

**AGING IN COMMUNITY (AIC) COMMITTEE  
OF THE  
COMMISSION ON AGING**

January 8, 2019

9:30-11:30 am

7300 Calhoun Place, Room 6C Rockville, MD

**In Attendance:** Richard Jourdenais, Monica Schaeffer, Nanine Meiklejohn, Miriam Kelty, Stephanie Edelstein, Amy Harbison, Marsha Weber

**Staff:** Marcia Pruzan, Pazit Aviv

**Guests:** Mary Sweeney (GROWS), Sara Fought (JCA), Isabelle Schoenfeld

Topic	Discussion Points	Decisions/Follow-up
1. Welcome and introductions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monica Schaeffer introduced herself and co-chair, Nanine Meiklejohn and then asked those in attendance to introduce themselves (to include related work you are doing that impacts the AIC, e.g., updates on work doing for Age-Friendly, COA's Ageism study, etc.)</li> </ul>	N/A
2. What we learned and follow-up actions to be taken by AIC regarding food insecurity Presentations: Nanine Meiklejohn and Mary Sweeney.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The committee heard presentations from representatives from the county government and several non-profit organizations, including the Montgomery County Food Council. The County Congregate Meal Program has expanded from 10 sites to 40 but still has just 3 full-time staff. They collect a lot of data, but they lack the staff capacity to evaluate the data;</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pazit will compose thank-you letters for all our December speakers to include requesting a "wish list" from each organization regarding what their needs are and how we can help them accomplish their goals.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• According to the HHS Program Manager for Food Security, the most at-risk group includes seniors. HHS trains volunteers to help local income people prepare SNAP applications and coordinates with the Food Council.</li> <li>• More outreach is needed to educate the community on services available. Non-profits participate by providing assistance with eligibility and application, assisting with gathering needed documentation and training volunteers.</li> <li>• AIC needs to decide what level of involvement we want to have, i.e.: Higher level of access through education and outreach, improved transportation/ways to get people to the locations; additional county staff capacity.</li> </ul>	
<p>3. Finalizing the 2019 AIC topics and naming committee member leads from either the pre-discussed list or new suggestions:</p>	<p>Eight areas were previously identified in previous discussion regarding focus areas for the AIC committee. Discussions centered on what issues we would like to prioritize, eliminate or expand.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Social Isolation/ Intergenerational Pathways/MCPS support for seniors in community schools</b></li> <li>• <b>Food Insecurity</b></li> <li>• <b>Affordable Housing including Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>--for mid-income (increase awareness of the need),</li> <li>--for extremely low-income housing and senior homelessness</li> <li>--Low Income Housing Tax Credit</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Health &amp; Wellness Committee recently did a presentation on social isolation. Will see if we can have them present their findings to us possibly at the February meeting. We need to pull together information and a letter must be written recommending that the AIC mission be updated to include Social Isolation.</li> <li>• Final decision regarding actions on Food Insecurity will be discussed at the February meeting.</li> <li>• Affordable Housing- Will be addressed at the April and May meetings. Is it a priority for the new County Executive? Need to explore alternatives such as home sharing</li> </ul>

	<p>(LIHTC)  --HIF (Housing Initiative Fund)  --Enforcement of Rental Housing Codes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Employment</b> (no transition pathways for retirees and other older residents who want/need to work)</li> <li>• <b>Increase funding for Design for Life</b></li> <li>• <b>Pedestrian Safety</b> (education campaign)</li> <li>• <b>Fire Safety</b>- this is being covered by Health &amp; Wellness Committee and will be eliminated.</li> <li>• <b>Villages</b> (services, supports)</li> </ul>	<p>and ADUs. Review status of proposed new legislation regarding ADUs to be presented at the Community Forum on 1/19/19. Regarding the LIHTC, the Public Policy Committee is introducing a bill to study how it is being implemented on a state level. Most are currently going to Baltimore City. The county delegation can push for a study.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Villages- need to increase the presence of villages in low-income areas (3 in particular). Need to move from small grants to county-supported initiatives. This will be the focus moving forward.</li> <li>• Pedestrian Safety and Employment were also identified as issues we need to continue to address but will be saved for future meetings.</li> </ul>
<p>4. Future format for AIC meetings:</p>	<p>Some ideas to consider:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Include Relevant Statistics/ Outline for items to be covered by invited speakers</li> <li>2. What Did We Learn/ What are the Important Take-aways:</li> <li>3. What are our Action Items: Responsible Persons for Action Items: Date:</li> <li>4. How Did We Advance Pathways for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Improving Communication</li> <li>b. Promoting Diversity and Inclusion</li> <li>c. Combating Ageism</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>Looking forward at future meeting agendas:</p> <p><b>March</b>- Begin full discussion on Social Isolation- solutions and recommendations (Pazit)</p> <p><b>April</b>- Aspects of Affordable Housing (Nanine)</p> <p><b>May</b>- Alternative Housing Models (Mary)</p> <p><b>June</b>-Employment (Monica and Amy)</p>

5. New business	No new business was discussed.	
6. Next meeting	Next meeting will be Tuesday, February 12, 2019.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make final decisions on how to move forward with Food Insecurity.</li> <li>• Social Isolation: Pazit will provide the committee with: 1) Overview of What's Happening in the County and 2) Barriers and Gaps. A discussion will follow leading to outlining 1 or 2 areas for the AIC to delve into where we can make inroads.</li> <li>• Review key points from the Community forum on 1/19/19.</li> </ul>
7. Meeting adjourned	The meeting adjourned at 11:30 am with thanks to all in attendance.	