

**Commission on Aging
Public Policy Committee
February 8, 2018, 9:30-11:30 am
7300 Calhoun Place, Suite 600, Conference Room 6C
Minutes**

Commissioners Present: Stephanie Edelstein, Jerry Morenoff, Nanine Meikeljohn, Ryan Wilson

Staff Present: Shawn Brennan

Others Present: Chris Burt (Aide to Delegate Pam Queen of District 14), Mary Ann Buckley (Exec. Dir. GROWS – Grass Roots Organization for the Well-being of Seniors)

Meeting Commenced: 9:42 am

The meeting commenced with a welcome and a brief reminder that the full Commission will meet on February 22. Members of the committee, Odile, and our guests introduced ourselves.

The committee discussed first reader legislation in the General Assembly from the legislative chart prepared by Stephanie. Legislation that the committee judged to further the Commission's priorities – housing and protecting vulnerable seniors – was prioritized. The committee discussed a number of bills, and made recommendations on which the Commission should write a letter of support, including SB 4, SB 429, HB 995, and SB 547. The committee decided to monitor other legislation that might be of interest.

The committee discussed the Public Forum, slated for March 28 in Silver Spring. The forum will have expert speakers in four categories: public safety, elder abuse prevention, employment, and civic engagement.

The committee discussed the County Executive's Budget, which is due on March 15. Members of the Commission will meet with County Council Members during April, when the County Council holds budget hearings. The Commission Chair has testified on behalf of the Commission at Council budget hearings in the past.

The committee discussed our committee focus for the year. As in years past, the committee will continue its focus on legislation and regulations that affect older adults in Montgomery County.

The committee discussed how best to meet with members of the General Assembly's Montgomery County Delegation. The Delegation meets at 9:30 on Fridays in Annapolis in the county delegation room. Nanine, Ryan, and Stephanie discussed how to address legislation on the Low Income Tax Credit, and they agreed that a study is probably the best way to begin.

Meeting Adjourned: 11:10