

South Bay Cities Council of Governments

Services for Seniors Working Group

Thursday, May 20, 2014 Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Amanda Valorosi, City of Carson; Patti Wood, City of El Segundo; Shaunna Donahue, City of El Segundo; Kathy A. Mills Walker, City of Gardena; Diane T. Brown, City of Hawthorne; Brenda Williams, City of Hawthorne; Rosemary Lackow, City of Hermosa Beach; Isabel Rodriguez (resident), City of Hermosa Beach; Michelle Jordan, City of Inglewood; Eve Kelso, City of Manhattan Beach; Jan Buike, City of Manhattan Beach; Rob Blee, City of Palos Verdes Estates; Ruth Gralow (volunteer), PVE-CARES; Kit Fox, City of Rancho Palos Verdes; Marsha Enriquez, City of Redondo Beach; Ray Cruz, City of Rolling Hills; Judy Mitchell, City of Rolling Hills Estates; Britt Huff, H.E.L.P. and City of Rolling Hills Estates; Greg Grammer, City of Rolling Hills Estates; Cindy Snodgrass, City of Torrance; Judy Bayer, H.E.L.P.; Kathy Valdesuso, Healthcare Partners; Tracy O'Linn, Healthcare Partners; Claire Coignard, Torrance Memorial Medical Center; Lisa Santora, Beach Cities Health District; Jacki Bacharach, Wally Siembab, Steve Lantz, Grace Farwell, SBCCOG

1. Welcome and Self Introductions
2. Presentation by Karla Gardner, Operations Manager, ITN Transportation Services – “What is ITN and Can It Work in the South Bay?”

ITN – Independent Transportation Network (www.itnamerica.org),

- nationwide program
- not-for-profit
- ITN America provides IT support
- local program – Pacific Palisades/Santa Monica area (Beverly Hills to Santa Monica; Sunset Blvd to Marina del Rey)
 - 65+
 - No longer drive
 - Sight-impaired (4 riders)
- Volunteer drivers – drive own car
 - Volunteer drivers can earn credits with ITN (i.e. one driver banks credits for his wife)
 - Volunteers must insure own vehicle
- Paid drivers – independent contractors
 - \$9 per hour + mileage (20¢ per mile; federal gov't allows 75¢ per mile; independent contractors can claim 55¢ per mile for income tax)
 - Insurance – non-profit alliance insurance covers fleet vehicles, volunteers, Board, etc.
- 2 Fleet vehicles
- Membership fee is \$75 per year
 - Currently 70 members (riders)
 - Ave of 45 riders every month

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- April 2014 = 327 rides
- Ave age of riders – late 80s, early 90s
- Some riders retain membership just to have benefit
- Most rides are 19 minutes and under 8 miles
- Charge like a taxi, but more like a limo service; single rider
- 47% of rides are medical-related; 28% are for consumer needs (marketing, hair appointment, etc); 25% ???
- \$100,000 annual budget
 - 50% - expenses, insurance, salaries
 - 50% - fares for riders
- Hierarchy of ITN local program
 - Board of Directors
 - Need strong Board to get started and continue with ITN program
 - Need monetary base
 - Operations Manager
 - Drivers
- Must pay fee to be part of ITN America
- Questions raised from Working Group:
 - How does this program differ from transportation offered in cities (i.e. Dial-A-Ride, Access, etc)
 - Image – not “handicapped”, as viewed if use Dial-A-Ride
 - Access is medical appointments only
 - Does each city need ITN? Or can this program be regional?
 - Geographical distance could be a hindrance
 - Want driver and rider in same area
- City programs
 - Hermosa Beach providers door-to-door vouchers
 - \$1 per ride
 - Grant through City of Los Angeles
- Other questions:
 - Who are we serving?
 - What do riders need?
 - What percentage could use lower-speed car vs full-speed car?
 - Gap analysis
 - Drivers going into home; are drivers bonded?
- Prop C or Prop A monies to pay for transportation or programs
 - Action Item: Steve Lantz to check with Metro related to city car/city driver as part of private/non-profit restrictions??
- Other Transportation Programs/Issues to review
 - Privatized/Non-profit restrictions
 - AAA funds
 - Center for Healthy Aging
 - DMV will allow for license restrictions in neighborhoods
 - Beverly Foundation Volunteer Transportation – Beverly Foundation closed/ended in 2014
 - Jewish Family Services Non-Profit

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- National Volunteer Transportation Center
 - Uber and Lyft
 - Uber for seniors?
 - Lyft for seniors?
3. Further Discussion of Services in the South Bay and where there are gaps:
- Redondo Beach
 - Keepsake meeting
 - Neighbors helping neighbors
 - Concept of knowing who your neighbors are
 - Neighborhood Block Parties
 - City-sponsored Block Parties
 - HOAs, Neighborhood Watch
 - Map your Neighborhood for Emergency Preparedness
 - CERT
4. Announcements:
- Initiative on Elder Abuse
 - District Attorney's Office on Senior Fraud
 - working with Rotary Clubs to train Rotary Club members to go to senior centers (PV Sunset Rotary Club)
 - Belle Chen, 213-580-3338
 - No Drugs Down the Drain Program
 - Expired medications
 - Manhattan Beach Police Dept
 - Gardena Police Dept
 - LA County Sheriffs' Stations
5. Follow-up Actions – develop transportation subcommittee: Shaunna Donahue, City of El Segundo; Jan Buike, City of Manhattan Beach; Britt Huff, City of Rolling Hills Estates; Lisa Santora, Beach Cities Health District; Jacki Bacharach and Grace Farwell, SBCCOG
6. Next meeting – Tuesday, July 22 @ 9:30 am