

# AGE & DISABILITY FRIENDLY SF WORKGROUP AGENDA

## Friday, January 6<sup>th</sup> 10-11:30am

### MINUTES

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1. **INTRODUCTIONS:** skipped participant intros, to allow as much time in break-out groups as possible. Accessibility points discussed.
2. **ADF MEETINGS: Co-Chair Transitions** Eileen discussed that Nicole would be stepping down as ADF co-chair after years of fantastic contributions. She will continue to be active in a lot of ADF projects and is on vacation today, otherwise would join us. Kelly Dearman, Director of Dept of Disability and Aging Services, would step in as co-chair – she was also the previous ADF co-chair.
3. **ADF ACTION PLAN: Finalized & ready to implement** Eileen also reminded folks that the final Action Plan has been discussed, reviewed, edited and finalized and is now available online here: <https://www.sfhsa.org/about/departments/departments-disability-and-aging-services-das/age-disability-friendly-sf>  
Some of the projects (or Recommendations in the Action Plan) have started to move and over the course of the next three years of implementation, will be shared and updated at ADF meetings. However, for this first meeting of 2023 and to mark the moment having finalized the Action Plan, ADF team thought refocusing on Community Engagement would be really useful – for both ADF, but as a larger conversation.
4. **RETHINKING COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: What role should community engagement play within ADF? And what does community engagement even look like in this post-COVID reality?** Valerie provided a very brief background on ADF (what this initiative is, what it encompasses, where it is in the process) and why community engagement is important to ADF. Then, participants broke up into 4 small groups for a facilitated conversation, that focused on the following questions (general responses from all groups for each questions are included below):
  1. **Think about a local (to you) topic or issue that you care deeply about – what are ways that you stay involved or updated on that issue? Particularly during COVID and moving forward.**
    - **Proactively engage around issue:** join a board, attend public meetings (Commission, Advisory meetings, etc.) on-line, reading articles, participate on bodies/meetings that address or have decision making power; advocating on behalf of an issue
    - **Personal connections to connect with the issue:** joining personal groups (book clubs, family functions, etc.), personal connection - having right person to talk to and connect to; attending in person events, fairs, etc.; Doing more into the community, like pop-ups, on sites with library and going to settings where folks are already familiar and comfortable; reaching out to people one on one so people feel more connected and not isolated, information on how to participate in organizations, groups and trainings, reaching out and connecting with people in the neighborhood
    - **Using social media to stay engaged around topic:** newsletter (with recommendations), podcasts, webinars, news, Twitter, SF Alert, Instagram, Facebook

- **Access is critical for being able to stay involved:** Hybrid meeting models, Zoom meetings; bring together advocates around digital equity, anticipating funding – how do they address/anticipate access? Bringing different populations together to discuss the rainbow of access
2. **Are there any great or innovative examples of organizations or groups engaging the community effectively (sharing info, getting feedback, advocacy, etc.) during COVID?**
- **Strategies:** Webinar or symposium 1-2 times a year with specific areas of focus then break-out groups with targeted questions. Then bi-monthly or quarterly newsletter on topic with relevant articles prefaced with a summary of the article and then a link and highlights of activities happening locally; establish relationships and build off personal connections (an email doesn't build trust); reliability and follow-thru; giving people different ways to participate; hybrid meetings; any group that walked door to door or made phone calls from a list, sending out invitations, repeating information regularly
  - **Examples of:** Community centers – “cultural heart.” Home away from home. Pre-existing networks. Have an established level of trust; Senior and Disability, the SF Public Library, Coalition on Homelessness; Rec & Park family events (Tunnel Top); local cafes (like Manny's at 14<sup>th</sup> and Valencia); Independent Living Resource Center of San Francisco, Longmore Institute, Mayor's Office on Disability (MOD) and LRC, Fine Arts Museum's of San Francisco, The Blind Posse
3. **In the past, what have you valued about participating with ADF (the meetings, initiative, etc.)? If you're new/haven't participated previously, based on the background and conversation, what do you think is a useful role within community engagement that ADF might be able to play?**
- **Responses:** work is professionally relevant; care about the initiatives; it's an opportunity to be in conversation with people from all walks of life from community folks, to organizations and city departments; we also like the collaboration between all of the groups; it's an opportunity to identify who is doing what; A space to learn about diff City programs, services and Depts – est interpreters, opps to really connect – need to update Deaf needs; Learning about all the City depts that are engaged/involved – more education and awareness. Better understanding about the needs of the wheelchair users; Reach out to the schools – consider a curriculum for youth; Info and resources, collaborations; and a systems level view to living in SF for old adults and people with disabilities, ICT focus but cuts across many areas; need for advocacy, build campaigns
4. **Follow up to #3: Specifically, how can ADF continue to do that (whatever mentioned above) safely and effectively during COVID?**
- Go into the neighborhoods; make it local; 1:1 connections; Send ads/info to community organizations: very grassroots; neighborhood
  - Identify who to outreach to
  - When we do community engagement, how do we expand it beyond the same people who are always involved

- Op Ed in the Chronicle
- Use moments (e.g., Older Americans Month) to spotlight work
- Campaign or some public awareness effort; let people know what we are doing
- Hybrid – but we need the technology and the staffing
- We never know if people who attend the meetings are reporting back to their communities
- How can government folks set an example for how to keep folks engaged and report back to our departments.
- Similar to what we've done with the LTCCC, maybe we want to make defined seats to ensure participation and have time frames
- We need to reach out to city departments
- Some advocacy training might be helpful for community (this was in direct reference to getting more older adults and people with disabilities on advisory boards and commissions); refreshers on trainings and programs
- Amazing potential that we would all like to see happen for really big results
- Coming together with information and getting on the same page
- Sharing ideas and information
- Continue hybrid meetings at the library
- On-line discussions
- Open up varieties of ways to engage with people
- Community public meetings in hybrid and in person

**NEXT STEPS:** co-chairs discussed that this conversation is just the beginning! We're trying to get a sense of the landscape (are others interested in this, and are there existing discussions/efforts to collaborate with? Or does it make sense for ADF to focus on and meet outside of quarterly meetings?) and general trends as we plan what the next steps are.

**Next Workgroup Meeting:** Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>