



City of Seattle

Mayor's Council on African American Elders

C/O – Aging and Disability Services, Seattle-King County
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Meeting Summary

June 16, 2015

Present: Mattie Taplin, Marsha Andrews, Dr. Brenda Jackson

Excused: Rev. Don Davis, Susan Millender, Dr. LaShawnDa Pittman

Guest: Dian Ferguson

Staff: Maureen Linehan, Rowena Rye

- I. Mattie Taplin opened the meeting and welcomed the group, and guest Maureen Linehan, Aging and Disability Services Director.
- II. Maureen provided an overview of the RFI process: Proposals were reviewed and scored by a panel of community volunteers who utilize the objective criteria outlined in the RFI. Organizations that submitted proposals have a 10-day window in which to appeal.
- III. Crisis Clinic was selected as the new lead agency for Community Living Connections. The council had questions about the capacity of Crisis Clinic to respond to these additional calls. There will be accountability measures and monitoring of all new contractors. The 3 Hubs of services will be: Seattle and North King County – Senior Services, South King County – Neighborhood House, Eastside - undetermined. A new marketing strategy and new website is being developed A branding consultant has been hired, and kickoff of the new Community Living Connections will be in mid-September.
- IV. The council discussed the three concerns addressed in the report to Mayor Murray last fall, and the upcoming July 1st meeting with the Mayor. They checked in with Dian to discuss whether the return of the Kinship Center to the senior center was still feasible from the center's perspective. Dian shared with the group that Senior Services had been awarded a Department of Neighborhoods grant to seek input from the community on how the building should be used. Senior Services is working on purchase of the building and land. With many seniors on the brink of becoming homeless, there is consideration being given to building a housing component as part of the future planning effort. They will be spending considerable time and effort over the next year to solicit community input to guide future planning efforts.
- V. The council moved on to discuss again their priorities, given the new information about the direction in which the senior center is now moving. With the funding of AAEP, the council is prioritizing addressing homelessness for elders that meets the needs of African American men, who are often not welcome in some programs that serve people who are homeless. A program that is culturally focused and responsive to African Americans, while inclusive of all will be discussed with Mayor Murray in the July 1st meeting.

- VI. The council will send Mayor Murray a letter, updating him on current priorities before than July meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.
