



Commission on Aging
Executive Committee
March 20, 2025
9:30 AM -11:30 PM

ATTENDANCE:

Commissioners: Linda Bergofsky, Wayne Berman, Yvette Monroe, Laurie Pross, Kate Stein, Morris Klein, Betsy Carrier, David Engel, Kathleen McGuiness; County Staff: Peter Illig, Pazit Aviv

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM by the Co-Chair, Wayne Berman.

The agenda was reviewed, and no modifications were proposed. Minutes approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Wayne reported on the bank account signatures turnover at Truist Bank to Wayne and Laurie. Laurie reported the Commission on Aging (COA) account balance at \$2,116.74.

Old Business

County Updates from Peter Illig: Bohrer Park is reserved for the Public Forum. Need to invite the CE to record a welcome. Discussed protocol. Discussion on updates on Applications / Re-Applications to the CoA and Selection Committee. Two guaranteed spots for current commissioners. Six from last cycle plus possibly 1 from this current cycle will be requested to be appointed. The May Public Forum will replace the May full CoA meeting.

Discussion on planning for upcoming County Council briefing(s). The EC discussed the need for the Commissioners to prepare for their discussions, including looking at the crosswalk of priorities and educating themselves on various committees the Councilmembers are on. The EC agreed to include family caregiving as a priority in the welcome paragraph. They also discussed the need for concise priority statements. The team planned to send out the FY26 budget information and data visualization to Commissioners. Lastly, they discussed the process of submitting a brief summary of

their visits to the Council members.

Updates on County Council Legislation and State Bills / Activity: Commissioners to review and approve SSBG sign-on and WISH Act support. The EC discussed the progress of bills related to nursing home inspections. The Nursing Home Inspection Delegation Bill passed the Senate but faced uncertainty in the House Committee. The Continuing Care Retirement Communities bill was withdrawn. The End-of-Life bill, expected to fail, did not pass the judicial proceedings committee.

Review and Approval of March 27, 2025, full COA Meeting Agenda. Linda discussed the request for Dr. McGhee and Dr. Johnson to prepare remarks about the FY26 Budget and impact on Services for Seniors budget items. Questions have been reviewed and submitted for Marc Elrich's portion of the full Commission meeting which will start 15 minutes early.

New Business

H & W – Laurie mentioned the review of Fact Sheets, which are still in Committee and will be sent for approval by the EC when completed.

AIC – Betsy discussed the upcoming April Committee meeting with the new chair of the HOC board. She discussed the possibility of receiving free technical assistance from the Urban Institute to update the 2018 Housing Study through a UI grant. Linda suggested involving Jan Marie from the Office of Legislative Oversight in the working group if the grant comes through. David discussed the Design for Life proposal and the changes being implemented by the permitting department. The group discusses the possibility of having a session on the aging-related data set for the entire Commission similar to the AIC presentation. Linda suggests discussing the data information during the June committee meetings to help drive priority setting. Pazit explains the value of the Senior Vulnerability Index as a comprehensive data visualization tool and recommends inviting someone from HHS to demonstrate it to the Commission.

Activity Updates from Working Groups:

Nursing Homes Inspections: The team discussed the need for written testimony and potential action alerts to garner support from constituents. They also discussed the challenges of committee votes, including budget issues and bargaining chips between delegates. The team agreed to write a response to the state's claims about the bill's impact on the budget and to reach out to committee members for further clarification.

Public Forum Planning: Wayne provided an update on the public forum, including the date (May 21st), food arrangements (box lunches supplied), and decision not to live stream. Wayne provided an update on the upcoming event, mentioning that the educational panel is being

shaped with Ruth Kershner and others participating. The morning session will include a Keynote from Howard Gleckman, interviews and focus group results, while the afternoon will feature roundtable discussions. The current priority is to send out announcements and save-the-date notices.

Immigration Working Group – no new information.

Input on Speakers for 2025 meetings

Most monthly meetings are planned out. Peter to reserve Brookside Gardens for December 18th Commission meeting and luncheon. Linda to schedule legislative briefing (date TBD).

Opportunities for In-person Meetings were discussed. The May Public Forum is in person. Ambassador presentations are in person. Linda to add upcoming County events to CoA Agenda as "Ways to meet and greet fellow commissioners". The CoA Commissioners should plan to attend and potentially have a presence at several events, including the Arc's Resource and Health Fair on April 5th, World Elder Abuse Day on June 17th, and the Active Aging Expo on May 1st. They discuss the possibility of having commissioners table at events alongside ADRU (Aging and Disability Resource Unit) and agree to reach out to Jennifer Long for coordination.

Adjourn 11:30 am