

**Commission on Aging**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**  
July 20, 2023

Attendance taken via screen shot: Jean Dinwiddie, Wayne Berman, Beverly Rollins, Marsha Weber, David Engel, Virginia Cain, Betsy Carrier, Morris Klein, Ryan Wilson, Nikki Ezeani, Marcia Pruzan, and Peter Flandrau

Joyce Dubow: Absent

David called the meeting to order at 9:34

Jean moved to approve the 6/15 minutes a second from Marcia Weber. The minutes were approved with no objections.

David reviewed the action items from the last CoA meeting:

- The Commission made a donation at the Commission meeting on June 20 of \$300 for the lunch.
- David suggested inviting Christine Hong to the next CoA meeting. She is the new Chief, Services to End and Prevent Homelessness in Montgomery County.
- Betsy had asked that a sample budget priority form be created. However, David said everyone did such a good job writing up the priorities that a form wasn't needed.
- Next year's public forum will be held on May 2, 2024 in coordination with the Gaithersburg City Active Aging Expo.
- Longtime Commission supporter and Commissioner Jack Sprague passed away and we had decided to make a donation in his memory. However, to date David has not found family contact information. David will check with former Commissioner to try and get family information.
- Peter provided an update on the selection process for new Commissioners. Hopefully the interviews will begin soon. He is checking with Beth weekly and believes there are @ 25 applicants. The interviewers from the Commission will be Jean, Nikki, and Morris. Wayne asked what happens if someone is not in town when the interviews take place. David said it is likely that interviews will be conducted virtually. We suggested that applicants be notified of the interview timeline and of their status.

### Agenda for the 7/27 CoA meeting:

- Agenda will be modified to include: roll call, no AAA Report, a report from Shawn on the status of the Summit on Aging, no liaisons report, and then spend the balance of the meeting on reviewing the budget priorities. Wayne asked how much time will be allocated to the presentations and discussion about the budget priorities. David said there will be @ 45 minutes for the presentations, without stopping for questions, and then 30 minutes for discussion and clarifications. David said he will put all the budget priorities in a single word document to be disseminated prior to the CoA meeting. Process for reviewing priorities: Each committee chair will describe their committee's priorities and Peter will present A&D's priorities; after the priorities are presented there will be time for discussion. Important point is that when people consider the item not to necessarily focus on the dollar amount.
- Peter is working on a survey monkey ballot with Asha Hamilton to be used to rank order score the priorities. Commissioners will rank order and select their top 5 priorities. We will then provide a report in September of voting results. This will be followed by developing a formal presentation of the budget priorities in order of preference.
- Peter presented Aging and Disability's six priorities. The only one that has a budget impact is to increase the funding of a senior nutrition program for Silver Spring. The other five items are areas that A&D wants to continue focus on, and some are at the state level. Included are: supporting the workforce task force report, addressing the plan of service delays, continuing with the home and community based service program, and improving the OHCQ inspections. During the meeting Peter emailed to the attendees A & D's priorities. There was a discussion that the A&D priorities are more advocacy than budget related. Virginia requested that the A&D priorities be fleshed out enough so we can understand exactly what the ask is.
- Betsy asked in the rank order voting could someone give all their votes to one priority, David indicated no, that you had to prioritize the list, specifically we want each Commissioner to decide what their number 1,2,3,4,5 priorities are.

### Speakers for future meetings:

- For September Joyce and Morris have invited speakers who can focus on Medicare. They invited Tricia Neuman with the Kaiser Family Foundation and Marge Ginsburg , Executive Director For Healthcare Decisions.
- For October we discussed whether to have a speaker. There was then a unanimous vote that in lieu of a speaker Commissioners be encouraged to attend the Senior Summit to be held on October 26.

- For November: Wayne and Betsy are working on a speaker to present on the topic of universal design.
- For December: We discussed whether there should be a speaker on the topic of philanthropy, aging, and philanthropy partners for MoCo non profits focused on aging. Jean brought up that we had planned having the December meeting be an in person holiday social luncheon that includes invites to alumni and liaisons. This event is typically funded by contributions and does not usually have a speaker. There seemed to be agreement that it would be appropriate to have this social meeting in December and defer the philanthropy presentation to January.  
Wayne also suggested that for the December event we give a Community For A Lifetime Award.  
Re philanthropy speakers Shawn had suggested reaching out to Maryland Philanthropy for a speaker. Bob Levey also may have contacts.
- Shelley Stein will be invited to September meeting to give an update on ACCESS HEARS
- Future CoA meeting needs to have as an agenda item discussion of which Commissioners' terms are ending.

Review of letters and actions taken since the last meeting:

- Even though we haven't had a formal response on the OHCQ nursing home oversight letter it is getting some attention.
- This past week David reviewed with the Public Policy Committee a letter that was started by Kendell Matthews on the County's vaccination plans. David would like the EC to review ASAP and give him any suggested revisions. Jean will review the letter for accuracy. Peter will get information to whom the letter should be addressed.
- Comments on the Pedestrian Master Plan: Wayne confirmed that some time ago the CoA commented on this Master Plan. We will forward these comments to Gabe Albornoz
- Report on Public Forum: Wayne said we are ready to move forward for it to be printed. Peter will do so. Some formatting needs to be done, photographs inserted, credit given to photographer, add a cover and saddle stitch. Wayne needs to see a copy before it goes forward for final printing. We would like 500 copies and have it available at the Senior Summit.
- Life Transitions Document: At the printer, finalizing the cover. Tina is checking with Betty Lamb about the possibilities of translations of the document.

- The quarterly report is actually compilation of the first two quarters. Please let David know if you have any comments.
- Marcia Pruzan brought up an issue that several older friends have mentioned to her is the difficulty of using MoCo parking aps and kiosks. Discussion whether this is a wifi problem, ap problem, or otherwise. At some point we may ask Department of Transportation to talk with us about the challenges seniors face in using these various tools.
- Cecily Coleman is no longer the marketing broker. Peter said that she was just let go. Since this is an ARPA position and there are deliverables Mary Anderson will try to assist. .
- Austin Heyman's suggestions for New Senior Agenda were presented. Mention that during Patrice's hearing Gabe Alborno raised question of whether aging and disability services should be split. This is an issue that Austin has repeatedly raised. Jean mentioned that Austin will be on 50+ in September and she will raise this question.
- Letter for the treasurer was taken care of. David and Nikki will meet at the bank to get her to be a signer.
- Peter reported he was contacted by Marie Brodsky and he will be meeting with her next week.
- Betsy raised a concern that at the HOC Strategic planning meeting there were many comments about the wait list. This has been brought up previously as a problem. AIC Committee will learn more about this issue, consider inviting a speaker from HOC and drafting a letter to voice concerns.
- Beverly mentioned they are going to launch the Ambassador program in September. She will ask for volunteers at the September CoA meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:53.