

**AGING IN COMMUNITY COMMITTEE
OF THE
COMMISSION ON AGING**

Date: January 11, 2022
9:30am-11:30 am

“Older Adults in Montgomery County: A Data Snapshot”

In Attendance: Mary Sweeney (co-chair, AIC), Wayne Berman (co-chair, AIC), Barbara Selter, Nanine Meiklejohn, Richard Jourdenais, Marsha Weber, Monica Schaeffer, Laurie Pross, Virginia Cain, Mona Grieser, Sibon Ncube, Joyce Dubow, David Engel, Monique Gardner, Eddie Rivas, Karon Phillips, Katie Smith, Betsy Carrier.

Staff: Pazit Aviv, MoCo; Marcia Pruzan, Age-Friendly Montgomery; Shawn Brennan, MoCo; Odile Brunetto, MoCo;

Guests: Sara Fought, Jewish Council for the Aging; Hal Rogoff, Board President of Empowering the Ages.

Opening Remarks from the Co-Chairs: Wayne and Mary welcomed everyone. Everyone had a chance to introduce themselves. Wayne and Mary then reviewed the agenda that features Pazit Aviv doing a PowerPoint presentation titled: “Older Adults in Montgomery County: A Data Snapshot”.

Approval of the Minutes: The minutes of the December 14th meeting were approved.

PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSIONS: “Older Adults in Montgomery County: A Data Snapshot”

Pazit’s presentation consisted of nearly 30 power-point slides that presented data and statistics related to the demographics of and services used by older adults in Montgomery County. For the purposes of the presentation, an older adult is a person above the age of 55 years old. It is estimated that there are over 216,000 people in the County considered as an older adult.

Information was presented on a range of aspects of County life for older adults, including housing, food insecurity, design for life, homecare programs, health insurance coverage, transportation, and senior employment. Pazit indicated that this presentation will be updated and enhanced over time and as more data becomes available, especially post-Covid. Additional data is needed in all areas discussed. For example, it was noted that we may want to take a closer look at Design for Life as only 81 tax credits have been granted since 2015. Sara Fought from JCA said that she can provide more data regarding transportation from Connect-a-ride. This would be mostly for inquiries, not rides. Senior Connection may be another source of data.

Copies of Pazit’s presentation will be sent to the AIC and the members of the COA. Please feel free to contact Wayne (wayneb4me@aol.com) if you need to receive an additional copy. Also, please feel free to send comments or questions on the material to Pazit.

Work groups need to track State and local government activity on all pertinent issues.

NEW BUSINESS: A work group was created to respond to Gabe Albonoz's request for COA comment on the Thrive 2050 plan as it relates to older adults. Work group members include: Wayne Berman, Barbara Selter, Nanine Meiklejohn and Laurie Pross.

UPCOMING MEETING: The next AIC meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 8, 2022 at 9:30 am. The focus of the meeting will be on Food Insecurity, facilitated by Joyce Dubow and Karon Phillips. Annemarie Hart-Bookbinder from the Montgomery County Food Council and a representative from SNAP will be the speakers.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 11:40 am