



COMMISSION ON AGING

c/o Agency on Aging, DHS

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## Meeting Summary June 27, 2022

**PRESENT:** Linda Kelleher, Chair; Jim Richardson, Vice-Chair, Cheryl Beversdorf, Kathleen Cameron, Kate Chutuape, Linc Cummings, Herschel Kanter, Charles Sabatino, Cynthia Schneider, Carlos Velazquez, Martha Villanigro-Santiago, Andrea Walker

**EXCUSED/ABSENT:** Audrey Kremer, Delegate Alfonso Lopez, Sophie Shen, William Way

**STAFF:** Helen King, Rachel Coates, Maimoona Bah-Duckenfield, Jim Baker

**GUESTS:** Yordy Amanuel, Kellie Brown, Jennifer Collins, Tom Daly, Cynthia Davis, Susan English, Jim Feaster, Alice Hogan, Claire Jacobsen, Danielle Johnson, Shandia Johnson, Matthew Ladd, Joan McDermott, Jim Morris, Bonnie O'Leary, Rebekah Pearson, Michelle Thomas, Erica Wood, Wendy Zenker

### I. Call to Order, Welcome and Introductions

Chair Kelleher called the virtual meeting to order. She noted that Public Comments would be moved to the top of the agenda starting with July's meeting. Vice Chair Richardson will preside at the July meeting.

AAA Director Helen King introduced Matthew Ladd, Principal Planner, Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development (CPHD) to present an update on the Missing Middle Housing Study.

### II. Missing Middle Housing Study Update

Mr. Ladd provided the Commission with an update on the Phase 2 Missing Middle Framework, noting that Phase 2 included an analysis of the housing types to be included. Mr. Ladd noted that community feedback is being collected in preparation for a County Board Work Session scheduled for July 12<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Ladd added that, if directed by the County Board, Phase 3 will include draft zoning changes.

### III. Approval of the May Meeting Minutes

The May meeting minutes were amended to reflect the following changes: The Transportation Committee's report should read: "A cut-through trail across the Army-Navy Country Club will be studied." and the Alliance 55+ report should read "A workshop on transportation options for older residents is being planned". On a motion made by Commissioner Richardson and seconded by Commissioner Schneider, the minutes from the May meeting were unanimously approved as amended.

### IV. Chair's Report and Executive Committee

Chair Kelleher offered congratulations to Arlington Neighborhood Village for their upcoming Arlington Cares award. She noted that she plans to conduct exit interviews with outgoing commissioners, and added the Commissioner Beversdorf and Commissioner Cummings have volunteered to recruit for open positions. Chair Kelleher reported that she and Commissioner Schneider participated in a Housing Grant Focus Group and are considering sending a letter to express the importance of the program. Chair Kelleher reported that the Executive Committee discussed reviewing the Commission on Aging mission and vision statements to ensure they are aligned to the new DHS mission, vision, and values.

### V. Staff Reports

a. Arlington Agency on Aging (AAA)

AAA Director Helen King noted that the 2022 Farmers Market program would feature pop-up markets at Woodland Hills in July and at Claridge House in August. Additional markets are being planned. She reported the Ethnic Meal Pilot wrapped up at the end of June. A survey of the participants found 91% enjoyed the meals and would participate if the program was offered again. She reported the September 2022 COA meeting will be held in-person at Culpepper Gardens. She reviewed the parameters of holding hybrid meetings and offered the recommendation that committees hold their meetings in person.

b. Community Supports & Coordination Bureau (CSCB)

CSCB Director Rachel Coates began with a reminder that June is Pride month and recognized the work of Michelle Thomas and Michael DiGeronimo on their efforts to bring relevant programming, noting the events were very well attended. Ms. Coates noted that the County Fair will be held August 17-19 and asked for volunteers to assist staff at the Division's community outreach table. Ms. Coates reported that the Nursing Case Management (NCM) program will be fully staffed as of August 1<sup>st</sup> and noted the newest recruit is bilingual in English and Korean. Ms. Coates reported that the Adult Services/Adult Protective Services Program Manager will be primarily remote after July and will retire in January after 15 years of service. The vacancy to fill his position will post on Friday. The new Adult Protective Services position will post for recruitment after July 1. Ms. Coates reported that Arlington's AAA will be awarded a 2022 Aging Innovation Award by USAging for the Pop-up Farmer's Market program. She noted that the June meeting, currently scheduled for June 20<sup>th</sup> will be moved to June 27<sup>th</sup> due to the Juneteenth Holiday. Ms. Coates reported that the County Manager announced he will rescind the Emergency Declaration on August 15<sup>th</sup> adding that we will continue to follow CDC guidance to remain safe and healthy. Ms. Coates noted that the team is more present in the community, especially the independent living residents, during AFAC distributions. She invited commissioners to join as an opportunity to connect with the communities.

c. Aging and Disability Services Division (ADSD)

ADSD Director Maimoona Bah-Duckenfield presented results from the recent Mission, Vision and Values survey administer to DHS clients, highlighting the responses from ADSD clients. She reported on upcoming changes to the Guardianship Report, noting that a letter detailing the changes will be sent to the more than 400 guardians of Arlington residents. She added that there is a plan to provide the from in multiple languages. She noted that ADSD is always looking for volunteer guardians and asked the commission for their help in recruiting.

## VI. Committee Reports

a. **Housing & Supportive Services Committee**

Commissioner Schneider asked for reactions and comments on the Missing Middle Report, encouraging the commission to take an official position on the program. She noted a draft letter will be prepared prior to the July 12<sup>th</sup> County Board work session. Ms. Schneider reported that she and Chair Kelleher participated in a Focus Group on the Housing Grant Program.

b. **Legislative Committee/NVAN**

Commissioner Kanter reported the next NVAN meeting will be held July 19<sup>th</sup>. NVAN's September meeting will be hosted by Arlington County. He invited Commissioners and guests to attend the NVAN's Annual Legislative Breakfast set for Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup> at the County Club of Fairfax.

c. **Long-Term Care Residences**

Ms. Bah-Duckenfield reported that Dana Parsons, Vice President and Legislative Counsel at LeadingAge Virginia, was the presenter at a recent meeting which included a discussion of nursing home staffing standards. Ms. Bah-Duckenfield noted the committee is considering staffing ratios and other channels to advocate. She reported the July meeting will include an infection preventionist.

**d. Positive Aging, Inclusion and Enrichment Committee**

Commissioner Cummings reported that the Director of Marymount's Center for Optimal Aging, Dr. Patricia Heyn, will present to the CoA at the October meeting. He commended Commissioner Walker for her successful launch of the Walking School Bus project at Oakridge Elementary School. This local project was recently featured on the CBS Evening News. Commissioner Walker noted that the program grew from 8 students to 28 in the short pilot. She noted there is a plan to develop a toolkit to share with all 24 Arlington Elementary Schools, and they hope to expand at Oakridge in the next school year, adding that additional partners and volunteers will be needed.

**e. Public Information and Outreach**

Commissioner Velazquez reported that DHS Director Anita Friedman presented on the Department's revised Vision, Mission and Values statements at a recent meeting. He added the committee has met with the leadership of the Alexandria and Fairfax Senior Ambassador Programs, and there is potential for private funding to launch a program in Arlington.

**f. Transportation, Safety and Accessibility**

Joan McDermott reported that the Transportation Commission's June meeting focused on the current bi-annual review of the County's 2023-2032 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Commissioner Way and Jim Feaster recently met with Vision Zero staff to discuss local speed zone regulations and current enforcement efforts. Commissioner Richardson reported that the July meeting will consider three agenda items: the continuation of liaisons to other related transportation forums; review of the results from the Community Engagement Forum; a survey of older residents to determine most frequent points of origin, destinations, and transportation options. Commissioner Richardson noted that Jeremy Hassel will attend to review his work on sidewalk surveys.

**g. Digital Connectivity Work Group**

Commissioner Cummings requested that Holly Hartell from the Department of Technology Services, be invited to update the Commission on her digital equity efforts.

**VII. Liaison Reports**

**a.) Age-Friendly Arlington**

Cynthia Davis reported that the Task Force will meet on Friday. She reported that Erica Wood met with the Arlington Chamber of Commerce, and they seemed interested in getting involved.

**b.) Alliance 55+/Senior Adult Council**

Commissioner Walker reported on two current vacancies, the Senior Center Director at Lubber Run and a part-time program assistant. She reported that Virtual Center for Active Adults is offering live virtual programming. She reported the Alliance hopes to ramp up to 2 technology classes per week at 2 55+ centers.

**c.) Alexandria Commission on Aging**

Commissioner Cummings reported that the Alexandria Senior Services organization recently held their annual gala. He noted the Alexandrian CoA is submitting their final report for their

first Livable Communities plan. He added they heard a presentation from the Northern VA Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program.

**d.) Arlington Neighborhood Village (ANV)**

Wendy Zenker reported that ANV volunteers will be recognized at the Arlington Cares event and invited Commissioners and guests to attend the virtual award ceremony. She noted that the pen pal program with Campbell Elementary was successful.

**e.) Coalition to Improve Advanced Care (CIAC)**

No Report

**f.) Commonwealth Council on Aging**

Erica Wood reported the next meeting is scheduled for July 27<sup>th</sup> and where the council will be working on their legislative platform.

**g.) Dementia Friendly Arlington**

Rachel Coates reported current efforts include outreach to local faith communities and first responders.

**h.) Falls Prevention Alliance**

No Report

**i.) Steering Committee on Older Persons**

Helen King reported the next meeting July 15<sup>th</sup> will feature a presentation on the Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly (PACE).

**VIII. Old Business**

**IX. New Business**

**X. Announcements**

**XI. Public Comment - None**

On a motion made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 a.m.