need to support caregivers.

Janice – I represent affordable housing. There is a significant shortfall of housing; seniors are spending more on rent than they are able to. One of the issues is what happens when they are not able to meet their Activities of Daily Living (ADL's)? Not a lot of affordable assisted living.

Patrice – Heat eligibility. We see seniors coming in with income less than rent. We do home visits and we try to find services for those that are home bound. Often clients are not able to access services as they can be hard to navigate.

Janice – Aging in place; supports to do that are important.

Alan – Do we need someone from Commission on Aging? Someone from the Utah Food Bank? Their current Food box program is not significant enough. How can we tap into their army of volunteers?

Ellen – We received a grant to provide solutions to senior hunger, we help seniors sign up for food stamps. It has been a real eye-opener. Maybe we invite some special people in to educate us. Additionally mental illness and aging is a big issue; can we get someone from NAMI?.

Traci – We see a lot of financial exploitation. It is heartbreaking to see the range of clients – people don't see the signs. Should we invite someone from law enforcement? It is scary what is out there.

Alan – Consider working on prosecuting crimes against the elderly. There are resources to educate on fraud but trying to catch the criminals is a hard.

Janice – I have worked with homeless. There are common denominators with the homeless – such as income. But aging has no such barriers – there are many different strata of aging. Is there a place to think about the whole spectrum?

Keith – Aging is a demographic not an issue. The other groups can be asked to think about their area of focus, and aging. Do we have someone from an assisted living facility?

Sam – I am familiar with the models but thinking about the projects I am working on – we need to think regionally and need touchpoints with other areas – otherwise we are living in a bubble.

Karen – What are the core services we need to deliver? Those are likely to focus on LIM. As funding gets tighter what do we focus on? The question has come up around policies – this is another piece for us to consider.

Keith – We can organize our thinking using the model of people, programs, physical setting and policies. How do they fit together and align?

Mayor Dolan – Is there any potential for a one stop place for seniors – to go and make all of the connections.

Alan – There was a dream to establish a “no wrong door approach for aging”. The ideal was to call one place and get connected with all resources. However, this was never funded appropriately. Utah had one and it has now moved to the VA. So many people don't know about resources. You can call 211 –

but are they able to delve further to the cause of the problem? There is a gap in Information and Assistance.

Patrice – It is difficult to navigate the system when you need the system. It was hard for me to find out what I needed to do and I thought I was well experienced.

Mayor Dolan – The homeless group – I like their model. It is essential to decide on what our resources are.

Sam – People are going to 211 and finding outdated information. We created a homeless resource directory. We need to provide assistance with getting people where they need to be. The web is powerful and we need it to be right.

Nathan – There could be opportunity for healthy living.

Jan – Many of our recreation centers have healthy communities. I am in Magna and we are one of the unhealthiest communities. This is a constant discussion. We are trying to get seniors in our centers – super seniors, 80 plus – if you hit 80 everything is free. There are 5 in Magna.

Karen – What else may be useful? And how do we want to organize our work?

Janice – How does your spending change as you age – the economics of aging?

Ellen – Surveying the seniors; assessments are key so we don't presume.

Ryan – I would like to see an inventory of resources, Rides for Wellness (RFW) is turning away rides. Are we at capacity? Eligibility requirements vary so much – even in county services.

Alan – Steve Jardine did this once and consolidated who provides services and what eligibility is – but did not do a gap analysis. Maybe we could update this.

Karen – How do the cities figure into this piece?

Mayor Dolan – We don't do that much; we leave it to the county. Are there any models that are working? Can we adapt those?

Karen – We could study peer counties across that nation; are any of you aware of model programs?

Keith – What comes to mind is with a gap analysis is that aggregate data is useful but we also need to look at geographic data and see if there are 'hotspots' – not everyone is served equally.

Mayor Dolan – If you take care of your children and older population you will always have a good community.

Karen – Retail is going to change; what does that look like in the future. Will "strip malls" be transformed into housing? We need to think about planning and zoning.

Alan – Age friendly communities is a good model. Maybe communities can use that checklist and ask themselves how close they are to the model?

Karen – We will email the checklist out to the committee.

Ellen – There may be some funding attached to the healthy communities idea.

Mayor Dolan – What is our budget?

Karen – There are no resources aligned to this project. But we can try and find money to complete the projects we identify.

Keith – I like the age friendly model as it changes thinking. How do you set the framework for aging?

Alan – Let's have the Age Friendly Checklist be our homework. everyone should fill it in prior to the next meeting.

Karen – Can we meet at different places? – Yes

Adjourn