



Montgomery County Commission on Aging

October 23, 2025, Meeting Minutes 9:30 am

Meeting Location

Zoom

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82378694890?pwd=YU5RaHJQTjNTSzYvZ2lObHNqY204Zz09>

Attendance

Members Present

ChiQuita Battle
Linda Bergofsky
Wayne Berman
Elizabeth Boyd
Dixie Butler
Virginia Cain
Betsy Carrier
Vernell DeWitty
Joyce Dubow
David Engel
Ora Johnson
Morris Klein
Kamilah Mantle
Kendell Matthews
Kathleen McGuinness
Yvette Monroe
Laurie Pross
RC (Renee) Randall
Candy Schimming
Marie Sloan
Katie Smith
Kate Stein

April Stubbs-Smith

Lisa Sun

Eleanor Tanno

Albert Woodward

Members Not Present

Liz Barnes

Robert Crosby

Norman Goldstein

Mona Grieser

Willie (Don) McCullough

Nicole McDonald

Sibo Ncube

Janice Zalen

Proof of Quorum

Majority of members present.

Staff Present

Peter Illig

Dr. Patrice McGhee

Dr. Kimberly Johnson

Shawn Brennan

Tremayne Jones

Guests

Eric Wang

Ingrid Lizama (Latino Health Initiative)

Guest Speakers

Leslie Smith-Ray (Maryland Department of Aging)

Handouts

September 2025 Minutes

Commission on Aging Community for a Lifetime Award

Call To Order

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am.

Welcome and Introductions

Linda welcomed Commissioners, staff, and guests.

Review and Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Minutes from September meeting approved unanimously.

Review and Approve Meeting Agenda

Meeting Agenda approved the at Exec. Committee meeting

Meeting Minutes Agenda Items

1. AAA Updates
 - a. Director, Kimberly Johnson discussed Long Term Care Ombudsman position and noted a candidate has been selected.
 - b. Director Johnson discussed the Health and Human Services strategic plan and branding campaign. She shared updates on the Phases including TV ads, bus ads to 17 targeted zip codes. Their team is monitoring the impact.
 - c. Director Johnson discussed the Nursing Home Resident Surveys and shared the they are developing the work plan and developing the survey questions for all 34 Montgomery County Nursing Homes.
2. Speaker Leslie Smith-Ray from the Maryland Department of Aging (MDOA), Director of Communications Services, gave a presentation on Longevity Ready Maryland. The effort is guided by four epic goals: Build a Longevity Eco-system, Promote economic opportunity, Prepare Marylanders to afford longevity, and Optimize health, wellness, and mobility. Within the goals there are 70 strategies (not solutions) segmented into different short and long-term timelines. The MDOA is leading, partnering, and elevating issues to build multi-sector coalitions throughout the State. She spoke about the two-million-dollar caregiver navigation grant and the development of a dementia screening tool. She also highlighted that the plan has a dashboard that can drill down to the zip code level to uncover demographic data. Ms. Smith-Ray discussed the MDOA goal to change the plan to a State bill. Q & A followed the presentation. Commissioners asked a range of questions including about multi-generational issues, housing, respite, and Villages.
3. Discussion of FY 27 Priorities. Presentations given by Committees. Priority statements were attached to last month's Agenda email.
 - Communications
 - Aging in Community
 - Health & Wellness
 - Public Policy

4. Work Session:

Linda discussed her testimony to the County Council on the 22nd. She highlighted the top priorities of the Commission and received comments from the Council including from Dawn Luedtke about providing services to East County. Throughout the other Boards and Committee testimony, three common themes were: Homelessness, Respite Care, and Villages.

November is Caregiving month, and there is a County-sponsored program on November 19th, 9am to 12 pm, at ARC Montgomery County Headquarters at 7362 Calhoun PI, Rockville, MD 20855.

The Commission on Aging annual Legislative Briefing will be on Zoom on December 11th at 9:30 am. The Montgomery County delegation will be invited to speak and provide their legislative priorities for 2026.

December 12th, 2025 at Brookside Gardens in Wheaton will be the Commission on Aging in person December full Commission meeting.

The Health and Wellness Committee is looking for Chairs for the Committee. The Public Policy Committee is looking for a Co-chair to serve with Kate Stein.

Guest Eric Wang provided good advice on the need to exercise every day and be conscious of what you eat.

Lisa Sun discussed the need for a Montgomery County Public School Liaison. In the past, the Commission has worked with: **Elba M. Garcia M.Ed** *Senior Community Advisor*

Montgomery County Public Schools 15 West Gude Drive, Suite 432 Rockville, MD 20850
Phone: 240-740-3165 Hablo español Direct Mitel:

Elba_M_Garcia@mcpsmd.org www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org

Wayne Berman discussed a meeting with Councilmember Marylin Balcombe about using the Transportation Services Improvement Funds (TSIF) to provide emergency transportation to Recreation Centers. He spoke with the Recreations Department and DOT staff.

Kate Stein noted that on November 20th there will be a Council staff report on hunger and the rising food insecurity for Montgomery County residents that the Commission should follow for advocacy.

Next Meeting

The next full Commission on Aging meeting will be on Thursday, November 20th.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 12:00 PM