

**Montgomery County Commission on Aging  
Executive Committee Meeting  
September 25, 2017 Minutes**

Noelle called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

**In attendance:**

**Committee members/CoA members:** Noelle Heyman, Alan Kaplan, Isabelle Schoenfeld, Stephanie Edelstein, Hileia Seeger, Mary Petrizzo, Rev Vikram, Nanine Meiklejohn, Monica Schafer,

**Liaisons:** Leslie Marks

**Staff:** Odile Brunetto, Director, Area Agency on Aging (AAA).

The minutes from the May meeting were approved.

**Chair's Report – Noelle Heyman**

**Commission Business:**

Committees Chairs and Co-Chairs concerns and recommendations:

Background: Concern – There are not enough active Commissioners, putting pressure on active members.

- Currently 70%+ CoA members work FT
- Administrative burden is high on Chair
- There are no co-chairs for the AIP Committee
- There is no Communications Committee

**Outcome:**

After an in-depth conversation and input from EC members it became clear that a few things need to happen:

- 1- Applicants
  - a. The solicitation needs to be very clear re: expectation to attend meetings and to take active role in a committee/s
  - b. Interview should include a reminder about what CoA entails re: time burden
  - c. Return to having only 50% working FT
- 2- Committee co-chairs
  - a. One should be an experienced CoA member
  - b. Take turns attending the Executive Committee (EC) meeting and/or leading the group
  - c. Assign all attendees roles during each meeting

- 3- Summer studies:
  - a. Attempt to pick topic earlier
  - b. Try to align topic with multiple groups' interests
  - c. Attempt to pick dates in advance and cluster meetings when possible
- 4- Mentor program
  - a. Keep but need to tweak program – some still have not attended meetings
- 5- Meetings
  - a. Committee and full CoA meetings need to be held monthly to keep momentum
  - b. Potentially have only one meeting in November and March – debrief after
    - i. Nov- legislative meeting
    - ii. March- Stakeholder meeting
  - c. Outside meetings should be shared – this includes for Chair – use Vice Chair more
  - d. Figure out how to best interact with the 10 Age Friendly Montgomery Domain Workgroups
    - i. What is duplicate work?
    - ii. How many Commissioners are attending meetings – take into account

### Summer Study

Focus was on affordable senior rental housing in MoCo. Both new and existing.

- Monica went over the study and how it was done
  - 2012 study used
  - MoCo rental housing study used
  - Used Holly Hall project as example
- Nanine went over findings/next steps
  - Explore construction opportunities but focus on preservation, which makes up most of the rental housing for lower income individuals
  - Look at supply/demand – lack of housing for low-income seniors
  - Look at how Northern Virginia got a carve-out for Low Income Tax Credit for senior housing and see how MoCo can replicate this - \*\* was agreed this was a good topic for the legislative breakfast
  - Explore rent stabilization programs across the US
  - Look at MPDU increase in inventory and how to strengthen it for Age Friendly features
  - Look at Housing Initiative fund
    - DC has 100 million
- Isabelle provided feedback
  - Suggested changes to report structure
- Noelle talked about next steps
  - Explained that summer studies lead into the legislative breakfast and budget requests

### Legislative Breakfast:

Stephanie - is organizing the breakfast and the tentative date is November 16<sup>th</sup>. Odile will explore venue options. EC agreed HPSC is first choice and Schweinhaut second. Legislative breakfast to be discussed at full CoA meeting on Thursday.

**FY18 Priorities:**

Odile reminded group of the FY18 COA priorities. To be discussed with the larger group. Info will be sent out via email, explaining new priorities.

- Fraud investigator FT position for State Attorney Office (new)
- Social Worker FT position for Public Guardianship program (Was FY18 COA priority)
- Social program for seniors in senior centers with early stage dementia (Was FY18 COA priority)
- Affordable Senior Housing (continued multi-year COA priority)
- Long Term Care Ombudsman one FT Position (new)
- Social Worker position for follow up of EMS frequent users (Was FY18 COA priority)
- Respite Care (new)

**Bylaws and Ad-hoc Nominating Committee**

Stephanie redid Bylaws to match the code. Her version has been approved by the County Attorney but she wants approval and feedback from EC and larger group.

The main changes are:

- Treasurer is now called Finance and Budget Advisor
- There will be only one vice-chair

Noelle 3 people needed for ad-hoc committee to nominate and recruit officers for next year. They cannot be active officers or people re-applying for nomination.

Meeting called to end at 11:50 by Noelle after approval of CoA meeting updated the drafted agenda.