

**Age- Friendly Louisville**

**Social Participation, Respect & Inclusion**

**Meeting via ZOOM**

**September 8, 2020**

17 Attendees: Lettie Heer Tihisha Rawlins

 Chris Clements Sameera Jackson

 Paul Troy Akosua Boachie

 Rita Morrow Shirley Fuqua-Jackson

 Avery Crews Lori Paris

 Marji Pilato Terri Thomas

 Rev. Ron Loughry Carolina Rodriguez

 Sandra McGuire Kim Cordell-Fife

 Dia Erpenbeck

There was one new attendee besides guest speaker (Ms. Lori Paris), Carolina Rodriguez with Passport

Introductions were made by everyone stating their names and affiliated group/organization and what he/she did over Labor Day-Derby Weekend.

**Guest Speaker/Presentation: Ms. Lori Paris (Veterans Community Partnership Coordinator and Medical Foster Home Program Coordinator as well as Chair of VASCO)** Chris Clements introduced the guest speaker today. She needed to go first due to another meeting and conference call she had. Lori Paris shared information about her workplace and her duties and tasks surrounding it but more importantly on upcoming event called Veterans Appreciation in Bag Event. She explained that normally there is Stand Down Event in October that recognizes Veterans but due to COVID 19, this traditional event would not be happening. However, key partners like AARP, Mission BBQ, Thrive Center, Boys & Girls Club of Kentuckiana, KIPDA, ElderServe, Work One, VA Suicide Prevention and CC Medispa. The special event or project will take place on November 10th and involve a total of 300 bags to be collected. 100 of these bags will be given to Indiana, another 100 to Kentucky while the remaining 100 will be distributed to Veterans in HUD-VASH and GEC Programs in VA. The partners noted are contributing a variety of special inkind items, resource information and more for this important cause. All donations can be dropped off at Thrive Center, 204 E. Market Street. On a special note with the guidance of Age Friendly Louisville, the Boys and Girls Club will be assembling and putting the bags together for the project. The group will also make handmade cards and notes for them too. Chris Clements added that Age Friendly Louisville will be donating the ElderAbuse bookmark that was made last year as contribution item for Veterans.

**Highlights from August 2020 Meeting:** Rita provided an overview of the August meeting. There were 12 attendees for it. The major highlight was hearing from Ms. Jennifer Helgeson with Boys & Girls Club of Kentuckiana. Jennifer Helgeson had provided a great overview of this important youth program and how it has three permanent sites in the Louisville community at Portland, Shawnee, and Newburg. Before COVID 19, 200 kids between the ages of 6 to 18 years of age would come to these three centers each day. But currently these numbers are closer to 50 kids a day. It was decided that on October 29th, older persons/seniors would be judges for Halloween Costume contest at these centers. Whether this is done in person, virtually or other means will be determined. The three facilitators (Rita, Terri and Chris) are working on identifying nearby senior centers and retirement communities to help be more active and partner with Boys & Girls Club too. Rita shared that currently JCPS has not gotten back with them on the Intergenerational activities and projects that were proposed to them such as Pen Pals and Veteran theme activities. However, the Archdiocese of Louisville (Catholic Schools) superintendent responded they would be interested and look into these later this fall. Rita also mentioned about a Kid Book event that would be continued to be pushed and promoted. Avery provided a link on the Age Friendly Louisville website about this which can be found at [www.agefriendlylouisville.com/childrens-reading-list](http://www.agefriendlylouisville.com/childrens-reading-list) and Sandra McGuire noted another good one at <https://library/munlet.edu/booklist>

**Next steps with Parades (Intergenerational focus with Senior Housing areas)** The next proposed parade in and around senior housing will take place on October 30th. It will include both Nazareth Home (Newburg Road campus) and Bellarmine University between 3:30 PM – 4:30 PM. With some suggestions from other, Chris Clements, will be reaching out to Highland Community Ministries (HCM) on other nearby senior housing communities but the following groups have been identified that are nearby and important to include: UofL Peace Hospital, Highlands Court Apartments, Highlands Nursing and Rehabilitation, Mariposa Place, and Day Spring Baxter. Bigger update on this will be shared in next meeting but the parade will have a Halloween theme and be intergenerational as it will involve Bellarmine University and various nearby senior housing areas. Also plans would be under way to do a November/Veterans Day and even Election Week Parade too Chris Clements recently gave other facilitator, Terri Thomas, a list of VFW and American Legion Posts to look into this for such parades.

**New Business and Updates:** As for new business, Chris Clements noted the upcoming Grandparents Day set for September 13th and September 11th (911) and shared about a special service and remembrance event that his workplace was doing and encouraged anyone to take part in it. The event involves meeting at Edison Center at 701 W. Ormsby Avenue and going out to nearby fire and police stations and taking them baked goods and treats. Showing appreciation for “first responders” on 911. Rev. Ron Loughry shared about a 99th Birthday parade and celebration for a neighbor and close friend of his named Dr. Seymour ”Sy” Slavin. It will take place on September 11 from 5:30 pm to 6:30 PM at 2551 Woodbourne Avenue. All are invited to bring birthday cheers to him. Tihisha Rawlings of AARP announced about Downtown Community Food Drive in partnership with Coalition to Transform Advance Care (C-TAC). Non perishable food can be dropped off from 12 PM to 5 PM at one of two locations: Christ Cathedral of Praise at 711 W. St. Catherine Street and Christ Way Baptist Church at 237 E. Breckinridge Street. Carolina Rodriguez talked about COVID 19 survey being putting out by Passport. You can go to [www.surveymonkey.com/r/528TJ3N](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/528TJ3N) to do it. Sameera Jackson of Wellcare also shared about free COVID 19 testing on September 19th from 9 AM to 2 PM at Bates Memorial Church at 620 Lampton Street. With no other new business, the meeting finished at 3:00 PM.

**The next Age Friendly Louisville Social Participation, Inclusion and Respect Domain will be on October 13th (Tuesday) from 2 PM to 4 PM. The same ZOOM link and either communication phone numbers of 312-626-6799 and 646-876-9923 will be provided.**