Citizen Advisory Group Meeting

Blueprint for Livable Communities

Meeting Minutes

May 9, 2014

Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services

**Those in Attendance:**

Mr. Jim Rothrock, Commissioner, Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services

Ms. Candace Baldwin, Capital Impact Partners

Ms. Teri Barker-Morgan, Virginia Board for People with Disabilities

Ms. Lauren Bell, Virginia Center for Architecture

Ms. Sandra Cook, Statewide Independent Living Council

Mr. David DeBiasi, AARP Virginia

Mr. Bruce DeSimone, Virginia Housing Development Authority

Mr. Ali Faruk, Special Assistant to the Commissioner

Ms. Catherine Harrison, Office of Community Integration

Mr. Charles Hester, Richmond Department of Parks and Recreation

Ms. Tishaun Harris Ugworji, DARS Adult Protective Services Division

Mr. Dennis Horton, Junction Center for Independent Living

Mr. Eldon James, Virginia Chapter of the American Planning Association

Ms. Nancy Jennings, National Multiple Sclerosis Society

Ms. Pamela Kestner,Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources

Ms. Jane King, Alexandria Commission on Aging

Dr. Dick Lindsay, Older Dominion Partnership

Ms. Sara Link, Greater Richmond Age Wave Readiness Coalition

Mr. John Mahoney, Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation

Ms. Amy Marschean, DARS Senior Policy Analyst

Ms. Carol Paquette, Village Representative

Mr. Bill Shelton, Department of Housing and Community Development

Ms. Sharon Taylor, Virginia Goodwill Network

Ms. Jane Woods, V4A

Ms. Marcia DuBois, Department for Aging and Rehabilitative Services

**Welcoming Remarks**

Marcia DuBois welcomed the Blueprint for Livable Communities Citizen Advisory Group members to the group’s third meeting since the completion of the *Blueprint for Livable Communities Report* in June, 2011.

**Livable Communities Exhibition**

Lauren Bell, Programs Manager**,** Virginia Center for Architecture gave a presentation featuring the 10 principals for livable communities and showcased projects featured in the Livable Communities Exhibition. Members asked if the exhibition could “travel” and suggested that it be displayed at events such as the Virginia Association of Counties and Virginia Municipal League conferences to promote livable communities concepts.

The presentation may be found at: <http://www.vadars.org/vblc/meetings.htm> and the Virginia Center for Architecture website may be found at: <http://architectureva.org/>

**Human Service Transportation Grant Programs**

John Mahoney**,** Administrator of the Human Services Transportation Program,Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation described the variety of human service transportations programs impacting people with disabilities and seniors and how they are funded. He discussed current services, changes in federal legislation, and answered questions about differences in matching fund requirements between grants.

The presentation may be found at: <http://www.vadars.org/vblc/meetings.htm> and the Virginia Department of Rail and Public Transportation website may be found at: <http://www.drpt.virginia.gov/>

**Legislative Update**

Catherine Harrison, Director of Community Integration, summarized recent legislation impacting livable communities’ initiatives. Although Virginia’s General Assembly has not finalized their work for the year, Ms. Harrison highlighted items of interest for seniors and people with disabilities.

|  |
| --- |
| **Blueprint for Livable Communities Website**Marcia DuBois, Livable Communities Coordinator, provided an overview of the website and activities related to promoting livable communities in Virginia. She encouraged members to submit items of interest for dissemination on the website, social media, and other public forums. Resources and updates may be found on the *Blueprint for Livable Communities* website at: <http://www.vadars.org/vblc/> |
| **EasyLiving Home Transportation & Housing Alliance Initiatives****Teri Barker-Morgan,** Program Manager, Virginia Board for People with Disabilities described the history of the development of the non-profit EasyLiving Home organization and its use of basic visitability concepts. She also provided a brief overview of the grants provided to the Jefferson Area Planning District Commission to create and expand the use of the Transportation and Housing Alliance Toolkit.The presentations may be found at: <http://www.vadars.org/vblc/meetings.htm>. More information about the Virginia Board for People with Disabilities may be found at: <http://www.vaboard.org/>**The Village Movement****Candace Baldwin**, Director of Strategy for Aging in Community, Capital Impact Partners gave a presentation on the history of the village movement and the development of the Village to Village Network. She discussed the prevalence of villages nationally as well as in Virginia and answered questions about how they function. The presentation may be found at: <http://www.vadars.org/vblc/meetings.htm>. More information about Capital Impact Partners and the Village to Village Network may be found at: <http://vtvnetwork.org/>**Next Steps & Closing Remarks** |

Commissioner Rothrock provided a history of Virginia’s Blueprint for Livable Communities Initiative and key activities to date. He also discussed plans for a meeting of age wave planners in the summer to discuss benchmarks for best practices and announced the Governor’s Conference on Aging in 2015. The Commissioner invited members to evaluate the meeting and provide their ideas for next steps via Survey Monkey.