

## Continue the Conversation

### Meeting Summary

March 17, 2010 (9:30 am – 11:00 am)

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of March, 20 community members gathered to continue the conversation around topics of aging and community.

#### **Updates:**

The Research Triangle Institute (RTI) has finished their work on the Institute for the Ages Business Plan. The business planning process yielded a working version of the Institute for the Ages' mission, vision, and primary activities. RTI's work identified a lack of connectedness across sectors. This space is where the Institute will exist to generate change. The Institute for the Ages will assemble and facilitate working groups (for profit, government, research, and non-profit organizations) to create products, policies, and services that contribute to community thriving (within and outside Sarasota County).

*Mission: To activate ideas that prepare us for the opportunities and challenges associated with aging populations.*

**Activities:** The Institute will provide a structured forum for individuals and organizations with diverse perspectives (e.g., individual, civic, corporate, academic) to work collectively on a specific opportunity or challenge related to aging. For example, an Institute working group may link the thinkers at the Stanford Longevity Center, the innovative product developers at Intel, and Sarasota County residents to develop and test community-based social networking technologies. The Institute will provide the working groups with the incentives and resources they need to formulate and pilot innovative solutions, and will then disseminate results to people or organizations that will utilize them. The Institute's activities and functions will be **Raising Awareness** (identifying and convening thought leaders, champions, and innovators across all sectors), **Opportunity Management** (identifying opportunities, assembling the right teams to work on each, and facilitating the innovation process), and **Administration** (general day-to-day operations).

**Group Reports:** Two groups reported out on the progress they've made and upcoming meetings.

#### **Healthcare:**

**Next meeting:** April 6, 2010 8:30 am – 10:00 am (The Pines, 1501 N. Orange Street; the corner of 12th street and Orange Ave)

**Convener:** Arthur Lerman

Our focus is on creating a clearing house for available resources in the community that is both relevant and up to date. We will also be looking at what is missing in our community.

At our next meeting we are hoping to have a representative of 211 as part of our on-going work in the area of senior services information clearinghouses. If anyone needs specific directions, please call JoAnn Westbrook (941-365-0250 x 1114).

**Arts & Vitality**: report out by Janice Mee

**Next Meeting**: To Be Announced

**Convener**: Janice Mee

We have been bringing in Master Speakers to talk at our meetings. In April we will bring in a speaker to focus on the arts and community. We are also working on bringing in a neurologist to speak with our group. We feel as though there is a strong connection between the arts, brain development and creativity (from the work of Gene Cohen). We also want to incorporate the 'wisdom of the older adult' in our discussions.

(Additional Meeting)

**Housing and Residential Regulations**:

**Next Meeting**: Friday, April 9, 2010 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm Plymouth Harbor (700 John Ringling Blvd, Sarasota)

**Convener**: Van Deist

Everyone is welcome at the work-group meetings, so please help spread the word.

### **Moving Forward:**

We began our discussion by talking about collapsing, renaming, and eliminating some of the groups. Some workgroups have been active and others have only met once or twice over the course of the past few months. The "**Healthcare**" group remained the same, the "Personal Psychology" group has been combined with the "**Arts and Vitality**" and now includes Neuropsychology. The "Workforce" group has been renamed to "**Training and Workforce Development**" the "Universal Design" group was renamed to "**Housing and Residential Regulations**" (which includes Universal Design, intergenerational living, mobility) and a group focused on "**Economic Development**".

There was an expression for the need to connect the groups between the quarterly CtC large group meetings. Also, some participants would like to be involved in more than one group, but might not be able to attend multiple meetings. The idea of setting up a social network site for groups to post their meeting notes, meeting dates, and have the ability to have a conversation and comment on ideas/topics/issues was offered. A group was created to set up a platform for the larger group to connect. This would also help to communicate the purpose of the CtC group to newcomers.

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If you would like to join the CtC group or any of the workgroups, please contact Kim Weaver at [kweaver@scopecel.org](mailto:kweaver@scopecel.org) or 941-365-8751. For more information please visit [www.scopexcel.org](http://www.scopexcel.org)