



ARLINGTON COMMISSION ON AGING

c/o Agency on Aging, DHS
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**Meeting Summary
June 19, 2017**

PRESENT: Mitch Opalski, Erica Wood, Carl Brooks, Valerie Crotty, Jim Feaster, Pamela Hawkins, Gordon Hasenei, Cragg Hines, Mary Ann Johnson, Cynthia Schneider, Sophie Shen, Patty Sullivan, Martha Villanigro-Santiago, Martha Wilson, Laurie Young

STAFF: Deborah Warren, Jeanne Booth, Maimoona Bah-Duckenfield, Jim Baker, Rachel Sparico

EXCUSED: Senator Barbara Favola

GUESTS: Bonnie O’Leary, Angela Chadbourne, Linc Cummings, Jennifer Collins, Cindy Miller, Jim Morris, Mary Lee Byrd, Joan McDermott, Hershel Kanter, Cheryl Beversdorf, Gwendolyn Beck, Linda Kelleher

I. Call to Order and Welcome at 9:07 a.m.

- a. Welcome to Deborah Warren, new DHS Deputy Director
- b. Recognition and moment of silence for Lynwood Sinnamon

II. Legislative Presentation: Pat Carroll – Arlington County Legislative Liaison

- a. See Power Point Presentation attached

III. Approval of the May Meeting Minutes

Minutes were approved unanimously with amendment to revise Arlington Neighborhood Village report to reflect “a village in the Village to Village network” not “ANV” had its first accident.

IV. Chair’s Report

Mitch Opalski

- a. Letter of Support for ANV grant – Arlington Neighborhood Village thanked this Commission for support of grant request.
- b. AARP Livability Summit – AARP will host a Livability Summit on July 25th to explore Age-Friendly in Arlington.
- c. Succession Planning – PIO committee needs a new chair as Mr. Hasenei’s term ends this year.
- d. WERA Interview – Chair Opalski will be interviewed in August to provide COA highlights and promote recruitment.
- e. Diversity – Commissioner Shen attended Alexandria’s COA Diversity committee meeting and shared recommendations that may apply in Arlington.
- f. Governor’s Conference on Aging – a number of attendees shared highlights from the conference. All presentations can be found on the [website](#).

V. Staff Reports

- a. ADSD Staff report Maimoona Bah-Duckenfield
 - i. Summer Series presentations for older adults kick off on June 28th and will take place on Wednesday afternoons at 3pm at the Aurora Hills library.
 - ii. Senior [Farmer’s Market](#) applications are now available and interested individuals are welcome to complete an online application.
 - iii. Summer AAA newsletter featured the recently rebranded “Social 60+ Cafes” (formerly Congregate meals) are available at three senior centers: Arlington Mill, Langston-Brown and Walter Reed.
 - iv. Senior Centric Bus Tour will take place on Tuesday, June 20th from 1-2:30pm and will tour transit centers and improved pedestrian safety locations.

VI. Committee Reports

- a. **Supportive Services and Housing** (Erica Wood) – the Universal Design video premiered and will be shared with PIO to promote in the community. Commissioner thanked the full committee for their contributions and efforts in finalizing the video.
- b. **Budget** (Mitch Opalski) – The County FY2018 budget begins on July 1, 2017.
- c. **Legislative** (Laurie Young) – The committee did not meet in June. The next few months will focus on sharing the NVAN priorities with elected officials. The NVAN 2018 General Assembly priorities include: Direct DARS to conduct a study on Caregivers; Adopt Falls Prevention week; Expand the medical conditions for which Medicinal Marijuana is approved; and budgetary items: staffing ratios for long-term care nursing homes; create access to Peer Place for No Wrong Door; and expand Ombudsman program by 10%.
- d. **Long Term Care Residences** (Cyndy Schneider) – No report. The next meeting is scheduled for July.
- e. **Membership** (Sophie Shen) – Recruitment is on-going and all interested parties are welcome to apply [here](#).
- f. **Public Information & Outreach** (Gordon Hasenei) – met to update the PowerPoint presentation, the Aging Matters flyer, and the Speaker's Bureau flyer. Commissioner Hasenei's term ends this year and this committee needs a new Chair.
- g. **New Media/Technology** (Laurie Young) – Commissioner Young continues to update and post events and advocacy alerts to the COA Facebook page.
- h. **Senior Centers** (Valerie Crotty) – Commissioner Crotty reported partnerships with local businesses and community groups, and creative programs, like those with pets.
- i. **Strategic Planning** (Mitch Opalski) – No report.
- j. **Transportation** (Cragg Hines) – Senior Centric tour is being scheduled for June 20th and will focus on transit centers and pedestrian safety that impacts older adults.

VII. Liaison Reports

- a. **Alexandria Commission on Aging** (Mitch Opalski) – Alexandria is partnering with local businesses, and heard a presentation from Inova about their transitional services.
- b. **Accessory Dwelling** (Martha Villanigro-Santiago) – The group meets this evening to discuss recommendations from the engagement process. The County Board will review the final adopted recommendations in October.
- c. **Interchurch Community Health Initiative** (Pamela Hawkins) – No report.
- d. **Disability Advisory Commission** (Mary Ann Johnson) – the group would like to be more involved in the accessibility of new design and developments.
- e. **Arlington Neighborhood Village** (Patricia Sullivan) – Commissioner Sullivan shared that the organization is recruiting volunteers and very appreciative of the letter of support from COA.
- f. **Community Development Citizens Advisory Council** (Vacant) – No report.
- g. **Emergency Preparedness Advisory Commission** (Valerie Crotty) – County Board member Christian Dorsey spoke at the most recent meeting, encouraging more citizen feedback especially around transportation.
- h. **Pedestrian Advisory Committee** (Jim Feaster) – Commissioner Feaster shared highlights from committee's bus tour to Arlington sites that focus on pedestrian safety.
- i. **Senior Adult Council** (Vacant) – Guest Cindy Miller, chair of the Senior Center Advisory Council, shared updates from the most recent site visit. A staff retirement from Langston Brown will result in an internal transfer to be filled in September. The Annual Leadership Council on June 9th recognized Andrea Walker with the first ever Fran DeSilva Award. The Lubber Run work session information is posted on the County Parks website. The MOU around finances and fundraising will be addressed at the County Board's July meeting.

- j. **Steering Committee/Older Persons** (Gwendolyn Beck) – next meeting is Friday, July 21st at DHS and will feature a provider resource exchange.
- k. **Transit Advisory Committee** (Hershel Kanter) – partnered with the Pedestrian Advisory committee for the bus tour that focused on bus and metro improvements, multi-modal transit locations, and shelter buses. There was a significant discussion around the ART and STAR fare increases, effective June 25th.
- l. **Coalition to Improve Advanced Care (CIAC)** (Joan McDermott) – next meeting is this afternoon and will focus on upcoming events and trainings available to become Qualified Advanced Directive facilitators.
- m. **Commonwealth Council on Aging** (Erica Wood) – No report.

VIII. Old Business

IX. New Business

- a. Cheryl Beversdorf thanked the Commission for their support and encouraged all interested parties to listen to previously recorded programs by visiting: www.mixcloud.com/agingmatters/
- b. Bonnie O’Leary suggested including captioners as part of the services offered to individuals who may be deaf and/or hard of hearing.

X. Announcements and Public Comment

XI. Adjournment at 11:12 a.m.

Next Meeting: Monday, July 17, 2017 TBA

Last Meeting before Summer Break