

**Commission on Aging**

**July 28,2022, at 9:30 a.m.**

**Virtually Via Zoom**

**Board Members :** Wayne Berman, Virginia Cain, Elizabeth (Betsy) Carrier, Jean Dinwiddie, Joyce Dubow, David Engel, Nkiru J. Ezeani, Dr. Arunima Ghosh, Mona Y. Grieser, Morris Klein, Kendell Matthews, Nanine Meiklejohn, Sibó Ncube, Karon Phillips, Helen (Laurie) Pross, Edgar Rivas, Beverly Rollins, Barbara Selter, Kate Smith, Mary Sweeney, Marsha Weber, Arthur Williams ,T. Ryan Wilson, Janice Zalen **Alumni:** Austin Heyman **Staff:** Odile Brunetto , Patrice L. McGhee, Shawn Brennan, Pazit Aviv, Tremayne Jones?, Marcia Pruzan? Arlee Wallace **Liaison:** Sara Swarr, Monique Gardner, Betsy Luecking, *Deanna ? ?*  
**Absent:** Neal Brown, Rev. Dr. Ruby Moon, Tho Tran, (Hillary Tumba, resigned June 23,2022)

Agenda Items /Presenter	Action Items Responsible Party
<b>Meeting call to Order by CoA Chair at 9:33 am</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Roll Call- Edgar Rivas</li></ul>	
<b>AAA Director updates-Dr. Patrice McGhee, Director Area Agencies on Aging</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>No Report</li></ul>	
<b>Presentation by Committee Chairs on Potential Budget Priorities</b> <u>Communication Committee- Beverly Rollins and Jean Dinwiddie</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Hire a full-time position within aging and disability services to serve as a coordinator for communication and outreach FY23</li><li>Provide \$15,000 for printed materials to be placed in libraries and senior facilities</li><li>County Council and County Executive to assign staff to fund a Senior Summit on Aging FY 23 ask departments to contribute to the budget for the event</li></ul> <u>Health and Wellness Committee- Marsha Weber</u>	

- Fund a full-time communication position within Aging & Disability Services.
- Access HEARS to be funded \$250,000 for two years, we understand that it has been provisionally approved-- Ms. Brunetto informed us the state of Maryland has approved the program, but we must also have OMB approval, and County Council must have a public hearing.
- In Home Aide Services (IHAS): Fund a full-time position for this program with duties including coordinator, case manager, intake, and assessments.

Ms. Mc Ghee will check the AARP document on status of Access Hears.

Aging in Community- Wayne Berman and Mary Sweeny

- Taxi drivers training program Passenger Assistance Safety and Sensitivity ( PASS ) FY 24 : \$ 190,000
- Provide gap-filling transportation modeled after the Covid taxi program for older adults and people with disabilities. FY 24 : \$ 120,000
- Telecare/ Telehealth training program with the assistance of the University of Maryland for older adults. Suggested topic for a Public Forum can be Telehealth
- Technology services training and support for older adults, such as computers, tablets, and cellphones.
- Fund a full-time position within Aging and Disability Services to promote resources including those to address food insecurity. FY 23 and FY 24
- Subsidize a “Hub and Spoke” model of providing administrative service to Villages. FY 23 and FY 24
  - Pazit Aviv explained Village were a great asset to the county during Covid. “Hub and Spoke” model: the Hub would be the umbrella in which villages would function providing services such as the non-profit entity, website, insurance, financial development, and administrative services. The villages will continue the educational, social, and volunteer services to their members.
- Advocacy: Certification program for developers and County staff for stronger Universal Design in new and refurbished housing for older adults and people with disabilities.

Public Policy- Ryan Wilson and Morris Klein

- Advocacy: the status of nursing home inspection in Montgomery County. Ask all to shoehorn this item and

continue to investigate ,write letters, and find out details of where the state of Maryland is in this manner

- Advocacy: The Public Policy Committee will continue to write letters to support the needs of older adults in Montgomery County at the county, state, and national levels

Aging and Disability Staff Ideas

- Increase funding for the Medical Adult Daycare supplement. MADC providers need a reliable commitment from Montgomery County to help meet the costs of labor so that they can continue to provide cost effective care and enable residents to age at home.
- Increase funding for mental health outreach for seniors (SORT). The increase will compensate staff to be available to support older adults and decrease the waiting list for services.
- Increase rates for adult foster care assisted living facilities. Support low-income seniors and adults with disabilities who live in assisted living facilities and short-term nursing home placement. Currently the lower rates hamper the placement of clients.
- Increase funding to support Respite Coordination. Montgomery County works with 100 organizations to provide respite care in the home , assisted living facilities , and medical day care. 100K would provide 3,225 respite hours.
- Address problems older adults face with housing. Renters can not afford rent increases. Consider supporting limits on rent increase to this population.
- Mandatory training program for managers of senior housing complex and housing.

**Discussion by Commissioners on Budget Priorities**

- Commissioners' documents on the activity of the priorities
- New Councilmembers will be coming on board-- how do we get them up to speed? Briefing book for new councilmembers. Beverly has edited the booklet and it is ready.
- Status of nursing home inspections.
- September agenda for EC will look at budget priorities recommendations
- Scheduling meeting with all political candidates.

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Question on the number of folks voting on budget priorities .</li> <li>• Shawn general request provide support to benefit older adults. Need to focus on what worked in the past and have data to support the items.</li> </ul> <p>Motion by Barbara Selter to have Shawn put together the list of budget priorities. Shawn will send the list for review and input to the EC committee. Seconded by Edgar Rivas. Approved.</p>	
<p><b>Wrap Up</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Shawn will prepare ballots and send to the EC for review .</li> <li>• The EC will have 24 hours to provide input to Shawn</li> <li>• Once the ballot is sent out commissioners will have ten days to rank and return to Shawn.</li> </ul>	<p>Shawn Brennan, Barbara Selter, Executive Board and Commissioners</p>
<p><b>Adjourn : 11:35 am</b></p>	