

**PUBLIC POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES**  
**October 8, 2015**

Attendees: Rudy Oswald, Chuck Kauffman, Jerry Morenoff, Mort Faller, Doug Newton, Amoke Alakoye, Stephanie Edelstein, DaCosta Mason, Odile Brunetto. Guest: Leslie Marks

County Issues

Leslie Marks made a presentation on the Housing Department's position on Council Bill 19-15. At the present time the Housing Department opposes the bill. The Department regularly meets with landlords and tenants, but does not believe there is sufficient data to support the bill. While the bill seeks to keep rental housing affordable, most of the new stock of housing is not affordable. It was stated that there is already a form lease that is used in the county, so such a provision in the bill is not necessary. After discussion, the committee decided to take "no position" on Council Bill 19-15.

The Commission submitted a letter stating its priorities to the Council's Health and Human Services Committee. Commission members received a copy of the letter.

The Committee concurred in Barbara's proposal to send a letter in opposition to the elimination of 2 early voting places.

Legislative Breakfast

An overview of the purpose of the Legislative Breakfast was provided for the benefit of the new committee members. The Legislative Breakfast is scheduled for November 12 from 8:00 to 10:00 at Holiday Park Senior Center. It was agreed that Caregiving (with a focus on the Care Act) and Elder Abuse would be the issues on which the Commission would make presentations to the legislators. Talking points on the issues will be developed by Noelle Heyman and Barbara Multz. The committee agreed to include the same items in the legislator's folders as in 2014. These items include 1) the annual report; 2) Senior Agenda; 3) List of COA members; 4) demographics slides; and

5) the talking points on Caregiving and Elder Abuse. Refreshments will be provided for the breakfast. The following is a list of refreshments and individuals who volunteered to provide the items. The full Commission will be asked to supplement this list.

Coffee – Rudy

Orange Juice – Barbara

Pastries/Bagels – Jerry, Amoke, Stephanie

Paper Goods – Chuck

Fruit – Doug

REMEMBER TO ARRIVE AT 7:30 TO SET UP

### State Agenda

Barbara reported that Del. Kramer was considering bills to allow the Attorney General to file a civil case in adult abuse cases, establish a call-check program, and regulate door-to-door sales. Mort is researching bills that regulate brokers in adult abuse situations.

The United Seniors of Maryland (USM) Day at the capitol is scheduled for February 3, 2016. It is recommended that committee members attend this event in Annapolis.

### Federal Legislation

The proposed budget in the House of Representative calls for significant cuts to programs that impact seniors. Amoke will review the legislation and provide an outline of the relevant issues and there impact on seniors.

Next meeting will be December 10<sup>th</sup>.