Contra Costa County Advisory Council on Aging
Technology Group Minutes
Wednesday, August 11, 2021

Call to Order: Steve Lipson called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm. Meeting conducted using the Zoom meeting platform.

Present: Steve Lipson, Kevin Donovan, Erin Partridge, Jim Donnelly, Sam Sakai-Miller, Candace
         Evans, Gail Garrett, Jill Kleiner, Penny Reed, Justin Lola (CEI)
Absent: Sara Shafiabady,
Staff: Anthony Macias

Approval of Agenda/Minutes
- Approval of Today's Agenda – Kevin motioned to approve; Gail motioned second; agenda approved by all present.
- Approve June 2021 minutes- Penny moved to approve minutes as amended; Candace motioned second; approved as amended by all.

Public Comment:
Anthony mentioned that AAA is participating in the Connections, Health, Aging, and Technology (CHAT) program to provide allocated 131 iPads allocated by the California Department on Aging. CHAT is aimed at combatting social isolation among older adults and informal caregivers by facilitating access to technology to make participating in activities, connecting with loved ones, and getting information and support possible.
Justin Lola- formation of a regional digital inclusion group; local counties who have or trying to put program together to help each other with task at hand and are looking for members. Steve will get contact information from Justin (Andrea from Alameda County).

Technology Corner: No report this month.

ACOA Website Review/Revisions/Google Form + Moving Data to Website

- Sam will be the person who will initially be entering the information to the website from the submissions on the Google form.
- She will use a Save-as-doc app to create this for the website.
- Sam shared screen to demonstrate her process.

Website Content Pilot: Center for Elders Independence

- ACOA Web Site/Google Forms Update - Sam Sakai Miller
- Save-As doc is still not working and Sam performed demonstration, walking through three views of form.
- Form revised with suggestions and changes
- Mail merge documents can be used. Previewed results of example of "Be a Good

- Neighbor" flyer.
- Sam feels confident that we have system set up to copy and paste mock-up for something to present.
- Need for more content in order to create and present.
- Ready for information from other folks to populate the webpage.
- Steve: can we go forward with Web links that Justin provided? Yes, only requires copy pasting. Issue is the information is lacking details.
- More questions about how future updates to webpage will happen when changing email of contact.
- Sam to attend Executive Committee meeting on September 1.

Digital Inclusion Discussion/Report: Santa Clara Whitepaper - Kevin Donovan

- Discussed digital divide and spoke of past information from Older Adults Technology Services (OATS) and Senior Planet @Avenidas.
- They have been attempting to provide remote support for digital inclusion even during the pandemic.
- Ryan Kawamoto and the White Paper he created with 30 members of Santa Clara community. They are charged with putting white paper together by Santa Clara County Digital Inclusion Workgroup. Promoting Digital Inclusion for Older Adults in Santa Clara County
- Highlights encapsulated in white paper: https://www.agefriendlysiliconvalley.org/wp-content/uploads/DigitalInclusionWhitePaperFinal-6.16.21.pdf
- Santa Clara County's Age-Friendly Three Year Action Plan calls for ensuring that "older adults are incorporated into county digital inclusion policies."
- Although there is a higher income in "Silicon Valley", there are also has county members who are English as Second Language learners and low-income communities.
- Five major points from white paper:
  - 1.Access to affordable, robust broadband internet service;
  - 2. Access to internet-enabled devices that meet the needs of the user;
  - 3. Digital literacy training;
  - 4. Quality technical support; and
  - 5. Applications and online content designed to enable and encourage self-sufficiency, participation and collaboration.
- In addition to having, the necessary technology to get online, people must also have ability to use that technology. The American Library Association defines digital literacy as "the ability to use information and communication technologies to find, evaluate, create, and communicate information, requiring both cognitive and technical skills."
- These skills are not innate or "intuitive," meaning that digital literacy components must be built into training for older adults.
- Training needs to be geared for your students and ongoing support challenges and need is significant
- Initial program will be pilot and culled from those receiving nutrition programs.
- In MPA mapping senior digital divide was not addressed.

- How does CCC mirror and created what is similar to what is going on in SC and make sure the BOS is made aware of this need?

Presentation: Erin Partridge

- Erin has a PHD in Art Therapy; research into use of technology and the arts; specifically using Social robots and Virtual Reality.
- Experiential researcher in Alameda regarding social robots in senior communities and began doing research at senior housing.
- Communication with to, for, about older adults.
- Amplified Elders: Art Based research into communication; HP Sprout; touchscreen/touch based system; scans and make images in a digital art environment.
- Study: experiences with creating communications; participants were co-researchers with her; representation of various communication examples.
- Communication does not need to be complicated; simple; goes from me to get to you with as few complications as possible.
- Social Robot Research: Jibo
- Project of MIT media lab; robot is still in use in research; company is not.
- Social robot designed to be spontaneous and unexpected.
- 360 degrees in movement and choreographed with dancer and has some great movements.
- Camera in front for facial recognition; will interact if left on.
- First, study: Jibo placed on a floor of assisted living residence; residents throughout the study created Art from this.
- Some wanted robot to be their companions; be spontaneous, a buddy, a peer not a comfort toy;
- Inspired in including older adults in research and development.
- How can an organization get involved? Hoping to replicate study and will let workgroup know when this may occur.
- Image making is involving a sense of empowerment. Empowering to visualize something new. Empowered to ask for things that they want robot to do.

Erin: MIT/media lab study look at social robots in communities and will have findings of this study.
https://ieeexplore.ieee.org/document/8703390

Tech Work Group and the Master Plan For Aging/Local Edition: Defining our Role
Discussed assignments from Debbie and requires clarification; this will be tabled for
A future meeting-
Action Items for Executive Committee: None
- None

Future Meetings:
- Next meeting: September 8, 2021

The meeting adjourned at 3:30pm.