

AGE-FRIENDLY WORK AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT WORKGROUP MINUTES



Date: 04/09/2020
Time: 03:00PM
Facilitator: Jim Sanders

In Attendance

Jim Sanders	Suellen Seigel
Francine	Jennifer Asher
Mary Thompson	Michelle Millican
Nicholas Keplinger	Seema Harding
Ted Myerson	Pam Simonson
Pam Reese	Joan Washington
Fran Trout	

Minutes Approved

Minutes were approved

Announcements:

Jim Sanders went over the Agenda for meeting.

- Chapter 1 is a presentation from Howard County Workforce Development
 - Answering the Age-Friendly Question:
 - ✓ How do People engage in the Community through pay work?

Presentation by Fran Trott and Joannie Green Washington with the Howard County Workforce Development

- Fran Trott – Working and living in the County for a long time and part of the 50+ community.
- Joannie Green Washington – Currently is a workforce consultant and has been with the Howard County Workforce Development for quite a few years. I am excited to be working with the 50+ community.

Questions During and after Presentation:

- Jim asked how we support people of different ages and needs?
 1. Wanting to do things that people find meaningful and not just a job
 2. Wanting for flexibility of schedule
 - Workforce would do a search based on the persons schedule and flexibility.
- A member asked details about the training program. How long does the training last and what does eligibility mean?
 - It was explained there is a federal eligibility requirement which includes those who have experienced:

- Layoff
 - Barriers or are economically disadvantaged
 - Out of the workforce for a while or underemployed.
- The intent of the next session is to look at what does our economic development ADA program do to support Age-Friendly approach.

Larry Twele is the CEO of Economic Development Authority

Chuck Bubeck is the Director of Innovation

The presentation was provided via powerpoint—if possible the powerpoint will be provided to the group later.

- Jim stated that the good news is anyone can come to your programs and that you are building a community of network.
 - The presenters explained there is an ability to walk in and talk to somebody about ideas at the EDA.
 - People engage with us and we find out the interest level they have. EDA is then able to point the people to the opportunities that are there.
 - Other organizations that put-on presentations in the center will charge due to having food, drink, or lunch.
 - The criteria is completion of a form online which asks things about the startup. The form then goes to a committee to see if EDA and the Office of Innovation is able to help.
- Seema asked about the education part, and work towards closing the achievement gap of children.
 - The team explained they do work with the school system, one of the interns for our startups comes from a local school. We also have graduate students involved.

New Business:

- Jim stated our next steps:
 - Scheduling a follow up call with Howard Community College.
 - Our methodology is to complete a survey of current programs that supports our topic.
 - Look at the counselors in workshop training programs which help seniors identify what their skills are. There is a formal organization—Maryland Career Development.
 - Volunteering – from the invite list, we have launched a survey to 200 Howard County volunteer programs with the assistance of the Volunteer Center.
 - What is the level of activity of volunteers and by sector
 - Volunteer management practices
 - Scheduling individual interviews with the largest volunteer programs in the County
 - Social benefit questions, addressing if there were ways for people to volunteer more if it was good for Health Care cost, wellbeing, made people happier, etc.
 - What allows more engagement?
 - Civic Engagement – purposeful activity relating to policy and clinical input.
 - Small group discussion – schedule a session for next month.
 - ❖ League of Women Voters
 - ❖ Commission of Howard County Government

- Jim is looking for emails from the group as to which topic you would like to participate in and which are easier to have small groups.
- If members are having trouble with the google drive. Nick Keplinger is the tech help person; you can email Jim.
- A member stated that a security protocol is keeping them from accessing the google drive for this group.
- The security protocol is Manuel's email and Jim will forward his email.
- All agree to no more than 1 ½ hours for the meetings.
- Seema asked for the emails of the speakers.
- Jim stated that the path we are on is 3 months of survey, 3 months of bench marking and 3 months visiting. Currently we are on survey for each of our 3 topics. With each of these the methodology is to Interview the largest programs and make sure we understand variety of what is offered now.

Homework Assignments:

Set up interview with Howard Community College within the next 10 days.

Set up a focus discussion of the survey

Invite those that are interested in doing some of the interviews

Next Meeting

May 14. 2020 – 3:00 PM (a WebEx invitation will be sent before the meeting).