



Commission on Aging
Public Policy Committee Meeting

January 8, 2025, Minutes

9:00 a.m. – 10:45 am.

Meeting Location

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82549737756?pwd=zTudey8L3f1SXGf5oW7m3wWgbUys9z.1>

Attendance

Members Present (remote)

- Kate Stein (Chair)
- Elizabeth Barnes
- Linda Bergofsky (CoA co-chair)
- Wayne Berman (CoA co-chair)
- Dixie Butler
- Betsy Carrier
- Yvette Monroe
- Albert Woodward

Members Not Present

- N/A

Proof of Quorum

Kate confirmed a quorum was present.

Staff Present

- Peter Illig

Guests

- Eric Wang (community member)
- Eddie Rivas (former commissioner)

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am.

Welcome and Introductions

Kate welcomed the group. Eddie Rivas introduced himself.

Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The November minutes were approved without amendment.

Review and Approve Meeting Agenda

Kate outlined the major agenda items, which were approved:

- Updates on FY26–27 Commission on Aging policy proposals.
- Planning for the Annual Legislative Breakfast on December 11, 2025, coinciding with the December meeting date.

Meeting Minutes Agenda Items

1. Legislative Briefing Post-Mortem
Members discussed feedback from the legislative briefing and agreed that the overall format was effective, with minor refinements suggested for future sessions.
2. Legislative Outreach Updates
Commissioners provided updates on outreach to assigned delegates and senators, including issues related to CCRCs, transit, universal design, energy affordability, immigration protections, and dementia-friendly initiatives.
3. Caregiver Stipend Feasibility Study
Updates were provided on the status of the study legislation and related advocacy efforts, including engagement with the Comptroller's Office.
4. 2026 MGA Session Overview
The committee reviewed changes in House leadership, committee composition, and important session timelines.

5. Legislation Tracking Process

A shared spreadsheet and weekly check-ins were outlined to monitor bills and coordinate testimony.

6. Advocacy Day Discussion

Members discussed options for participating in or coordinating advocacy visits in Annapolis, including potential partnerships with other organizations.

7. Universal Design Legislation

Draft concepts for grant-based universal design curriculum development were discussed, with consensus to continue outreach to potential legislative champions.

New Business

County-level updates included discussion of an emergency appropriation resolution related to senior nutrition and home- and community-based services.

Next Meeting

The next regular PPC meeting will be held February 12 at 9:30 am.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:50 am.