

June 23, 2016 CACDI Meeting Notes

Attendees:

Katie Frederick

Rajai Saleh

Kay Grier

Geri Cooper

Bill Stepp

Karen Kostelac

Jay Favuzzi

Tiffany McClain

The meeting began with Bill Stepp paying tribute to COTA employee Jim O'Neal, who passed away in June. Jim was a former member of CACDI and will be missed by all who knew him. Due to Columbus receiving the Smart City grant, there are a lot of our attendees at the announcement. Karen received a letter from the mayor saying he was grateful for the committee's

support concerning the smart city grant. Karen will contact Councilman Shannon Harding in August. Kay will also ask the near east area commission to speak as well. Karen commented the AirConnect, the bus running from the airport to downtown is going well; it started out slow but is picking up now. Rajai asked if bus routes will expand, Bill Stepp said stay tuned, COTA is going to do some major restructuring in 2017.

Karen mentioned she reported a sidewalk issue at High and Fourth, and it was fixed that evening. Jay reported sidewalks are being replaced at Columbus State near Cleveland Ave.

Karen reported our meeting information and contact person is correct on the city of Columbus website.

Rajai mentioned she was angry about a building being torn down in the Short North; it's a housing development for low-income and senior residents. Vouchers are provided for residents to find housing, but that's not easy. The Columbus

Metro Housing Authority has now control of the building, and residents are upset and displaced from their home. Some other senior housing options have opened their locations for those residents.

Fran Ryan, our speaker, was the first female chair of the Democratic party. She worked for the Carter Administration; now she conducts senior roundtables.

Seven years ago Mayor Coleman asked Fran to help with seniors in the city. She worked with a vet, a fireman, and a few others to help. The Senior Services roundtable meets once a month with about 50-75 in attendance. There is no agenda, no money, participants can talk, it's an open discussion. The Central Ohio Agency on Aging and Franklin County help with the project as well. More and more people are living here over the age of 65; many issues need to be discussed: such as housing, transportation, etc. More private sector services are available for

seniors than public services. Columbus is now known as a city on aging; there is someone in place at MORPC working with senior services concerning housing, transportation, etc. The Village Connection, there are two in Columbus, are a part of this national network. A senior can pay an annual membership for help with transportation, fixing things in the house, socialization, etc. Following Fran k's presentation the meeting adjourned.